A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sussex County Council was held on Tuesday, August 24, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., in Council Chambers, with the following present:

Michael H. Vincent
John L. Rieley
Cynthia C. Green
Douglas B. Hudson
Mark G. Schaeffer

President
Vice President
Councilwoman
Councilman
Councilman

Todd F. Lawson
Gina A. Jennings
J. Everett Moore, Jr.

County Administrator
Finance Director
County Attorney

The Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were led by Mr. Vincent.

Call to Order

Mr. Vincent called the meeting to order.

M 367 21 Approve Agenda A Motion was made by Mr. Rieley, seconded by Mr. Schaeffer, to approve the Agenda, as posted.

Motion Adopted: 4 Yeas, 1 Absent.

Vote by Roll Call: Mrs. Green, Yea; Mr. Schaeffer, Yea;

Mr. Hudson, Absent; Mr. Rieley, Yea;

Mr. Vincent, Yea

Minutes The minutes of August 10, 2021 were approved by consent.

Correspondence Mr. Moore reported that correspondence was received from the Sussex Montessori School and Seaford Community Food Closet in appreciation of grant funding.

Mr. Hudson joined the meeting.

Public Comments Public comments were heard and the following spoke:

Francine Panzo, homeowner at The Vines of Sandhill Development in Milton, spoke regarding the amenities promised by the Builder/Developer by the Summer of 2021. She stated that the Builder/Developer has on multiple occasions changed the date for starting the amenities; that the Builder/Developer is in violation; that the Planning and Zoning Commission found that the Builder/Developer is in violation of the original signed agreement and declared they were to complete construction of all amenities by November 2022 or by the permitting of Lot 136, whichever is first; and that the homeowners have subsequently learned that the Builder/Developer has now been able to get a date of completion moved to May 2023. Ms. Panzo

Public Comments (continued)

stated that this information should have been made public and that the Owner/Developer has failed to be transparent and has not met the obligations to the community, including scheduling meetings and receiving minutes of the Board of Directors. Ms. Panzo stated that the residents want Council to be aware of these matters and they hope an investigation can be initiated.

Mr. Vincent stated that he would have the Planning and Zoning Director contact her.

Jim Nealon of Beaver Dam Road in Ellendale spoke in regard to a neighboring property where multiple problems and violations exist, including the mortgage not being paid, people living on the property with no utilities, over 25 cars on blocks, using/selling drugs and running prostitution on the property, etc. Mr. Nealon commented on his numerous calls to the County, stated that this needs to be suppressed, and he asked for the Council's help.

Another individual spoke (name unknown) regarding The Vines of Sandhill Development in Milton and the delay in the construction of amenities. He raised questions on what will happen if the Builder/Developer goes out of business, i.e. what assurances do they have that the amenities will be constructed.

William Walton of Ellendale spoke regarding the water district in the Town of Ellendale, stating that his property has been singled out for connection and he wishes be to be left out of the water district until such time as the Town accepts County water.

DelDOT CTP Presentation/

A presentation was given by the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT). Josh Thomas, DelDOT Planning Supervisor; Mark Luszcz, DelDOT Deputy Director of Design; and Jennifer Cinelli-Miller, DelDOT Transportation Planner, were in attendance to discuss DelDOT's Capital Transportation Program (CTP) that is in development at the present time (the Proposed FY2023 – FY2028 CTP). Also in attendance by teleconference was Pam Steinbach, DelDOT Director of Division of Planning. Mr. Thomas noted that in June 2021, DelDOT presented to Council the candidate projects for the Draft CTP. They reported that the Draft CTP has now been published and can be accessed at www.ctp.deldot.gov. The next step is the public hearing/workshop and the written comment portion of the program. They also provided a status update on current projects and a listing of projects actively in design, some of which are under construction. Additionally, they reviewed next steps, i.e. virtual public workshops around the State in September 2021. Council members raised questions about project timelines, project funding, DelDOT's overall budget, various projects not on the CTP listing, pedestrian/bicycle bridge (Route 9/Coolspring), and Transportation Improvement Districts.

Administrator's Report Mr. Lawson read the following information in his Administrator's Report:

1. Delaware State Police Activity Report

The Delaware State Police year-to-date activity report for July 2021 is attached listing the number of violent crime arrests, as well as total traffic charges and corresponding arrests. In addition, DUI and total vehicle crashes investigated are listed. In total, there were 193 troopers assigned to Sussex County for the month of July.

2. Projects Receiving Substantial Completion

Per the attached Engineering Department Fact Sheets the following projects have received Substantial Completion: Ocean View Beach Club North – Phase 2 (FKA Lighthipe) (Construction Record) effective August 9th; Belle Terre – Phase 2A (Construction Record) effective August 10th; Americana Bayside – Village A – Phase 4 (Construction Record) effective August 11th; Seagrove (aka Harlton) – Phase 4 effective August 12th; and The Estuary – Phase 3B (Construction Record) effective August 13th.

3. Mary Sue Sharp

It is with sadness that we note the passing of County pensioner Mary Sue Sharp on Monday, August 16th. Ms. Sharp began her career with Sussex County in July 1976 and retired as a Financial Representative III in April 2018 with 41 years of service. We would like to extend our condolences to the Sharp family.

(Attachments to the Administrator's Report are not attached to the minutes.)

Third Quarter Employee Recognition Awards

Karen Brewington, Human Resources Director, announced the Third Quarter recipients of the Shining Star Employee Recognition Program. This program recognizes and celebrates employees who demonstrate exceptional performance, service, and accomplishments that reinforce the County's mission, vision and goals. Third Quarter recipients are Sharon Palmer of the South Coastal Library, Shari Sheridan of the Register of Wills, and Scott Thornton of the Engineering Department.

Delaware Transit Reimbursement Program Request Mrs. Jennings reported that DART, a division of DelDOT, has allocated \$796,868.00 for funding of transportation expenses for various senior centers in Sussex County. The County's responsibility is to approve a recommended funding amount for Fiscal Year 2022 as per State law; this is an allocation of State grant funds to various senior agencies for transportation purposes. The recommended funding for each agency is similar to previous years:

Delaware	Nanticoke Senior Center	\$ 44,962.00
Transit	Indian River Senior Center	2,100.00
Reimburse-	Laurel Senior Center	99,083.00
ment	Lewes Senior Center	27,123.00
Program	Cape Henlopen Senior Center	43,066.00
Request	CHEER, Inc.	580,534.00
(continued)	,	
	ΤΟΤΔΙ.	\$796 868 00

IUIAL \$7,96,868.00

M 368 21 Approve Allocation of DART **Funds**

A Motion was made by Mr. Rieley, seconded Mr. Schaeffer, that the Sussex County Council approves the allocation of State funds to various senior agencies within Sussex County, as presented.

Motion Adopted: 5 Yeas.

Vote by Roll Call: Mrs. Green, Yea; Mr. Schaeffer, Yea;

Mr. Hudson, Yea; Mr. Rieley, Yea;

Mr. Vincent, Yea

Comcast Easement/ **Business** Park

Hans Medlarz, County Engineer, reported that the Engineering Department has re-established a working relationship with Comcast of Delmarva, LLC, who is proposing to install communication services within the Delaware Coastal Business Park. In order to provide the service to businesses in the Delaware Coastal Business Park, Comcast is proposing to install a conduit from Baltimore Avenue to Nanticoke Avenue. The alignment over the County's property will cross over an unencumbered portion of the Park property; Comcast has accepted that alignment and is requesting a communication utility easement to be granted. The Engineering Department recommends the granting of the easement to Comcast in exchange for payment of "cost of appraisal" in the amount of \$2,000.00.

M 369 21 Approve Comcast **Easement** at Business Park

A Motion was made by Mr. Rieley, seconded by Mr. Hudson, based upon the recommendation of the Sussex County Engineering Department, that the Sussex County Council approves the granting of a Communication Utility Easement to Comcast of Delmarva, LLC for Tax Parcel 135-20.00-75.00, in the amount of \$2,000.00, equal to the cost of the appraisal.

Motion Adopted: 5 Yeas.

Vote by Roll Call: Mrs. Green, Yea; Mr. Schaeffer, Yea;

Mr. Hudson, Yea; Mr. Rieley, Yea;

Mr. Vincent, Yea

Concord Road/ Route 13 Utility **Upgrade**

Hans Medlarz, County Engineer, presented information on the Concord Road Expansion of the Blades Sanitary Sewer District Commercial Construction Project (Contract No. 15-03). He advised that the County Engineering Department agreed to redo the parking lot of the Church of the Nazarene which was torn up in the construction process and in consideration Concord Road (continued) of the impact the lengthy construction project had on the Church. Mr. Medlarz reported that the Contractor and the Engineer agreed to cover the repaying of the compromised parking lot on a 66%/33% split, respectively.

M 370 21 Approve Close-Out Purchase Order/ Concord Road/ Route 13 Utility Upgrade A Motion was made by Mr. Schaeffer, seconded by Mr. Rieley, based upon the recommendation of the Sussex County Engineering Department, that Council approves the close-out of the Stand-Alone Contract Continuation Purchase Order (Concord Road / Route 13 Utility Upgrade) to Zack Excavating, Inc., in the reduced amount of \$541,196.88 and authorize payment of the additional expenses and stored materials in the amount of \$30,799.471.

Motion Adopted: 5 Yeas.

Vote by Roll Call: Mrs. Green, Yea; Mr. Schaeffer, Yea;

Mr. Hudson, Yea; Mr. Rieley, Yea;

Mr. Vincent, Yea

Construct General Aviation Apron Expansion, Phase II/ Contract Bid Results and Delta Task Order 3

Hans Medlarz, County Engineer, reported that the County Engineering Department is requesting Council's approval of two (2) Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Airport Improvement Program grant offers: AIP Grant 3-10-0007-038-2021 is offered in the amount of \$166,666.00 and AIP Grant 3-10-0007-038-2021 is offered in the amount of \$1,990,631.00. The offers provide \$2,157,299 in federal funds for 100% of the allowable costs incurred during the construction phase of the Expand General Aviation Apron project. In March, the project was advertised and three (3) bids were received; George & Lynch, Inc. submitted the lowest responsive bid. The Engineering Department and Delta Airport Consultants, Inc. recommend award of the contract to George & Lynch, Inc. in the amount of \$1,933,799.00 contingent upon FAA concurrence. In addition, the Engineering Department solicited a fixed fee proposal from Delta Airport Consultants for professional construction administration services in the amount of \$220,000.00. FAA requirements include an independent fee estimate which was performed for \$3,500.00 supporting the reasonableness of Delta Airport Consultants fixed fee price. The Engineering Department recommends acceptance of Task Order No. 2 to Delta Airport Consultants in the not to exceed amount of \$220,000.00 contingent upon FAA concurrence.

M 371 21 Accept FAA Grants

A Motion was made by Mr. Hudson, seconded by Mr. Schaeffer, based upon the recommendation of the Sussex County Engineering Department, that the Sussex County Council accepts two (2) Federal Aviation Administration Grants, total offer of \$2,157,299.00 for 100 percent of the allowable costs incurred during the construction phase of the Expand General Aviation Apron Project.

Motion Adopted: 5 Yeas.

M 371 21 (continued)

Vote by Roll Call: Mrs. Green, Yea; Mr. Schaeffer, Yea;

Mr. Hudson, Yea; Mr. Rieley, Yea;

Mr. Vincent, Yea

M 372 21 Award Contract/ Construct General Aviation Apron Expansion A Motion was made by Mr. Hudson, seconded by Mr. Schaeffer, based upon the recommendation of the Sussex County Engineering Department, that Contract A20-36, Construct General Aviation Apron Expansion, Phase II, be awarded to George & Lynch, Inc. for their total bid of \$1,933,799.00 and associated Task Order No. 2 to Delta Airport Consultants be approved in the amount not to exceed \$220,000.00 for Construction Administration Services, both contingent upon FAA funding approval.

Motion Adopted: 5 Yeas.

Vote by Roll Call: Mrs. Green, Yea; Mr. Schaeffer, Yea;

Mr. Hudson, Yea; Mr. Rieley, Yea;

Mr. Vincent, Yea

Request to Post Public Hearing Notices/ Blackwater Village Utilities

John Ashman, Director of Utility Planning & Design, presented a request to prepare and post notices for the Public Hearing on additional utilities in the Blackwater Village Area. In February 2021, the Council adopted a Resolution establishing the Blackwater Village Area of the Sussex County Unified Sanitary Sewer District. Immediately thereafter, the County Engineering Department received a packet of petitions requesting that the County provide water service, street lighting, and drainage improvements. The Engineering Department prepared and distributed polling letters to the entire community on their interest in these three additional utilities. The County received responses representing 171 of the 277 recorded lots in the community: 98 interested in water service, 118 interested in street lighting and 97 interested in drainage improvements. Mr. Ashman advised that the Engineering Department requests permission to prepare and post notices for a Public Hearing to provide additional information to the community including potential costs, impacts and timelines. Following the Public Hearing, the Engineering Department will schedule a referendum and place all three additional utilities on the ballot as separate items and have the entire area vote.

M 373 21 Grant Permission to Post Public Hearing Notices/ Blackwater

Village

Utilities

A Motion was made by Mr. Rieley, seconded by Mr. Hudson, based on the receipt of petitions submitted pursuant to 9 <u>Del.C.</u> 6503, Sussex County Council hereby grants permission for the Sussex County Engineering Department to prepare and post notices for a Public Hearing to establish a boundary for the Proposed Blackwater Village Additional Utilities.

Motion Adopted: 5 Yeas.

Vote by Roll Call: Mrs. Green, Yea; Mr. Schaeffer, Yea;

Mr. Hudson, Yea; Mr. Rieley, Yea;

Mr. Vincent, Yea

Request Permission to Post Public Hearing Notices/ Knapp Parcels Expansion John Ashman, Director of Utility Planning and Design, presented a request to prepare and post notices for the Proposed Knapp Parcels Expansion of the Sussex County Unified Sanitary Sewer District (West Rehoboth Area). The Engineering Department received a request from Davis, Bowen & Friedel, Inc. on behalf of their client, Leslie Gay Knapp Marini, Successor Trustee Under Revocable Trust Agreement of Halsey G. Knapp and Joan D. Knapp, the owners/developers of ten (10) parcels along New Road. One (1) parcel is already in the sewer district and a recent property line adjustment has left one parcel partially in the sewer district; the remaining eight (8) parcels were previously served with sewer laterals but never included in the District. The project will be responsible for System Connection Charges of \$6,600.00 per EDU based on current rates. The Engineering Department is requesting permission to prepare and post notices for a Public Hearing on the annexation of the area.

M 374 21 Authorize Public Hearing Notices/ Knapp

Parcels

Expansion

A Motion was made by Mr. Schaeffer, seconded by Mr. Hudson, that the Sussex County Engineering Department is authorized to prepare and post notices for the Knapp Parcels Expansion of the Sussex County Unified Sanitary Sewer District to include the balance of Parcel 335-7.00-6.12 and 6.13 through 6.20, as presented.

Motion Adopted: 5 Yeas.

Vote by Roll Call: Mrs. Green, Yea; Mr. Schaeffer, Yea;

Mr. Hudson, Yea; Mr. Rieley, Yea;

Mr. Vincent, Yea

Grant

Requests Mrs. Jennings presented grant requests for the Council's consideration.

M 375 21 Councilmanic Grant A Motion was made by Mrs. Green, seconded by Mr. Schaeffer, to give \$1,000.00 (\$500.00 each from Mrs. Green's and Mr. Schaeffer's Councilmanic Grant Accounts) to the Chamber of Commerce for Greater Milford for festival expenses.

Motion Adopted: 5 Yeas.

Vote by Roll Call: Mrs. Green, Yea; Mr. Schaeffer, Yea;

Mr. Hudson, Yea; Mr. Rieley, Yea;

Mr. Vincent, Yea

M 376 21 Councilmanic Grant A Motion was made by Mr. Rieley, seconded by Mr. Hudson, to give \$3,500.00 (\$2,500.00 from Mr. Rieley's Councilmanic Grant Account, \$500.00 from Mr. Hudson's Councilmanic Grant Account and \$500.00 from Mr. Vincent's Councilmanic Grant Account) to the Delaware Botanic Gardens for a virtual dinner to benefit operations.

Motion Adopted: 5 Yeas.

M 376 21 (continued)

Vote by Roll Call: Mrs. Green, Yea; Mr. Schaeffer, Yea;

Mr. Hudson, Yea; Mr. Rieley, Yea;

Mr. Vincent, Yea

M 377 21 Councilmanic Grant A Motion was made by Mr. Rieley, seconded by Mr. Hudson, to give \$2,600.00 from Mr. Hudson's Councilmanic Grant Account to Delaware State College Alumni Association, Sussex County Chapter, for Band to the Beach trip expenses.

Motion Adopted: 5 Yeas.

Vote by Roll Call: Mrs. Green, Yea; Mr. Schaeffer, Yea;

Mr. Hudson, Yea; Mr. Rieley, Yea;

Mr. Vincent, Yea

Introduction of Proposed Zoning Ordinances Mr. Schaeffer introduced the Proposed Ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE TO GRANT A CONDITIONAL USE OF LAND IN AN AR-1 AGRICULTURAL RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT FOR MULTIFAMILY DWELLINGS (4 UNITS) TO BE LOCATED ON A CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN LEWES AND REHOBOTH HUNDRED, SUSSEX COUNTY, CONTAINING 1.25 ACRES, MORE OR LESS" (Conditional Use No. 2262) filed on behalf of Matthew Hete (Tax I.D. No. 334-6.00-686.00) (911 Address: 34360 Postal Lane, Lewes).

Mr. Vincent introduced the Proposed Ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE TO GRANT A CONDITIONAL USE OF LAND IN AN AR-1 AGRICULTURAL RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT FOR A TOWING BUSINESS TO BE LOCATED ON A CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN BROAD CREEK HUNDRED, SUSSEX COUNTY, CONTAINING 3.078 ACRES, MORE OR LESS" (Conditional Use No. 2296) filed on behalf of Michael Milligan (Tax I.D. No. 232-19.00-12.02) (911 Addresses: 31531 Jestice Farm Road, Laurel).

Mr. Hudson introduced the Proposed Ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE TO GRANT A CONDITIONAL USE OF LAND IN A MR MEDIUM RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT FOR AN AMENDMENT OF CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL FOR CONDITIONAL USE NO. 2046 (ORDINANCE NO. 2479) RELATED TO PERMITTED HOURS OF CONSTRUCTION TO BE LOCATED ON A CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN LEWES & REHOBOTH HUNDRED, SUSSEX COUNTY, CONTAINING 36.61 ACRES, MORE OR LESS" (Conditional Use No. 2297) filed on behalf of Schell Brothers, LLC (Tax I.D. No. 334-12.00-127.02) (911 Address: None Available).

Mr. Rieley introduced the Proposed Ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE TO GRANT A CONDITIONAL USE OF LAND IN AN AR-1 AGRICULTURAL RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT FOR A BORROW PIT TO BE LOCATED ON A CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING

Introduction of Proposed Ordinances (continued)

IN BALTIMORE HUNDRED, SUSSEX COUNTY, CONTAINING 56.93 ACRES, MORE OR LESS" (Conditional Use No. 2300) filed on behalf of MRBP, LLC (Tax I.D. Nos. 533-5.00-38.00 & 41.04) (911 Address: None Available).

Mrs. Green introduced the Proposed Ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE TO GRANT A CONDITIONAL USE OF LAND IN AN AR-1 AGRICULTURAL RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT, A GR GENERAL RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT, AND A MR MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT FOR A 75 MEGAWATT SOLAR FARM TO BE LOCATED ON A CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN CEDAR CREEK HUNDRED, SUSSEX COUNTY, CONTAINING 350.96 ACRES, MORE OR LESS" (Conditional Use No. 2298) filed on behalf of Freeman Solar, LLC (Tax I.D. Nos. 130-3.00-246.00, 247.00 & 247.02, 130-6.00-75.00, 76.00, 92.00, 94.00, 95.00, 96.00 & 97.00) (911 Addresses: None Available).

The Proposed Ordinances will be advertised for Public Hearing.

M 378 21 Go Into Executive Session At 11:15 a.m., a Motion was made by Mr. Hudson, seconded by Mr. Rieley, to recess the Regular Session and go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing matters relating to pending/potential litigation and personnel.

Motion Adopted: 5 Yeas.

Vote by Roll Call: Mrs. Green, Yea; Mr. Schaeffer, Yea;

Mr. Hudson, Yea; Mr. Rieley, Yea;

Mr. Vincent, Yea

Executive Session At 11:19 a.m., an Executive Session of the Sussex County Council was held in the Basement Caucus Room to discuss matters relating to pending/potential litigation and personnel. The Executive Session concluded at 12:38 p.m.

M 379 21 Reconvene Regular Session At 12:43 p.m., a Motion was made by Mr. Hudson, seconded by Mr. Schaeffer, to come out of Executive Session and reconvene the Regular Session.

Motion Adopted: 3 Yeas, 2 Absent.

Vote by Roll Call: Mrs. Green, Absent; Mr. Schaeffer, Yea;

Mr. Hudson, Yea; Mr. Rieley, Absent;

Mr. Vincent, Yea

M 380 21 Recess At 12:43 p.m., a Motion was made by Mr. Schaeffer, seconded by Mr. Hudson, to recess until 1:30 p.m.

Motion Adopted: 4 Yeas, 1 Absent.

M 380 21 (continued)

Vote by Roll Call: Mrs. Green, Yea; Mr. Schaeffer, Yea;

Mr. Hudson, Yea; Mr. Rieley, Absent;

Mr. Vincent, Yea

M 381 21 Reconvene At 1:30 p.m., a Motion was made by Mr. Rieley, seconded by Mr. Hudson, to reconvene.

Motion Adopted: 5 Yeas.

Vote by Roll Call: Mrs. Green, Yea; Mr. Schaeffer, Yea;

Mr. Hudson, Yea; Mr. Rieley, Yea;

Mr. Vincent, Yea

Rules

Mr. Moore read the rules of procedure for public hearings.

Public Hearing/ CU 2249 A Public Hearing was held on the Proposed Ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE TO GRANT A CONDITIONAL USE OF LAND IN AN AR-1 AGRICULTURAL RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT FOR MULTI FAMILY (41 UNITS) TO BE LOCATED ON A CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN BALTIMORE HUNDRED, SUSSEX COUNTY, CONTAINING 20.91 (ACRES), MORE OR LESS" (Conditional Use No. 2249) filed on behalf of Mayapple Farm, LLC (Tax I.D. No. 533-19.00-289.05) (911 Address: None Available).

The Planning and Zoning Commission held a Public Hearing on this application on July 8, 2021 at which time action was deferred. On July 22, 2021, the commission recommended approval with conditions.

(See the minutes of the Planning and Zoning Commission dated July 8 and 22, 2021.)

Jamie Whitehouse, Planning and Zoning Director, presented the application.

Mr. Whitehouse noted that six (6) letters have been received in opposition to the application.

The Council found that Tim Willard, Esq., was present on behalf of the Applicant along with Lawton and Mindy Myrick, Applicants, Stephen Marsh of George Miles & Buhr, LLC, and Ed Launay of Environmental Services. They stated that the intention of Mayapple Farm, LLC, is to develop the subject property as a residential single-family development; that the total project area is 20.91 acres with approximately 15 acres of uplands; that the parcel is in the Coastal Zone; that the project is to be developed as single-family homes in a detached condominium ownership regime; that all common areas would be owned by the Condominium Association; that forty-one (41) single family detached condominium units are proposed; that the overall density would be 1.97 units per acre; that the project is surrounded by existing developed areas in an area where a variety of development has

Public Hearing/ CU 2249 (continued)

occurred; that the project is consistent with other nearby uses; that amenities are proposed onsite which would include a pool, pool house and a kayak launch; that stormwater management will meet the requirements of the Sussex Conservation District; that a minimum 50 foot tidal buffer is proposed from tidal waters and tidal wetlands; that a 25 foot buffer from non-tidal wetlands is proposed; that the non-tidal wetlands are wooded and will remain wooded; that a 30 foot planted buffer is proposed adjacent to existing developed areas; that a 75 foot vegetated buffer is proposed along the roadway / property frontage; that a 30 foot vegetative buffer will be placed around the property in the areas adjacent to all other properties; that the amount of tidal wetlands is small; that only the upland area of the site will be developed; that the project site is surrounded by development; that open space would consist of 63 percent of the site; that the proposed type of housing is in demand; that 108 parking spaces are proposed; that parking would include parking spaces below the homes; that DelDOT did not require a Traffic Impact Study; that there will be a required multi-modal path along Williamsville Road; that sidewalks will be located on one side of the street adjacent to the stormwater pond; that the project is located in Investment Levels 3 and 4 according to the Strategies for State Policies and Spending but that the comments are a guide and not the reality of the area; that there will be two stormwater ponds and stormwater management is subject to the approval of the Sussex Conservation District; that the proposed kayak launch would be at the lagoon that leads into the bay; that the project will be served by County sewer and central water by Artesian; that single family homes are the best fit for the property; that the project will have a "boutique" feel in comparison to a larger subdivision; that the intent for the style of the homes is for a raised beach-house style with room for parking and storage underneath, with the first floor being finished off to the owners' liking; that the Applicant is partnering with a local builder; and that the Applicants are considering owning one of the homes and becoming residents of the community.

Mr. Myrick provided schematic design drawings of the architecture of the proposed homes and he stated that he does not anticipate needing any pilings for the foundation of the homes and that the homes can be constructed on concrete footings. He explained that a condominium is a type of ownership and he confirmed that the 41 homes would be detached single family homes.

Discussion was held regarding the man-made lagoon/canal along the Delaware – Maryland state line, the ditches in the area, maintenance of ditches in the area, drainage and stormwater plans, and the topography of the land.

Public comments were heard.

There were no public comments in support of the application.

Public Hearing/ CU 2249 (continued) Public comments were heard in opposition to the project. James Flynn (President of the Bayview Estates HOA), Susie Higginson of Hidden Harbor in Maryland, Joann Burke of Hidden Harbor, Jackie Funk of Hidden Harbor, Sanden Swanson of Williamsville Road, and Wendy Megee of Williamsville Road spoke in opposition to the proposed project. They stated that the property line for the proposed project borders on 20 properties in Bayview Estates; that flooding on those 20 lots is a major concern; that if the Applicant closes ditches in the area, they will have flooding; that the existing agricultural ditches surrounding and through the proposed development must be maintained to permit storm water to continue to drain off surrounding properties, which will preserve the existing drainage to the bay; that 64% of the proposed project will be hard surface resulting in additional water run-off; that sediment is currently impacting the Bay View Estates boat launch and the proposed project will create additional sediment; that Bayview Estates owns their canals and is responsible for the maintenance of the canals which is costly; that they do not want jet skis traveling down the lagoon and into their canals; that the proposed kayak launch will have access to their canals; that the topography of the land will change from agriculture to residential; that Hidden Harbor has been given ownership of "top of bank" and a 2014 survey reflects that ownership; that they are opposed to a pier over their property (Hidden Harbor); that no one has contacted the State of Maryland regarding this proposal; that they question why a Traffic Impact Study (TIS) was not required; that based on a 2019 study, a lot of things have changed on Williamsville Road; that road traffic and safety is a major concern; that Williamsville Road is already a dangerous road to travel; that there is a blind curve on the road; that the entrance to this project is proposed on that curve; that a traffic study is needed; that the proposed homes will be out of character with the area; that the area consists largely of ranch style homes and two story homes; that even Bayside has no three-level condo houses within evesight of Route 54 or Williamsville Road (only internally); that there is concern about the lamp posts proposed and that there are no lamp posts on Williamsville Road; that they question where the water from the ditches will go; that 41 houses are proposed on 13 buildable acres, which is too dense; that they question where sewer and water lines will go; that they question if Williamsville Road will need to be closed for a period of time for sewer and water lines construction; that Williamsville Road is in bad condition and needs to be widened and needs a bike/pedestrian path; that there is potential for flooding in a major storm as some properties are lower lying; that they would like to see a berm between the properties to help prevent flooding; that a 75 foot buffer is needed from other homes; that the Applicant proposes too many homes in a small amount of acreage that is buildable; that ownership of the lagoon/canal is questionable; that if the lagoon/canal backs up, there is no where for the water to go; that they disagree with the proposed kayak launch; that the lagoon/canal is actually a water run-off ditch; that the proposal poses a great threat to their farmette (Wendy Megee); and that they hope the Applicant will communicate with the residents in the area.

Public Hearing There were no additional public comments.

(continued) The Public Hearing and public record were closed.

M 382 21 Defer Action/

A Motion was made by Mr. Rieley, seconded by Mr. Hudson, to defer action on Conditional Use No. 2249 filed on behalf of Mayapple Farm, LLC.

CU 2249 Motion Adopted: 5 Yeas.

> **Vote by Roll Call:** Mrs. Green, Yea; Mr. Schaeffer, Yea;

> > Mr. Hudson, Yea; Mr. Rieley, Yea;

Mr. Vincent, Yea

M 383 21 Adjourn

A Motion was made by Mr. Schaeffer, seconded by Mr. Rieley, to adjourn at

3:22 p.m.

Motion Adopted: 5 Yeas.

Vote by Roll Call: Mrs. Green, Yea; Mr. Schaeffer, Yea;

Mr. Hudson, Yea; Mr. Rieley, Yea;

Mr. Vincent, Yea

Respectfully submitted,

Robin A. Griffith **Clerk of the Council**

{An audio recording of this meeting is available on the County's website.}