

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF FREDERICK COUNTY
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, September 2, 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; Sydnee Klimko, Legislative Analyst, 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, September 2, 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 09/02/2025 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:

- Michael Kirknall
- Gary Geisinger
- Daniel Geisinger
- Kelly Schultz
- Lauren McAdney

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

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Approval of Minutes

Council Member M.C. Keegan-Ayer moved to approve the minutes from 08/19 & 08/26, 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		

Budget Adjustments – Kelly Weaver, Director, Budget Office

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

- J-26-002 - School Health Services, Health Services Division
- J-26-048 - Division of Solid Waste and Recycling
- J-26-050 - Frederick County Public Library
- J-26-052 - Division of Public Works
- J-26-055 - Finance Division
- J-26-058 - Climate & Energy Department, Division of Energy and Environment

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

Confirmation of the Division of Family Services Director

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Council Member Renee Knapp moved to confirm the County Executive's appointment of Leisha Chandler to serve as the Division of Family Services Director. 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		

Confirmations of the County Executive's Appointments to Frederick County Boards and Commissions - Miranda Ducey, Administrative Coordinator, Boards and Commissions, County Executive's Office

Council Member Steve McKay moved to confirm the County Executive's appointment of Brenda Ripley to the Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board to terms as described by staff. 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		

Council Member Renee Knapp moved to confirm the County Executive's appointment of Sesha Jupudi and Rosario Campos to the Commission for Women to terms as described by staff. 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		

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At Large – Knapp	X		
Presiding Officer – Young	X		

Council Member Renee Knapp moved to approve the County Executive's appointment of William Dowd, Linda Stone, Jose Gabriel Coronado (Gabe) Flores, and Mark Florimbio to the Scott Key Advisory Board. 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		

Public Hearing - Bell Farm Rezoning (R-25-01) - Denis Superczynski, Livable Frederick Planning Manager/Principal Planner II, Planning and Permitting Division

Denis Superczynski briefed the Council on the Bell Farm Rezoning (R-25-01). Kimberly Gaines (Director, Livable Frederick) and Vanessa Moreno (Planner 1, Livable Frederick) were present to answer any Council questions.

Mark Mishler and Mahmoud Helal (Planning & Permitting Division) joined the discussion to answer any Council questions.

Cross Examination of staff was heard from:

- None.

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

Bruce Dean (McCurdy, Dean, & Graditor, LLC), Mike Alexander (Lantian Development), and Chris Smariga (Harris, Smariga, & Associates) spoke on behalf of the applicant.

Cross Examination of the applicant was heard from:

- None.

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

Public Comment was heard from:

- None.

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

Due to the Council website being down during the time of the hearing, Council President Brad Young opted to keep the public record for this item open until Friday, September 5th at 5:00 p.m.

Public Hearing – Longview Rezoning (R-25-03) – Kimberly Gaines, Director, and Vanessa Moreno, Planner I, Livable Frederick

Vanessa Moreno briefed the Council on the Longview Rezoning (R-25-03). Denis Superczynski and Kimberly Gaines were present to answer any Council questions.

Cross Examination of staff was heard from:

- None.

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

Tracy Clabaugh (The Clabaugh Law Firm) and Ted McCutcheon (Turning Point Real Estate) spoke on behalf of the applicant.

Cross Examination of the applicant was heard from:

- None.

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

Public Comment was heard from:

- None.

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

Due to the Council website being down during the time of the hearing, Council President Brad Young opted to keep the public record for this item open until Friday, September 5th at 5:00 p.m.

At 7:05 p.m., the Council moved to the second reading calendar.

Public Hearing on Council Legislative Initiatives for Inclusion to the 2026 Frederick County Legislative Packages to the Maryland General Assembly – Council President Brad Young

Public Comment was heard from:

- Steve Poteat
- Brent Simmons

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- Mark Florimbio

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

With the second reading calendar finished, Council President Brad Young proceeded with the discussion and vote on Amended Bill 25-09.

Third Reading Calendar:

- a) Amended Bill 25-09 - Establish a Critical Digital Infrastructure Overlay Zone – Council President Brad Young

Council Member Renee Knapp moved to approve Amended Bill 25-09. Council Vice President Kavonté Duckett seconded the motion that passed 5-2, with Council Members Jerry Donald and Steve McKay opposed.

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:

- Mark Florimbio
- Tom Natelli

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

Council Member Comments

Council Member comments were provided.

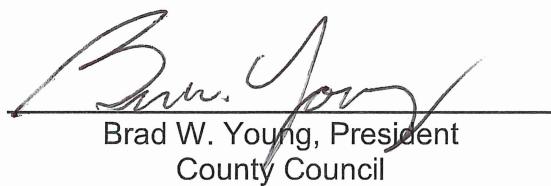
Upcoming Meetings

- Tuesday, September 9, 2025 – Legislative Day
- Tuesday, September 16, 2025 – Workshop

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Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.



Brad W. Young, President
County Council

