	Page 1
1	COUNTY COUNCIL OF TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND
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4	Council Meeting
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7	January 14, 2025; 5:00 p.m.
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10	Council Chambers, Easton, Maryland
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13	COUNCIL MEMBERS:
14	Chuck F. Callahan
15	Pete Lesher
16	Keasha N. Haythe
17	Lynn L. Mielke
18	Dave Stepp
19	
20	Reported by
21	Diane Houlihan

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

MR. CALLAHAN: So I want to welcome everybody to the meeting tonight.

And could you please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance of the Flag and the prayer, please.

(Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.)

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you,

Mr. Stepp. Appreciate it. Okay.

First on the agenda, we've had it before us, is there any additions, deletions, or corrections to the agenda tonight? Okay.

Hearing none, the chair moves that the agenda be accepted as unanimous consent. Okay.

Next is the minutes of November 12th and November 26th. We've had a chance to take a look at them. Is there any deletions or additions or corrections to the minutes, Council? Okay. Hearing none, the chair moves that the minutes be accepted as unanimous

consent.

Next on the agenda is the disbursements of December 17th and the 24th. We've had a chance to take a look at that. Is there any deletions or corrections or additions to the disbursements?

MR. STEPP: You called out two dates. But we're also approving them for December 31st, January 7th, and January 14th.

MR. CALLAHAN: I'm sorry. Yeah. If I said that, I missed that. Sorry about that. Thank you, Mr. Lesher. I appreciate that.

With those dates, is there any corrections or deletions?

MS. HAYTHE: No.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. With that said, the chair moves that the disbursements be accepted as unanimous consent. All right. Sorry about that.

Next on the agenda is introduction of administrative resolution. Madam Secretary,

1	could	you	go	ahead	and	read	that?
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SECRETARY: Administrative resolution 3 establishing a Talbot 250 Commission.

4 Okay. Mr. Lesher, MR. CALLAHAN: Mr. Thomas. 5

> MR. LESHER: This was done at my request. You might be aware that in 2026, we celebrate America's 250th.

> > MR. CALLAHAN: Right.

MR. LESHER: 250th anniversary of American independence.

The State has established a statewide Maryland 250 Commission to coordinate activities celebrating this anniversary. And the State has been encouraging local jurisdictions, municipalities and counties, to similarly establish local commissions to do a local coordinating effort.

And so I have asked for this to be created. And as you saw, we've put a revised version in. Mr. Thomas put this in with a

revised version to give us a little bit of flexibility so that if we inadvertently leave somebody out, we can make sure that we can be inclusive with that local coordinating commission.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Mr. Thomas, you want to add to that?

MR. THOMAS: I don't have anything further to add, but I can answer any questions if you need.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.

MR. LESHER: I will say, too, that our very able and high-energy communications director is all poised and ready to go and has already announced a public meeting for next week and is gathering interest in it.

I've heard from some of my colleagues at the museum who are most certainly going to be in attendance with that.

And I want to commend her for pushing to move this forward and to get it started. Thank

Page 6 1 you. 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. So --3 MS. HAYTHE: Just to add, too, that we have a wonderful State representative in 4 Michelle as well that has certainly been 5 supporting us to do this with the commission as 6 7 well. 8 MR. LESHER: That's right. MS. HAYTHE: Michelle Johnson. And thank 9 10 you for her as well, who lives right here in 11 Talbot County. 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Good. Any other comments 13 from Council? 14 MS. MIELKE: I just have comment. May I? 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah. Sure. 16 MS. MIELKE: In reviewing it, I noticed it didn't have like a deadline for a report of 17 their recommendations or conclusions. And I 18 19 wondered whether we should consider putting 20 that in. 2.1 MR. LESHER: Well, whether or not it's in

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the resolution, I think that we can call for that. Whether we want to do it on a, you know, give them some time and ask for a report say the summer or do it on a quarterly basis.

MR. KILMON: I can speak to -- yeah. You want me to speak to it?

MR. THOMAS: I can just add that it does provide that they are to provide reports at least once per quarter at regular Council meetings. And that within three months after the final event, they're going to submit a final report to the county. And then afterwards, they'll be disbanded.

MS. MIELKE: I just meant a final report of what the plan is.

MR. THOMAS: Okay. I mean --

MS. MIELKE: It's okay.

MR. CALLAHAN: Our plan?

MS. MIELKE: What?

MR. CALLAHAN: Our plan?

MS. MIELKE: Our plan, yes, of what their

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MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.

MR. STEPP: Mr. President, may I defer my comments to Sarah?

MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah. Sure.

MR. KILMON: I'll just go here.

Hello. My name is Sarah Kilmon. I'm the communications coordinator and public information officer for Talbot County.

Yes. This legislation has been a long time coming. I believe Michelle was asking us about a year ago when our commission was coming. And so I'm excited that we've got it up and running today with your approval.

So I just wanted to give you a little bit of a background.

The commission's kind of goal as written in the legislation will be to coordinate efforts around Talbot 250. We have intentionally kept it a little lofty because I would like to work with the commission to ask

them what they would like to see done.

There's a lot of organizations that have already been in the process of planning things around 250. So I certainly don't want to step on anyone's toes. I want them to be brought to the conversation.

And essentially, it will be a place where we can promote and organize our Talbot 250 events.

We do have a website set up. It's talbot250.org. And you can -- that is live now. You can see that. And then once the commission is up and running, all the commission information will be available there as well.

But that will be a kind of place where you can see upcoming Talbot 250-related events, historical events, stories, and people, etc.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. That's great. Good work.

Any questions from Council?

	Page 10
1	MS. HAYTHE: No.
2	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.
3	MR. LESHER: So a motion is in order.
4	MR. CALLAHAN: Yup. Is there a motion?
5	MR. LESHER: I'll move approval of the
6	administrative resolution.
7	MS. HAYTHE: Second.
8	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and
9	second to go ahead and approve Talbot 250
10	Commission. Madam Secretary, could you call
11	the vote.
12	SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
13	MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
14	SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.
15	MR. STEPP: Aye.
16	SECRETARY: Mr. Lesher.
17	MR. LESHER: Aye.
18	SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.
19	MS. MIELKE: Aye.
20	SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.
21	MS. HAYTHE: Aye.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Good. Okay.

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Next on the agenda is introduction of legislation. Madam Secretary, could you go ahead and read that bill.

SECRETARY: A bill to authorize the improvement of athletic fields at public schools within Talbot County.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Mr. Shafer, you want to come on up. There you go.

MR. SHAFER: Thank you, President
Callahan. Good evening, Members of Council.
Happy New Year, everybody.

Yes. So the first of three items that will be mentioned tonight are the athletic field improvements associated with the capital enabling legislation that the Council is moving forward.

And generally speaking, the athletic field improvements are going to be surrounding the current fields that we have, grass fields, and doing some long-standing improvements related

to some issues or concerns that came up related to the artificial turf discussion. So we're, you know, moving forward with the process of upgrading our grass fields.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Okay. Any questions from Council? Okay.

Want to raise our hands?

MR. LESHER: To sponsor this?

MR. CALLAHAN: Yes.

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MR. LESHER: Sponsored by Council.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Sit right there, sit right there.

MR. LESHER: You want to get a bill number?

MR. CALLAHAN: Yup. Want to go ahead,
Madam Secretary. If you'll go ahead and tell
us what the bill is.

SECRETARY: This will be known as Bill Number 1580, and the public hearing will be held on Tuesday, February 11th, at 5:30 p.m.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you. Okay.

Page	13	

	Page 13
1	The next bill, Madam Secretary.
2	SECRETARY: A bill to authorize
3	replacement of the auditorium lighting system
4	at Easton High School.
5	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Yup.
6	MR. SHAFER: Yeah. So the Talbot County
7	auditorium at Easton High School has a lighting
8	system that dates back to the school's
9	renovation in '97. So we're pushing 20
10	whatever, 28 years, 27 years. And it is in
11	need of replacement. So this allocation would
12	do that.
13	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Any questions from
14	Council?
15	I think this is something we had in the
16	budget; isn't it?
17	MS. MIELKE: Right.
18	MR. CALLAHAN: Yup.
19	MR. SHAFER: Yeah. So it was a request, a
20	capital request that we had. Yeah.
21	MR. CALLAHAN: That's something that

Council wanted us -- go ahead.

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MR. STAMP: These have been approved in the FY25 budget by Council.

MR. CALLAHAN: Yup. That's what I thought. Yup. Just wanted to make sure that the public knew that. Okay.

MR. LESHER: Having been involved with a couple of school theater productions and such, I've seen how desperately needed this lighting system is.

In fact, in order to put on some of the really quality student productions that we've seen at Easton High School, I believe that some of the lighting directors have been bringing equipment in from Baltimore County or use of Baltimore County and other places to supplement the antiquated equipment that the auditorium itself has.

So this is I think going to be -- we've moved into an era of LED lighting, which didn't exist back in 1997.

	Page 15
1	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.
2	MR. LESHER: This is going to be a huge
3	leap forward.
4	MS. HAYTHE: And we heard it during our
5	budget.
6	MR. CALLAHAN: We did hear it.
7	MS. HAYTHE: At the school. We know it's
8	needed.
9	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. No other questions,
10	just raise our hands.
11	MR. LESHER: To sponsor. Sponsored by
12	Council.
13	SECRETARY: This will be known as Bill
14	Number 1581. The public hearing will be on
15	Tuesday, February 11th, at 5:30 p.m.
16	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. The next bill.
17	SECRETARY: A bill to authorize
18	replacement and improvement of interior lights
19	at St. Michaels High School.
20	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Yup.
21	MR. SHAFER: So this would be the we

are currently replacing the elementary side lights at the St. Michael's complex with grant funding. So this would complete that project, the LED conversion at that campus and the last building that we have to convert.

MR. CALLAHAN: That's great. Okay.

Any questions from Council? Okay.

Raise our hands if sponsoring this.

MR. LESHER: Sponsored by Council.

SECRETARY: This will be known as Bill Number 1582. The public hearing will be on Tuesday, February 11th, at 5:30 p.m.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.

MR. SHAFER: And if the Council doesn't mind, just very quickly, because it's kind of in line with the capital projects funding.

First, I just want to, once again, thank
the Council for the capital funding associated
with the Chapel project and just provide a
very, very brief update that the project is
going well, it is on schedule, it is within the

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established budget, and no complaints.

Very thankful to the Council, and I need to say this more publicly, for allowing or assigning, I don't know which it is, Bill Stagg as the CDyoounty's project manager. He's been a great asset to me and the project. So thank you to Council.

MR. CALLAHAN: That's good. That's good. Okay. Good job, good job.

MR. SHAFER: Thank you.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. So we're a little bit early. So we're going to skip over to Mr. Stamp, which is Clay's stuff.

MR. STAMP: Thank you, Council. County manager report. We have some board and committee appointments that we'd like to ask you to support.

First one would be the Adult Public

Guardianship Review Board. We're requesting

the reappointment of the following individuals:

Wendy Young-Dyott, St. Marks Ministry to the

	Page 18
1	Aged; Heather Howes, Channel Marker; Glenn
2	Klakring, attorney; Sam VanNest,
3	representative, disabled community; and Kerri
4	Engles Roberts, Department of Social Services.
5	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Any questions,
6	Council?
7	MS. HAYTHE: No. Motion to approve the
8	appointment.
9	MR. CALLAHAN: Do I have a second?
10	MR. LESHER: Second.
11	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. I have a motion and
12	second. Madam Secretary, could you call the
13	vote.
14	SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
15	MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
16	SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.
17	MR. STEPP: Aye.
18	SECRETARY: Mr. Lesher.
19	MR. LESHER: Aye.
20	SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.
21	MS. MIELKE: Aye.

	Page 19
1	SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.
2	MS. HAYTHE: Aye.
3	MR. STAMP: Thanks, Council.
4	Next one is the Agricultural Resolution
5	Board. Requesting the reappointment of Travis
6	Hutchison representing the ag community.
7	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Any questions from
8	Council?
9	MS. HAYTHE: No questions. Motion to
10	approve the appointment.
11	MR. LESHER: Second.
12	MS. MIELKE: Second.
13	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and
14	second. Madam Secretary, could you call the
15	vote.
16	SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
17	MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
18	SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.
19	MR. STEPP: Aye.
20	SECRETARY: Mr. Lesher.
21	MR. LESHER: Aye.

	Page 20
1	SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.
2	MS. MIELKE: Aye.
3	SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.
4	MS. HAYTHE: Aye.
5	MR. STAMP: I guess I should move slower;
6	shouldn't I? We have to stretch it to 5:30.
7	MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah.
8	MR. STAMP: Okay. The next one is the
9	Historic Preservation Commission. Requesting
10	the appointment of Sharon Nash.
11	MR. CALLAHAN: Any questions, Council?
12	MS. MIELKE: No questions. Motion to
13	approve.
14	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion.
15	MS. HAYTHE: Second.
16	MR. CALLAHAN: We got a motion and second
17	to put Ms. Nash. Madam Secretary, can you call
18	the vote.
19	SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
20	MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
21	SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.

	Page 21
1	MR. STEPP: Aye.
2	SECRETARY: Mr. Lesher.
3	MR. LESHER: Aye.
4	SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.
5	MS. MIELKE: Aye.
6	SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.
7	MS. HAYTHE: Aye.
8	MR. STAMP: The next would be the Planning
9	Commission. We're requesting your approval for
10	the appointment of Mr. Ed Heikes to serve on
11	the Planning Commission.
12	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Is there a motion?
13	MS. HAYTHE: Motion to approve.
14	MR. CALLAHAN: Is there a second?
15	MR. STEPP: Second.
16	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and
17	second to put Mr. Heikes on the Planning
18	Commission. Madam Secretary, can you call the
19	vote.
20	SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
21	MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.

Page 22 1 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp. 2 MR. STEPP: Aye. 3 SECRETARY: Mr. Lesher. 4 MR. LESHER: Aye. SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke. 5 MS. MIELKE: Aye. 6 7 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe. 8 MS. HAYTHE: Aye. MR. STAMP: And the next would be the 9 10 Short-Term Rental Review Board. Asking for 11 your consideration for two spots. For the 12 appointment of Mr. Bob Haase, which would be a 13 reappointment of Mr. Bob Haase, and the 14 appointment of Mr. Hugh Smith to serve on the 15 Short-Term Rental Review Board. 16 MR. LESHER: I'll move the appointments. 17 MS. MIELKE: Second. MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and 18 19 second to put Mr. Smith and Mr. Haase back on

second to put Mr. Smith and Mr. Haase back on the board. Madam Secretary, could you call the vote.

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	Page 23
1	SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
2	MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
3	SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.
4	MR. STEPP: Aye.
5	SECRETARY: Mr. Lesher.
6	MR. LESHER: Aye.
7	SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.
8	MS. MIELKE: Aye.
9	SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.
10	MS. HAYTHE: Aye.
11	MR. STAMP: Finally, the Tourism Board.
12	The Town of St. Michaels is requesting to have
13	Commissioner Katrina Whittington replace the
14	member currently serving on that board.
15	MR. LESHER: I'll move the appointment.
16	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.
17	MR. STEPP: Second.
18	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and
19	second. Madam Secretary, could you call the
20	vote.
21	SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.

	Page 24
1	MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
2	SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.
3	MR. STEPP: Aye.
4	SECRETARY: Mr. Lesher.
5	MR. LESHER: Aye.
6	SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.
7	MS. MIELKE: Aye.
8	SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.
9	MS. HAYTHE: Aye.
10	MR. STAMP: Thank you, Council. I'd like
11	to ask Rich Setter to come up.
12	Rich Setter is your golf professional at
13	Hog Neck Golf Course. He's going to be
14	discussing the 2025 golf course rates and fee
15	schedule proposal that you have in your packet.
16	And he's here to go through that and answer any
17	questions.
18	Good evening, Rich.
19	MR. SETTER: Good evening, everybody.
20	Rich Setter, golf professional, GM Hog Neck
21	Golf Course.

Also, in 2026, it's the 50th anniversary of Hog Neck Golf Course.

MR. LESHER: Wow.

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MR. SETTER: So be thinking about how you want to celebrate that, too. I know I am.

In terms of the rates, keeping in mind with sort of our fiscal budget theme, trying to stay very conservative with all the unknowns out there going forward. Basically, the membership rates there, if you are a single member, looking at \$100 increase across the board is all. Same thing with couples and a family membership, a \$200 increase is all.

And then in terms of our daily rates.

Just looking to increase the weekend daily fee rate coming in there.

Everything else has pretty much stayed the same for the most part, trying to stay consistent and conservative with everything that we've done.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Any questions from

	Page 26
1	Council?
2	Any questions from you, Ms. Mielke?
3	MS. MIELKE: No.
4	MR. CALLAHAN: You're on the board.
5	MS. MIELKE: Well, he can explain why.
6	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Any questions?
7	MS. HAYTHE: No questions. Just
8	congratulations on the 50th anniversary,
9	though.
10	MR. SETTER: Thank you. Any ideas you can
11	come up with, fire away at me.
12	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. All right.
13	MR. STEPP: Open a new driving range.
14	MR. SETTER: That would be a great little
15	anniversary present.
16	MR. STEPP: Yes.
17	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Yeah. Okay. All
18	right. Do I have a motion?
19	MS. MIELKE: I so move.
20	MS. HAYTHE: Second.
21	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and

	Page 27
1	second. Madam Secretary, could you call the
2	vote.
3	SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
4	MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
5	SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.
6	MR. STEPP: Aye.
7	SECRETARY: Mr. Lesher.
8	MR. LESHER: Aye.
9	SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.
10	MS. MIELKE: Aye.
11	SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.
12	MS. HAYTHE: Aye.
13	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.
14	MR. STAMP: Thank you.
15	MR. SETTER: Thank you. I commend you on
16	your efficiency. You're flying.
17	MR. STAMP: Thank you, Rich.
18	MR. SETTER: Thank you.
19	MR. LESHER: You didn't think you were
20	going to get to go home this early tonight; did
21	you?

MR. SETTER: That never happens.

MR. STAMP: Council, a couple of more things.

One, I'd like to, under announcements, mention that county offices will be closed on Monday, January 20th, for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

And then finally, I just want to take a moment to extend my kudos to our Roads

Department and our first responders, those folks that were out there doing what needed to be done during a foot of snow that appeared.

We're not used to getting a foot of snow around here, but everyone pitched in.

And a special shout out to our farm community.

I think if you looked at our Facebook

post, and I do want to give a shout out to

Sarah, our communications manager, who jumped

in a plow truck and interviewed one of our plow

operators and put that on social media so that

folks could hear from a plow driver what it's like to try to clear roads.

But on the social media, they put this song. It says you may have famous friends, but I got friends with tractors.

So the back story to that is we're very fortunate to have the team of people that we have.

And one of the individuals that Brian has down there is Lois McDonald, who has been with us for years and years. And during the height of things when we were trying to get the roads opened up, I looked over to Lois, I said should we call the farmers. And she said yeah, and she knew who to call.

MR. CALLAHAN: Right.

MR. STAMP: And within a very short amount of time, we had up to eight different farmers that contracted with our Roads Department to get out there and help us.

And it's just about, you know, we talk

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about community and the beauty of community. While other counties were struggling, bragging rights for a minute, our county came together as a community. And just real proud.

And I know you are as well. And I just want to shout out to a lot of people who are out there doing a good job.

MR. CALLAHAN: That sounds great. I appreciate it.

MR. LESHER: Mr. Stamp, I realize that for our roads crews and for our farmers who are assisting them, that was, to use a classical reference, a (inaudible) fee in task because they would clear a road, and the winds would blow and drift the snow back across the roads. And they would have to clear it again. And a lot of those roads had to be cleared many multiples of times, particularly where there are no wind breaks against the edges of fields.

And so the effort was not merely clearing a foot of snow, but re-clearing that snow

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Really kudos to all of those involved, including those who knew where to find the farmers.

MR. STAMP: Right. Good.

MR. CALLAHAN: And we just have a few more minutes.

And like you say, kudos to fire, the deputies, all them because they were right out in it, too.

MR. STAMP: That's right.

MR. CALLAHAN: And they got to keep us safe and sound.

MS. MIELKE: There were quite a few rescues by our Sheriff's Department; weren't there?

MR. STAMP: Yeah.

MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah, it was. So okay.

MR. STAMP: So in one of the moments,
Chuck said to me, because we do try hard around
here to make sure we do the right thing. And

when we were trying to re-clear those roads that were drifting over, Chuck said to me in this one moment, he said don't be too hard on ourselves, we're not snow people.

MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah. Exactly.

MR. STAMP: Anyway, it was a good showing. Thank you.

MR. CALLAHAN: It was good. It was good on the guys. Yeah. Okay.

We about ready?

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MS. HAYTHE: Two minutes.

MR. LESHER: Officially 90 seconds.

MS. HAYTHE: (Inaudible.)

and coordinating their efforts.

MR. CALLAHAN: All right. Madam

Secretary, so get geared up, get geared up.

MR. LESHER: And following on that, I certainly heard from our county manager,
Mr. Stamp, about all the efforts to -- he was personally involved in assisting the roads crew

And clearly, this was a full team effort

to respond to the emergency.

But I also had the occasion Wednesday night to go to the Corn Club dinner over at the VFW. This is where the University of Maryland Agricultural Extension awards those farmers who have been most efficient in planting and growing their crops. And it recognizes both corn growers and soybean growers. And the youngest recipient must have been about five --

MS. HAYTHE: Yeah. I think he was.

MR. LESHER: -- children's division, too.

But I spoke with one of our farmers who had been called out. And he said how there were barriers to getting farmers out there and how Mr. Stamp had removed those barriers and made sure that they didn't have anything that would hold them back from responding to this emergency.

And this is what happens in a small community where we know each other and have confidence and know how to get things done.

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Really a good all-around team effort.

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And it is now 5:30. So you can proceed with it.

MR. CALLAHAN: I got you. Good. Thank you, Mr. Lesher. And thank you, Mr. Stamp. Good job. Okay.

Madam Secretary, it's all yours. We're going to open the public hearing.

You want go ahead and do the first resolution.

SECRETARY: Resolution Number 364. A resolution to formally close Wallys Way and Bethany Lane as county roads and authorize the conveyance of certain real property described in a deed dated December 14, 1984, and recorded among the land records of Talbot County, Maryland, at liber J.T.B. number 594, folio 423 to Chamberlain, LLC for no monetary consideration.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Mr. Thomas, you want to speak on this a little bit?

MR. THOMAS: Sure. I can provide a brief summary.

MR. CALLAHAN: Yup. Okay.

MR. THOMAS: The county owns a 50-foot wide strip of land that bisects a parcel that's owned by Chamberlain, LLC in Cordova.

Portions of this property are included in the county's road inventory as well as a lane, Bethany Lane.

Chamberlain contacted the county to request that the county close these roads and convey the land to it so that they can facilitate the transfer of that property.

And we've checked with county staff, including Brian Moore, who has confirmed that the county does not need these roads, they're not being used. The county does not wish to maintain them, and the county has no objection to the conveyance requested.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. All right. At this time, I'll go ahead and open it to the public.

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And you have three minutes to come up to talk for an individual, five minute if you're representing an organization.

So at this time, I'll go ahead and open the floor. Yup. Yes, sir. Come on up.

MR. SMITH: Good evening, Council. Zach Smith on behalf of Chamberlain, LLC, the property owner, the owner of the property that more or less surrounds these roadways and the right of way that's the subject of this.

That property was formerly operated as The Bethany House, which the Council may recall was a group home in Cordova. It closed I think early 2000s.

It's a little unusual to have this situation where you have roads more or less on private property that only serve one property owner but are under the county's maintenance obligations and that the right of way was dedicated to the county.

I'm not exactly sure why that was done. I

assume it was done to support the institutional use that was there formerly. But nonetheless, that use has ceased. It's gone away.

And these roads now, the configuration, the layout of them, served that use. That use is gone. They no longer make any sense. As Mr. Thomas said, they bisect the property.

And so we think -- I approached Mr. Thomas for that reason because we think it would benefit both my client, because they would get rid of this encumbrance that bisects their property, but also the county, to remove the county's maintenance obligations and to remove this strip of land that has no seeming public benefit. There's no reason why the taxpayers should be paying and maintaining these roads that only serve this one property.

So for that reason, we support the resolution and ask the county to approve it.

And we will present the county with a deed to convey that strip of land to Chamberlain, LLC.

	Page 38
1	Thank you.
2	MR. CALLAHAN: Sounds great. Appreciate
3	it. Thank you.
4	Okay. Anybody else on my left here?
5	Anybody here on my right want to come up?
б	Yes, sir. Come on up.
7	MR. MILLS: Thank you. My name is Kevin
8	Mills. I own property at 7510 Quaker Neck
9	Road.
10	And Resolution Number 367 was drafted in
11	response to an application
12	MR. CALLAHAN: Hold tight now. We're not
13	on that resolution yet.
14	MR. MILLS: Oh, okay. I'm sorry. This is
15	only about 364?
16	MR. CALLAHAN: Yes, sir.
17	MR. MILLS: I'm sorry.
18	MR. CALLAHAN: No problem. We'll get to
19	you. Okay.
20	Anybody else want to come up? Okay.

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So we'll go ahead at this time and close

	Page 39
1	the public hearing.
2	And I think, Madam Secretary, this is
3	eligible for vote.
4	SECRETARY: It is if you bring it to
5	MR. CALLAHAN: Third reader?
6	SECRETARY: Third reader.
7	MR. LESHER: This is a resolution.
8	SECRETARY: I mean it's a resolution. You
9	can just vote.
10	MR. LESHER: You can call for the vote.
11	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.
12	SECRETARY: You can just call for the
13	vote.
14	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. So Madam Secretary,
15	could you call the vote.
16	SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
17	MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
18	SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.
19	MR. STEPP: Aye.
20	SECRETARY: Mr. Lesher.
21	MR. LESHER: Aye.

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1	SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.
2	MS. MIELKE: Aye.
3	SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.
4	MS. HAYTHE: Aye.
5	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you. Okay.
6	Next Resolution, 365.
7	SECRETARY: Resolution Number 365, a
8	resolution to amend the Talbot County
9	comprehensive water and sewer plan to
10	reclassify and remap certain real properties
11	located at 9802 Ocean Gateway and 9818 Ocean
12	Gateway, Easton, Maryland. Shown on tax map 25
13	as parcels five and six, from unprogrammed to
14	W-1, S-1, immediate priority status, pursuant
15	to an application filed by the McNeal Family
16	Trust.
17	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Mr. Thomas, you want
18	to do this or you want
19	MR. THOMAS: I'll defer to Mr. Clarke and
20	Mr. Yelton.
21	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. All right, guys.

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Weicome, guys.	Welcome,	guys.	Yup.
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MR. CLARKE: Ray Clarke, county engineer.

We received the application from the property owner associated with 365 and ultimately presented that to the Public Works Advisory Board on December 19th.

And the Public Works Advisory Board basically via a five to zero vote for recommends that the County Council adopt Resolution 365.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.

MR. YELTON: On January 8, 2025 --

MR. CALLAHAN: Could you introduce

yourself?

MR. YELTON: Yeah. Apologies. Bryce Yelton, Talbot County Planning and Zoning.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. No problem.

MR. YELTON: Thank you.

MR. CALLAHAN: Yup.

MR. YELTON: Last Wednesday on January 8,

2025, the Planning Commission reviewed this

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Resolution 365. A motion was made and seconded that it was consistent with the 2016 Talbot County Comprehensive Plan and the seven relevant standards in accordance with the Environmental Article 9506A1 of the Maryland Annotated Code. The motion passed via a four to zero vote.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. That's great. Okay. All right.

At this time, we'll go ahead and open the public hearing. Anybody here on my left here want to come on up? Yup.

MR. SMITH: Good evening, again. Mr. Zach Smith on behalf of the property owner to speak in support of this resolution.

This property was annexed into the town in 2012 and zoned commercial at that time, but the comprehensive water and sewer plan map was never amended.

For that reason, we proposed the amendment and went through. And as Mr. Clarke pointed

out, both the Planning Commission and the Public Works Advisory Board unanimously supported the amendment.

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The Town of Easton also provided a letter supporting the amendment.

And so we would ask the Council to do the same.

There's no definitive plan for the development of this property at this time. But it will certainly be developed consistent with the town's Comprehensive Plan and town zoning and some sort of commercial land use based on the zoning that it has.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. All right. Thank you.

MR. SMITH: Thank you.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Okay. Anybody here on my right want to come on up and talk about Resolution 365? Okay.

Anybody else? Okay.

At this time, Madam Secretary, we'll leave

	Page 44
1	the public hearing open or no?
2	SECRETARY: You can.
3	MR. LESHER: I think you can close this
4	one since this one will be eligible for a vote.
5	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.
6	MR. LESHER: And call for the vote.
7	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. So we'll go ahead
8	and close the public hearing on this one. And
9	it's eligible for the vote.
10	Madam Secretary, could you call the vote.
11	SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
12	MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
13	SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.
14	MR. STEPP: Aye.
15	SECRETARY: Mr. Lesher.
16	MR. LESHER: Aye.
17	SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.
18	MS. MIELKE: Aye.
19	SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.
20	MS. HAYTHE: Aye.
21	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Good. Okay.

All right. We're getting to you now.

We're getting close.

Madam Secretary.

SECRETARY: Resolution Number 366. A resolution to amend the Talbot County comprehensive water and sewer plan to reclassify and remap certain real properties located on the east side of US Route 50 south of Dutchmans Lane, Easton, Maryland. Shown on tax map 34 as parcels 128 and 175 from W-3, S-3 and unprogrammed, respectively, to W-1, S-1, immediate priority status, pursuant to an application filed by Corrigan & Trippe Ventures, LLC.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.

MR. CLARKE: Thank you. Council, again, Ray Clarke, county engineer.

We did receive the application from the property owner related to Resolution 366.

At the same time, we did receive a letter of support from the Town of Easton on this.

At the December 19th Public Works Advisory
Board meeting, the board basically made a
motion and approved that motion recommending
the County Council adopt Resolution 366 via a
five to zero vote.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.

MS. DEFLOW: Hello. Elisa Deflaux, Planning and Zoning.

The Talbot Planning Commission reviewed the application at their January 8, 2025, meeting and made a decision to defer any decision until they had met with the Town of Easton Council to discuss the number of dwelling units that have already been approved or under construction.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. That's good. Okay.

All right. At this time, I'll open it up to the public. Three minutes for individuals, five minutes for an organization.

Anybody on this side want to come up and talk? Yes, sir.

You're starting to be a problem.

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MR. SMITH: I know. My apologies. Zach Smith on behalf of the property owner.

And just wanted to remind the Council this property was annexed into the Town of Easton last year. And you'll remember specifically for the purpose of providing some affordable housing, which is something that's much needed in the town and something that's strongly supported by both the town and county Comprehensive Plans.

Please also recall we came to the Council last fall with a request to waive the county zoning hold, for the five-year hold, which the County Council unanimously supported and waived that hold, allowing the town's R10A zoning to become immediately effective.

And so updating the comprehensive water and sewer plan is the next step in the ability to develop that property.

We understand the county can't vote this

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evening because they haven't yet received your recommendation from the Planning Commission.

I believe that the Planning Commissions are scheduled to meet later this month. So hopefully their recommendation will be forthcoming.

As Mr. Clarke said, the Public Works
Advisory Board did unanimously support it.

So we hope that when you get in a position you're able to vote on it, you will support it and allow us to move forward with that project we talked about back in the fall.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you, Zach. Go ahead.

MS. DEFLOW: I just wanted to let you know that the Council and the Planning Commission will be meeting on Thursday, January 23rd.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.

MS. DEFLOW: At 1 o'clock.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Great. Okay.

Thank you, Zach.

MR. SMITH: Thank you.

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MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Anybody else here on my right like to come up? Yes, sir. Come on up.

MR. RIGGIN: Mr. President, Members of the Council, my name is Phil Riggin, 29736 Sullivan Drive, Easton. And you're smiling at me as if I've been here before.

Mine is just a simple, I hope it's a simple question of me not knowing how some of the administrative procedures here in the county work.

I see here that one of these, the previous resolution talks about properties on Ocean Gateway and the Resolution 366 talks about properties on Route 50.

Are they not the same road?

MR. LESHER: They're the same road. I'm not sure why they're described (inaudible.)

MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah.

MR. RIGGIN: It is a matter of some

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confusion to me, but I may be -- maybe you have addresses on Ocean Gateway and it's a separate section of the road from Route 50, which -- and this, of course, is a little more of interest to me because it does, it is a property just south of Dutchmans Lane.

MR. CALLAHAN: All right. Okay.

MR. RIGGIN: Which I've discussed, we've discussed here in the past.

So if there's an administrative issue to be resolved...

MR. LESHER: Well, thank you. I'm sure the lawyers in this room have pricked up their ears with your question. Thank you.

MR. RIGGIN: Not trying to be a problem.

I just was confused by what appeared to be a discrepancy. Thank you.

MR. CALLAHAN: No problem. I appreciate it. Okay.

Anybody else want to talk about this, 366? So Madam Secretary, we'll go ahead and

1 leave this open on this one.

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SECRETARY: Okay.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Until the Planning Commission makes a decision. Okay.

Now we're getting there, we're getting there. 367.

SECRETARY: Resolution Number 367, a resolution to amend the Talbot County comprehensive water and sewer plan to reclassify and remap certain real property located at 7510 Quaker Neck Road, Bozman, Maryland. Shown on tax map 39 as parcel 79 from unprogrammed to S-1, immediate priority status, pursuant to an application filed by Kevin Mills.

MR. CLARKE: Thank you, Council. Again, Ray Clarke, county engineer.

We received the application from the property owner and ultimately processed that for Resolution 367.

We presented this to the Public Works

Advisory Board on December 19th. The board decided to defer action on this. They would like to get additional information. At the same time, maybe create a priority-type policy that would then identify that these areas, which parcel can come in and which parcels would not come in.

And ultimately with this parcel being about four acres, I think it -- and it's very close to the sewer service area that's being installed for Resolution 250, which is the lots in and around Bozman and Neavitt. Actually from the St. Michaels plant to Bozman and Neavitt.

So at the same time, I think Mr. Mills has noted this, and we don't disagree, that if he does try to do a septic system on his property for let's say adding additional bedrooms, that that's pretty much going to have to knock down trees that are full grown there as well as doing possibly a lot of the work in the buffer

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area.

So one of the things we've done is we've drafted up a policy. We're going to be meeting with the Public Works Advisory Board, along with our GIS maps, kind of looking at some of the parcel sizes and whatnot. At their meeting on January 16th, which is this week, kind of going through that with hopefully coming back to the Council with some ideas and recommendations.

We also are working to set up a meeting with the Maryland Department of the Environment as well as the Maryland Department of Planning to also discuss this and maybe creating some kind of overlay area within the comp water and sewer plan that would identify maybe these, like the parcel that Mr. Mills' lot is in, as kind of being in an environmentally sensitive area where we have high ground water, poor draining soils.

We have tried to get Mr. Greene, Brennan

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Greene, the director of Environmental Health, to provide a letter of support for this parcel as well as other parcels in this area. So we're working on that.

I know Mr. Mills has also tried to get in contact with Mr. Greene as well to get that letter of support.

Again, we're trying to see if we can kind of come up with a game plan to help the Council whenever we received these applications to help process them a little quicker and faster.

MR. CALLAHAN: Sounds great.

MS. DEFLOW: Thank you. Elisa Deflaux, Planning and Zoning.

The Planning Commission reviewed the application on January 8th and they supported the Public Works Advisory Board's recommendation and deferred the application until they are ready to make a decision.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Sounds great. Okay So okay. So at this time, I'll go ahead

and open it to the public. For an individual, give you three minutes. If you're representing an organization, I'll give you five minutes.

So anybody over here to my left?

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And the very patient gentleman here in the back, come on up.

MR. MILLS: Not patient enough apparently.

I apologize for the false start.

MR. CALLAHAN: That's okay. No problem, no problem.

MR. MILLS: Shows my inexperience here.
Kevin Mills, 7510 Quaker Neck.

So yeah. This resolution was drafted in response to an application I filed requesting an extension of the sewer service.

I want to thank you for making this historic investment in the county and for your attention to this resolution. And I guess I'd like to make three points in support of it.

One, obviously right thing to do for the environment. I've actually made my career in

environmental protection. And so you and I have a common interest in safeguarding the quality of the Bay ecosystem.

We want to keep the sewage out, but we also, as has been mentioned by Mr. Clarke, we have mature forest on the property. So while it might be four acres, a lot of that is that forested area that we really want to preserve and build on, as opposed to cut down. And so that would be very important for the environmental quality here as well.

So second thing is it's really the right time and place to grant an extension. The current map runs just short of my next door neighbor's house. So it's not far to go. And the crews are preparing to do this work on Quaker Neck. And so it's easiest to add now. And so while I'm quite aware of the policy being developed, my hope is it's really going to put a premium on maximizing participation in this public sewer system, removing septic

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systems. And especially in cases like this where it's relatively easy to do and you have an eager resident who wants to pay his fair share and increase participation in the overall system.

And then finally, just a couple of thoughts as it relates to this property is so the prior owners had gotten approval to establish an SRA up to five bedrooms for this property. So there's a one-bedroom carriage house on the property now.

We are working on designing a home that would be three bedrooms. So we're going to be within the density expectations of that prior approval if even under septic, but that really just underscores that our motivation here is to do the right thing for the environment. Try to anticipate the future here and make this switch when it's easy in support of the county's big and important goals here.

So thank you very much.

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1	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you.
2	MR. LESHER: Question for
3	MR. MILLS: Yes.
4	MR. LESHER: The new construction will
5	replace this old carriage house here or
6	MR. MILLS: No. The idea is to be in
7	addition to.
8	MR. LESHER: Okay.
9	MR. MILLS: So there's an existing SDA
10	that just a portion of it was being used. But
11	my understanding is we'll be required to do an
12	additional one with the additional development.
13	MR. LESHER: I don't know if you can
14	explain to us, or maybe staff can, how this
15	prior approval remains in place.
16	I'm unfamiliar with an approval that
17	specifies a number of bedrooms or anything like
18	that. So I'm just learning here.
19	MR. CLARKE: Again, I can assist here.
20	I think typically what happens with the
21	Environmental Health Office, when they're

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approving a plat, they'll identify on that plat the SDA, or sewage disposal area or sewage reserve area. And the focus of that is pretty much establishing about a 10,000 to 12,000 square foot area on the lot where the drain field for the septic system would be installed.

And so unfortunately, in Mr. Mills's case, as he noted, there is a mature growth of forest there. Those trees would have to be knocked down in order to put that sewage disposal area in.

And typically what happens, again, we've also talked with -- that's one of the reasons we're trying to talk with MDE about this. When you run into, in this area with sewer and/or septic, you're actually penetrating the ground water. So what ends up happening, the ground water table may only be 12 to 18 inches. Typically it's about 12 inches below the ground surface.

So now what happens is your septic system

or your septic tank can be hydraulically challenged because now it's above the discharge. The ground water has now put that water level above the discharge. And then when it goes into the drain field, all you're doing, if it's only about 12 inches below the grade and you get a heavy rain, it's going to seep up.

I mean and then unfortunately the way
Environmental Health looks at it, they're the
only ones to say a septic system is failing.
But typically during wet water events, a lot of
the systems out there are typically failing.

In talking with the previous director of Environmental Health, areas like this, they called it I guess suds weekends or suds on Sunday. Where they would do their laundry and whatnot and you would see the suds basically from the laundry on the surface of the ground.

And so we had a situation in the Bozman, I think Bozman area where we had a property owner

actually had a septic tank with a staff gauge on it and it was colored red, green, and yellow. And when it was red, that means you don't do laundry because the ground water table is up. But when it went down, that meant they could do laundry.

Again, when that ground water table is coming up, it's very difficult for the system to operate properly.

MR. LESHER: So the approval is from Department of Environmental Health?

MR. CLARKE: That is correct. And what will end up happening is they -- again, they're allowed to penetrate the ground water.

And so with Mr. Mills doing a new septic system for a three-bedroom house, it would be a standard -- well, it would probably be a septic system with a denite unit. But that denite unit would actually be discharging into the ground water. So into the drain field that would be penetrating right into the ground

water.

So if the ground water table is high, it's, you know, and they're doing a lot of flows, it's going to go up. It's going to wake up a little bit.

MR. LESHER: So maybe this is a question for Planning and Zoning. This would be a second dwelling unit on the same parcel.

MR. CLARKE: I believe what I'm hearing, I think Mr. Mills can attest to that, he's actually going to be adding on. The carriage house, it's going to be one structure. It will be the carriage house, but he's going to add bedrooms onto that carriage house. So it will still be the one structure.

MR. LESHER: I see. Okay. Thank you very much.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Anybody else want to say anything about 367?

Okay. All right. At this time...

MS. HAYTHE: (Inaudible.)

MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah. We're going to be 1 2 leaving that open. Okay. 3 Madam Secretary, we'll leave it open to the next meeting or the next couple of 4 meetings. Can you help me let the public know 5 how long it stays open? At least another 6 7 meeting. 8 MR. THOMAS: Until February because the Planning Commission will have to review this. 9 SECRETARY: Yeah. The Planning Commission 10 won't review it until February again. 11 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. So it will be 13 sometime in February before we can vote on it. MR. THOMAS: February 11th. 14 15 SECRETARY: February 11th you can vote on 16 it. 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Oh, okay. 18

MR. THOMAS: Assuming that the Planning Commission has made a recommendation by that point.

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MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. I was just letting

the gentleman know. Okay. Good. All right.

Next resolution, 368.

SECRETARY: Resolution Number 368, a resolution to amend the Talbot County comprehensive water and sewer plan to reclassify and remap certain real property located at 4502 Old Trappe Road, Trappe, Maryland. Shown on tax map 54 as parcel 302, from unprogrammed to W-1, S-1, immediate priority status, pursuant to an application filed by Brian Hause.

MR. CLARKE: Again, Ray Clarke, county engineer.

On Resolution 368, we did receive the application from the property owner and processed Resolution 368.

This is, again, within the Trappe water and wastewater system. It is going to be a light industrial parcel.

During the Public Works Advisory Board meeting, they raised questions because this

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would be actually connected to the existing

Trappe, Town of Trappe's wastewater treatment

plant. So they had some questions and concerns
that were being asked.

So I ended up forwarding a letter to the Town of Trappe on January 8th. I've not heard a reply back yet. So I'm trying to get that information for the board to basically provide that to the Public Works Advisory Board from the Town of Trappe as it relates to the number of EDUs that would possibly be built for this light industrial park.

MR. YELTON: Council, thank you. Again, Bryce Yelton, Planning and Zoning.

The Planning Commission had heard this on their Wednesday meeting on January 8th last week. And a motion was made and seconded to postpone this resolution pending the additional information for the Public Works Advisory Board that Ray had noted.

Just another thing to note, that this is

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one of two industrial parcels within the Town of Trappe. And so this was subsequently originally annexed into the Town of Trappe in 2007 with the remainder under a resolution in 2023.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. All right, then.

We'll go ahead and open it to the public. Three minutes for an individual, five minutes for an organization.

So if anybody wants to come up here. Yup.

MR. SMITH: Good evening, again, Council. Zach Smith on behalf of Brian Hause.

And Brian is the owner of the subject property. It's approximately 37 acres.

As Mr. Yelton said, a portion of the property, the majority of it was annexed into the town back in 2007.

I was before the Council in 2023 to annex the remaining five acres, which the Council did support.

The property is zoned industrial by the

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town. It's really a light industrial zoning.

And it's one of only two properties in the Town of Trappe that have that zoning. And importantly, their Comprehensive Plan doesn't propose any additional industrial land. So this is sort of it, this and the adjacent property on Backtown Road.

And the plan that Brian has is to utilize the property for his business. He's a contractor, a site contractor. But maybe to subdivide the property and create opportunities for other light industrial users, similar to some of the light industrial parks we have here in Easton, which will provide important services and jobs and revenue for the county economic activity.

So we think all that's positive. And I think that's why the Council supported waiving the hold when we came for the annexation.

We certainly understood the questions that the Public Works Advisory Board had. We

couldn't answer them. I think they're questions for the Town of Trappe. So we hope they get that information and it's satisfactory and we're able to come back before the Council. And that assuming it is satisfactory, you will support the resolution at that time.

And if I could just ask, in terms of on a personal note, the scheduling of the follow-up Council hearing. I'm going to be away on the 11th. So I don't know if there's any way that this item and the one for Corrigan & Trippe could be put on the second Council meeting in February just to ensure that I can --

SECRETARY: 25th?

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MR. SMITH: I wouldn't want to delay
Mr. Mills. It's just I can't be here on the
11th.

MR. CALLAHAN: That's fine. Is it okay with Council? I'm fine with it.

MS. HAYTHE: Fine with it.

MR. LESHER: I have no problem deferring

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1	this to the second meeting in February.
2	MR. SMITH: Thank you for that, Council.
3	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you.
4	MS. HAYTHE: As long as you're not going
5	anywhere warm.
6	MR. SMITH: I'm not.
7	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Anybody else would
8	like to come up and talk about 368? Okay.
9	So we'll go ahead and, at this time, hold
10	this open, too. Okay. All right.
11	I think that's it, Madam Secretary, on
12	your part; isn't it?
13	SECRETARY: Yes, it is.
14	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. And we got county
15	manager done.
16	So we're public hearing.
17	MR. STAMP: Public comments.
18	MR. LESHER: Public comments.
19	MR. CALLAHAN: I'm sorry. Public
20	comments. Yup.
21	MR. STAMP: We're checking.

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1	MR. CALLAHAN: We're checking. Okay.
2	MR. LESHER: Given the small audience, you
3	might just want to ask if there's anybody here
4	who has public comment.
5	MR. CALLAHAN: Right. I'm playing by the
6	rules. You taught me that. You know what I
7	mean? Hey, you know. Okay.
8	Does anybody want to come up under public
9	comment? Okay.
10	MS. HAYTHE: She said nobody.
11	MR. CALLAHAN: Yup, yup. Okay.
12	Let's start with
13	MR. STAMP: Council comment.
14	MS. HAYTHE: Starting on my end?
15	MR. CALLAHAN: Want me to?
16	MS. HAYTHE: Sure.
17	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.
18	MS. HAYTHE: I can make it quick.
19	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.
20	MS. HAYTHE: So I just wanted to thank the
21	staff and everyone, Public Works Department and

everybody that went out to clear the snow.

I was on a call today, and they were just raving about how well the Public Works

Department did with clearing the snow.

And you know, living on Matthewstown Road, it was pretty good. And then all the county back roads that I have to travel as well was good. So I just want to commend Clay and the staff and everybody that went out. So thank you for a job well done. And hopefully we won't get anymore snow.

MR. STAMP: Amen.

MS. HAYTHE: And also, as Pete mentioned, too. Pete, Chuck, and myself attended the meeting at the VFW. And I just want to commend Sharon Dill for a great program every year and all the farmers that come out to be part of that.

MR. CALLAHAN: The Corn Club, yup.

MS. HAYTHE: Corn Club meeting, yeah.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.

MS. MIELKE: I'll just add my kudos to the county and how they handled snow that we haven't had in several years. And it was just spectacular. I had heard the same comments.

My goodness, it's just so good.

Congratulations. Thank you.

MR. CALLAHAN: Yup. Sounds great.

MR. STEPP: I'll stick with the same theme. I'll parlay off of both Keasha's and Lynn's comments.

Even those, when pushing snow, accidents happen. Even the way that the mailboxes that seemed to fall off when hit with heavy, slushy snow. But just the way that those are being handled.

I actually heard from a neighbor who was in that predicament and how that was being handled by our Roads Department. So great job all around even on the aftermath of those unfortunate accidents that do happen. So well done.

MR. LESHER: Looking forward. Monday is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, a national day of service.

And one of the things that I find makes
Talbot County particularly special is how many
people in this community volunteer, go out and
support youth, sports, organizations, volunteer
all across this community. This is a day for
you. This is a day for all of us to help those
regular volunteers and pitch in in community
service. There are opportunities out there,
and I commend you to look for them.

MR. CALLAHAN: Good job. And like everybody was saying about the snow and the efforts that the county made and the staff. So that is obviously a big deal, and I do want to commend staff.

Because not only some of the procedures that we have to do when it comes to this, but they're planning a couple of days prior to this. And when it actually happens, Clay and

his department heads are in the emergency services at three or four or 5 o'clock in the morning making decisions on what's going on.

So it's, it's kudos to a lot of people that make this happen. So when things do, you're talking about government, you're talking about schools, you're talking about safety, shutting roads down. So there's a lot of process that Council has to make decisions to shut things down or keep things going. And in this case, we had to shut down things for safety purposes.

So there's a lot that goes into this process the day it happens and then several days prior to that. So kudos to all the people that were involved. Roads and the police and Joe Gamble and his guys and the fire department.

What we are very proud of is Clay Stamp's background. It's emergency services. So we're gifted to have you, Clay, because that's your

strength. And we really appreciate you staying on top of that.

And sometimes I know you hate it when I call you at 4 o'clock in the morning because that's my time, you know. So I love doing that.

MR. STAMP: That's when you say good afternoon, Clay.

MR. CALLAHAN: I do. Exactly, exactly.

So but all kidding aside, I really appreciate what Council does on emergencies. And I think, you know, we build off of this one-foot snow and we learn from maybe the dos and don'ts and what we can and can't do. But it's only so much we can do, and we're prepared for it. So I really appreciate it.

MR. LESHER: The County Council's next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 28th, beginning at 5 o'clock p.m. The Council will be convening in open session at 3:30 p.m. and then adjourning into closed session, as listed

1 on the statement for closing that meetir	ıg.
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On Wednesday, January 22nd, at 50'clock p.m., the Council will be meeting with the Board of Education. The meeting will be held at the Talbot County Board of Education offices, located at 12 Magnolia Street in Easton and is open to the public.

Therefore, is there a motion to adjourn this meeting and reconvene as noted?

MR. STEPP: So moved.

MS. HAYTHE: Second.

MS. MIELKE: Second.

MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and second. Madam Secretary, could you call the vote.

SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.

MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.

SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.

MR. STEPP: Aye.

SECRETARY: Mr. Lesher.

MR. LESHER: Aye.

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1	SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.
2	MS. MIELKE: Aye.
3	SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.
4	MS. HAYTHE: Aye.
5	MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thanks a lot for
6	coming tonight. I appreciate it.
7	(Meeting concluded at: 6:05 p.m.)
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1	STATE OF MARYLAND
2	I, Diane Houlihan, a Notary Public in and
	for the State of Maryland, County of Baltimore City,
3	do hereby certify that the within named, Talbot
	County Council Audio, personally appeared before me
4	at the time and place herein set according to law,
	was interrogated by counsel.
5	
	I further certify that the examination was
6	recorded stenographically by me and then transcribed
_	from my stenographic notes to the within printed
7	matter by means of computer-assisted transcription
8	in a true and accurate manner.
0	I further certify that the stipulations
9	contained herein were entered into by counsel in my
	presence.
10	
	I further certify that I am not of counsel
11	to any of the parties, not an employee of counsel,
	nor related to any of the parties, nor in any way
12	interested in the outcome of this action.
13	AS WITNESS my hand Notorial Seal this 20th
	day of January, 2025, at East(
14	(): alo. 0:1
15	Viene years
16	
1 17	Diane Houlihan
17 10	Notary Public
18 19	
エブ	

My commission expires September 16, 2025

[& - acres] Page 1

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