

Minutes (approved)
Budget Work Sessions
May 12, 2010

Chairperson Courtney Watson called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m. on May 12, 2010, in the C. Vernon Gray Room, 8930 Stanford Boulevard, Columbia, MD.

Members Present: Calvin Ball, Greg Fox, Mary Kay Sigaty, Jennifer Terrasa and Courtney Watson.

The Council discussed budgets matters with department representatives, as follows. Ray Wacks, Budget Director, participated in the discussion of all departments.

Community Services – Operating

Department of Health – Peter Bielensen, Dawn O’Neil

The Department has absorbed a \$250,000 cut without layoffs. There are 22 vacancies and energy savings in the amount of \$150,000. Service changes have been absorbed in earlier years. In the event of need, for example H1N1 Clinics, personnel are reallocated.

Department of Citizens Services – Lois Mikkila, Dale Jackson (Dep. Dir.), Cheryl Mattis (Fiscal Officer), Sue Vaeth (Admin., Ofc. on Aging), Shelley Garten (Dep. Admin, Ofc. On Aging), Keri Hyde (Admin., Ofc. Of Children’s Sfcs.), Becky Bowman (Admin., Ofc. Of Consumer Affairs), and Dawn Thomsen (CSP Manager)

Health Howard – Liddy Garcia-Bunuel, Josh Curtis, Dr. David Holtgrave and Peter Beilensen

Ms. Garcia-Bunuel stated that the program is innovative and transparent. Dr. Holtgrove summarized the results of Research Report #1. There was a discussion of the data, costs, enrollment targets and diversions to other programs, disenrollments, alternative sources of funding, staffing, and the future of the organization under health care reform.

General Government

Department of County Administration – Lonnie Robbins, Lois Miller

Unemployment insurance has increased reflecting the down turn in the economy and changes in the law. There was a discussion of take home vehicles.

Department of Finance – Sharon Greisz, Stan Milesky

One new position for new financial system.

There was a discussion of the policies considered by the bond rating agencies.

Economic Development Authority - Dick Story, Debbie Bell

Budget reduced, elimination of two contingent positions. There was a discussion of the needs of the cyber security industry.

Department of Technology & Communication Services – Ira Levy

Maintenance budget, utilizing grants. Software for procurement transparency to be implemented in accordance with the schedule under the legislation. Future presentation of the software at a Monthly Meeting. There was a discussion of band width improvements on return to Howard and the link to HCPSS.

Department of Housing and Community Development – Stacy Spann, Ada Best

Increased grant funding.

Fees – Tom Mullenix

All new fees identified.

The meeting adjourned at 12:09 p.m.