

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF FREDERICK COUNTY
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, March 18, 2025**

Council Members Mason Carter, Jerry Donald, Kavonte Duckett, M.C. Keegan-Ayer, Renee Knapp, Steve McKay, and Brad Young were present for the meeting.

Also present were Catherine Keller, Assistant County Attorney; Ragen Cherney, Chief of Staff, County Council; Nancy Luna, Executive Assistant, County Council; and Abby Boroughs, Administrative Assistant, County Council.

Council President Brad Young called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Opening Statement from Council President Brad Young

Council President Brad Young provided an opening statement at the start of the meeting. Included in that statement was a welcome to the Legislative Day for Tuesday, March 18, 2025, and information on how to watch and participate in the meeting.

The meeting began with a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council President Brad Young asked staff to call roll and a quorum was established.

Action on the Agenda

Council Member M.C. Keegan-Ayer moved to approve the agenda for 03/18/2025 as presented. Council Member Renee Knapp seconded the motion that passed 7-0.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 3 – Keegan-Ayer	X		
District 4– Duckett	X		
District 5 – Carter	X		
At Large – Knapp	X		
Presiding Officer – Young	X		

Public Comment

Public Comment was heard from:

- Steve Black

With no further comments, Council President Brad Young closed Public Comment.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member M.C. Keegan-Ayer moved to approve the minutes from 03/04 & 03/11, 2025 minutes as presented. Council Member Renee Knapp seconded the motion that

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passed 7-0.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 3 – Keegan-Ayer	X		
District 4– Duckett	X		
District 5 – Carter	X		
At Large – Knapp	X		
Presiding Officer – Young	X		

Budget Adjustments – Kelly Weaver, Director, Budget Office

Council Member Jerry Donald moved to approve the following budget adjustments:

- J-25-275 – Family Services Division
- J-25-276 – Emergency Communications Division
- J-25-277 – Family Services Division
- J-25-278 – IIT Division

Council Vice President Kavonté Duckett seconded the motion that passed 7-0.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 3 – Keegan-Ayer	X		
District 4– Duckett	X		
District 5 – Carter	X		
At Large – Knapp	X		
Presiding Officer – Young	X		

Interagency Internal Audit Authority (IIAA) Appointment Confirmation – Tricia Reaver, Director, Internal Audit

Council Member Steve McKay moved to confirm the appointment of Brent Simmons to the Interagency Internal Audit Authority (IIAA) to terms as described by staff. Council Member Mason Carter seconded the motion that passed 7-0.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		

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District 2 – McKay	X		
District 3 – Keegan-Ayer	X		
District 4– Duckett	X		
District 5 – Carter	X		
At Large – Knapp	X		
Presiding Officer – Young	X		

Confirmation of the County Executive's Appointments to Immigration Affairs Commission - Miranda Ducey, Administrative Coordinator, Boards and Commissions, County Executive's Office

Council Member Renee Knapp moved to confirm the County Executive's appointment of David Pratt, M. Sofi Ibrahim, Andrea Diaz-Gomez, and Omega Tawonezvi and the reappointment of Cody Rosenbarker and Hubert Azane to the Immigrant Affairs Commission to terms as described by staff. Ms. Andrea Diaz-Gomez will serve as the representative from the Division of Family Services. Council Vice President Kavonté Duckett seconded the motion that passed 7-0.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 3 – Keegan-Ayer	X		
District 4– Duckett	X		
District 5 – Carter	X		
At Large – Knapp	X		
Presiding Officer – Young	X		

FY2026 Board of Education Non-Recurring Cost Exclusion - Kelly Weaver, Budget Director, Budget Office

Kelly Weaver briefed the Council on the FY2026 Board of Education Non-Recurring Cost Exclusion.

Council Member M.C. Keegan-Ayer moved to approve the FY2026 Board of Education Non-Recurring Cost Exclusion. Council Member Steve McKay seconded the motion that passed 7-0.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 3 – Keegan-Ayer	X		
District 4– Duckett	X		

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District 5 – Carter	X		
At Large – Knapp	X		
Presiding Officer – Young	X		

Public Hearing - Fall 2024 Cycle Water and Sewerage Plan Amendments - Kim Gaines, Livable Frederick Director, Planning & Permitting Division, and Karin Flom, Livable Frederick Principal Planner II, Planning & Permitting Division

Kim Gaines and Karin Flom briefed the Council on the Fall 2024 Cycle Water and Sewerage Plan Amendments in the following order:

WS-24-09 - Ryan Trust Development LLC and DR Acquisitions LLC (England Woods)

Cross Examination of staff was heard from:

- None.

With no further comments, Council President Brad Young closed Cross Examination of staff.

T. Wesley Poss and Ryan Rangel spoke on behalf of the applicant.

Cross Examination of the applicant was heard from:

- None.

With no further comments, Council President Brad Young closed Cross Examination of the applicant.

Public Comment was heard from:

- None.

With no further comments, Council President Brad Young closed Public Comment.

Council Member Mason Carter moved to approve the reclassification of 91.69 acres from Planned Service (water and sewer) to W-3/Dev, S-3/Dev Tax Map 80, Parcels 206 and 9, Property IDs #09-322779 and #09-225382. Council Vice President Kavonté Duckett seconded the motion that passed 6-1, with Council Member Steve McKay opposed.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay		X	

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District 3 – Keegan-Ayer	X		
District 4– Duckett	X		
District 5 – Carter	X		
At Large – Knapp	X		
Presiding Officer – Young	X		

WS-24-12 - Division of Planning & Permitting (Lewistown Sewer Service Area)

Cross Examination of staff was heard from:

- None.

With no further comments, Council President Brad Young closed Cross Examination of staff.

No additional comments were made on the behalf of the applicant.

Public Comment was heard from:

- None.

With no further comments, Council President Brad Young closed Public Comment.

Council Member Steve McKay moved to approve the reclassification of 35 Properties in Lewistown from Planned Service (sewer) or S-5 to S-3 to reflect current development and infrastructure status. Council Vice President Kavonté Duckett seconded the motion that passed 7-0.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 3 – Keegan-Ayer	X		
District 4– Duckett	X		
District 5 – Carter	X		
At Large – Knapp	X		
Presiding Officer – Young	X		

WS-24-13 - Natelli Communities LLC (Cooper Property Addition)

Cross Examination of staff was heard from:

- None.

With no further comments, Council President Brad Young closed Cross Examination of staff.

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Bruce Dean, Eric Soter, and Bruce Dell spoke on behalf of the applicant.

Cross Examination of the applicant was heard from:

- None.

With no further comments, Council President Brad Young closed Cross Examination of the applicant.

Public Comment was heard from:

- None.

With no further comments, Council President Brad Young closed Public Comment.

Council Member Jerry Donald moved to approve the reclassification of 23.98 acres from NPS to W-4/Dev, S-4/Dev Tax Map 092D, Parcels 0121 & 0315. Property IDs #12-295308 & 12-295316. Council Member M.C. Keegan-Ayer seconded the motion that passed 7-0.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 3 – Keegan-Ayer	X		
District 4– Duckett	X		
District 5 – Carter	X		
At Large – Knapp	X		
Presiding Officer – Young	X		

WS-24-14 - TC EIL FCC South, LLC (Frederick Commerce Center South)

Rod Winebrenner (Deputy Director, Water & Sewer Utilities Division) and Mark Schweiter (Division Director, Water & Sewer Utilities Division) were also present to answer any Council questions.

Cross Examination of staff was heard from:

- None.

With no further comments, Council President Brad Young closed Cross Examination of staff.

Bruce Dean and Joe Whitebread spoke on behalf of the applicant.

Cross Examination of the applicant was heard from:

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- None.

With no further comments, Council President Brad Young closed Cross Examination of the applicant.

Public Comment was heard from:

- None.

With no further comments, Council President Brad Young closed Public Comment.

Council Member Vice President Kavonté Duckett moved to approve the reclassification of 246.68 acres from NPS to W-3/Dev, S-3/Dev Tax Map 068E, Parcels 0150, 0151, & 0010 and Map 0068, Parcel 0177. Property IDs #13- 196278, #02-607219, #02-607218, & #13-603848. Council Member Renee Knapp seconded the motion that passed 7-0.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 3 – Keegan-Ayer	X		
District 4– Duckett	X		
District 5 – Carter	X		
At Large – Knapp	X		
Presiding Officer – Young	X		

Transit Service FY26 Grant Application - Roman Steichen, Transit Services Division Director and Jaime McKay, Transit Services Division Deputy Director

Roman Steichen and Jaime McKay briefed the Council on the Transit Service FY26 Grant Application.

Council Member M.C. Keegan-Ayer moved to approve the authorizing resolution for the County Executive to file an application with the Maryland Transit Administration of MDOT for grants as described by staff. Council Member Renee Knapp seconded the motion that passed 7-0.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 3 – Keegan-Ayer	X		
District 4– Duckett	X		
District 5 – Carter	X		

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At Large – Knapp	X		
Presiding Officer – Young	X		

First Reading Calendar:

- a) Design and Specific Use Regulations for Critical Digital Infrastructure Facilities and Electric Substations Bill – Council Member Renee Knapp

Council Member Renee Knapp introduced a bill titled Design and Specific Use Regulations for Critical Digital Infrastructure Facilities and Electric Substations Bill.

Third Reading Calendar:

- a) Bill 25-02 - Disabled Veterans Property Tax Credit – Council President Brad Young

Council Member Steve McKay moved to approve Bill 25-02 – Disabled Veterans Property Tax Credit. Council Member Mason Carter seconded the motion that passed 7-0.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 3 – Keegan-Ayer	X		
District 4– Duckett	X		
District 5 – Carter	X		
At Large – Knapp	X		
Presiding Officer – Young	X		

Recess at: 6:44 p.m.

Reconvened at: 7:00 p.m.

Second Reading Calendar:

- a) Bill 25-03 - Updating the Membership Criteria for the Interagency Internal Audit Authority – Council Member Steve McKay

Public Comment was heard from:

- None.

With no further comments, Council President Brad Young closed Public Comment.

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- b) Bill 25-04 - Updating the Membership Criteria and Reappointment Terms of the Veterans Advisory Council – Council Member Steve McKay

Public Comment was heard from:

- Patrick Pierson

With no further comments, Council President Brad Young closed Public Comment.

Public Comment

Public Comment was heard from:

- None.

With no further comments, Council President Brad Young closed Public Comment.

Council Member Comments

Council Member comments were provided.

Upcoming Meetings

- Tuesday, March 25, 2025 – Workshop
- Tuesday, April 1, 2025 – Legislative Day

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.



Brad W. Young, President
County Council