

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS/MUNICIPALITIES MEETING
MINUTES FOR THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2011**

Commissioner Blaine R. Young, *President*, called to order a meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Frederick County, Maryland, ("Board") and the municipal officials of Frederick County for Thursday, January 20, 2011, at 3:00 p.m. Present were Commissioners C. Paul Smith, *Vice President*; Billy Shreve, and Kirby Delauter. Commissioner David Gray was absent from the meeting.

Elected municipal officials present were Carroll Jones, Mayor and Karin Tome, Councilman, City of Brunswick; Debbie Burgoyne, Mayor, Town of Burkittsville; Randy McClement, Mayor, Karen Young, Carol Krimm, Shelly Aloï, Kelly Russell and Michael O'Connor, Aldermen, The City of Frederick; John Miller, Burgess, Town of Middletown; Wendi Peters, Councilman, Town of Mount Airy; Wayne Creadick, Mayor, Town of Myersville; Jake Romanell, Councilman, Town of New Market; Marty Burns, Mayor and Glenn Muth, Commissioner, Town of Thurmont; and Ralph Whitmore, Burgess, Town of Walkersville. Also present were Barry Stanton, County Manager and Patti Morrow, Recording Secretary.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes for Thursday, November 18, 2010, were approved by unanimous consent.

BUSINESS**Overview of the Frederick County Green Homes Challenge, Power Saver Initiative – Lisa Orr, Office of Environmental Sustainability**

Ms. Orr presented an overview of the Frederick County Green Homes Challenge, Power Saver Initiative.

Formulation and Scheduling of the Tax Equity Committee – Jake Romanell, Councilman, Town of New Market and President, Frederick County Chapter of the Maryland Municipal League

Councilman Romanell briefed the elected officials on the history of tax equity. He noted a tax equity committee had been formed with the following members representing the municipalities: Mayor Jones, Mayor Creadick and Mayor McClement. Delegate Galen Clagett and past delegate Paul Stull were also appointed. The Board noted Commissioners Young and Shreve would represent the county on the committee. It was indicated county and municipal finance staff would attend, the meetings would be open to the public, and public comment would be taken.

John Kroll, Frederick County Finance Division, commented on the current constant yield projections that are governed by last year's legislation.

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Tax Equity vs. Tax Differential – Commissioner Blaine R. Young

Commissioner Young briefed the elected officials on the status of the current legislation in Annapolis to mandate the tax set-off be funded either by tax equity or tax differential.

Discussion was held.

Mr. John Mathias, County Attorney, commented on the issue.

It was indicated the committee would bring back options regarding tax equity or tax differential.

Excise Tax – Councilman Romanell

Alderman Krimm briefed the officials on the excise tax commenting the tax that is collected in the municipalities should stay with the municipalities.

Mr. Mathias commented on the excise tax.

It was indicated the tax equity committee would decide to either incorporate the excise tax issue into their discussions or have it remain separate.

Mr. Kristin Aleshire, Town of Middletown, commented on the excise tax.

Combining/Sharing of County/Municipal Services – Councilman Romanell

Alderman Young commented on the possible overlap of services in some areas and she indicated it would be related to the tax set-off/tax differential formula.

Commissioner Young noted the BOE and the Board had recently formed a Cost Saving Synergies Committee that consisted of BOE members, Board members and representation from Frederick Community College and The City of Frederick. The municipalities were to consider appointing members to join the committee.

Discussion of the Municipalities vs. Board of County Commissioners' Court Case – Councilman Jake Romanell

Councilman Romanell requested, on behalf of the municipalities, the ordinance which required newly annexed property within municipalities to pass the Frederick County Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO) schools test be rescinded making the pending judicial review mute.

Commissioner Young read letters from the Frederick County Chamber of Commerce and the Frederick County Builders Association who both offered full support of the concept of APFO school mitigation fee also known as PayGo.

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Meeting Time and Format Change Request - Councilman Jake Romanell

By consensus the County/Municipalities meeting time was changed to the second Thursday of every month beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the third floor meeting room, Winchester Hall. It was indicated the format of the meeting would be deferred until the next meeting on Thursday, February 10, 2011.

Mr. Dave Dunn, Assistant County Manager, commented on the meeting schedule.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- George Rudy
- Janice Spiegel
- Mayor Marty Burns, Town of Thurmont
- M.C. Keegin-Ayer

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Patti Morrow
Recording Secretary