

Open Work Session
FY19 Budget Work Session
June 5, 2018

Mr. Cannon said Council is here today for a final review of where they are in the Fiscal Year 2019 budget so that on June 14th they will have a more exact idea of what they are going to vote on without too many surprises. Mr. Cannon said they have a spreadsheet on the screen, and the top shows the Department cuts that have been proposed. He said they will see some areas with a \$0, and that means it was something that was proposed, but, in further discussions among Councilmembers and the Executive Branch, they reviewed what would remain as a cut and what would not, so this is a final in total cuts, with the grand total being \$1,150,929. He said part of that amount is the Board of Education one-time only transfer of \$750,000, which was taken out of the one-time only category. He said this spreadsheet also shows the distribution of funds Council would like to recommend to the Executive Branch, and involves four different categories. He said Council is trying to make sure the recommendations on the additions will match the cuts, and that is where they are today. He said it is open for discussion with Council as far as where they are as a whole. He said he will open the floor to any Councilmember who would like to address any one particular issue. He said, if not, this is what they will go to the table with to vote on June 14th.

Mr. Joe Holloway said they had a discussion about Sheriff's cars, and Councilman Davis was concerned about the School Resource Officer (SRO) using the cars. He said there was also some discussion that Council might like the Sheriff's Department to fully fund cars used for the road. Mr. Davis clarified, he would like them to use the money to purchase road-ready cars. Mr. Joe Holloway said he would like to suggest Council fund the cars, and then maybe send a letter to the Sheriff's Department suggesting they do that. He clarified, that would be a suggestion because Council does not manage the Sheriff's Department. Mr. Cannon asked if everyone is okay with that, to which everyone agreed.

Mr. Kilmer said he thinks they should all recognize this is put together such that he does not think any of them are individually necessarily thrilled with, but, on the whole, it is something acceptable, from his perspective at least. He said he thinks they have worked together pretty well, and he knows there have been discussions. He said he hopes this is something they can have consensus on, and that this would be workable, at least. He said, again, even though some of them may not be completely thrilled with every single item, he is, generally, okay with it.

Mr. Hall said he has discussed with some of the other Councilmembers about the hazmat funding, and they are not sure whether the hazmat funds put in the budget are really necessary. He said, at the last session, they talked about having a hazmat unit in the City of Salisbury that services the surrounding area, and, although they were talking about decontamination units, he has spoken with a number of people about decontamination units, and, apparently, they are old trailers that were given to these different fire departments a number of years ago, and they have deteriorated. He said, not that they have ever been used, but they were given to the Fire Departments by the State, and they are talking about replacing items that are over 12-years old that have never been used, for the most part. He said whether it is necessary to do this really becomes the issue. He said they are replacing things that have never been used, for the most part, in these volunteer fire companies, and he really does not think it is necessary. He said the City's hazmat takes care of decontamination. He said, if there are any issues which require units to be used, insurance is paid for these things, generally, from the violator, or the person who has the issues. He said, for that reason, he would like to see it back as a cut. Mr. Cannon

asked if it is correct that Mr. Hall is referencing \$27,000 for the three hazmat trailers, to which Mr. Hall responded, that is correct. Mr. Cannon said they can certainly put that back in for discussion.

Mr. Cannon asked Mr. Shipley, Director of Emergency Services, if he has any background on this, as far as the hazmat units, to help enlighten Council. Mr. Shipley said he did speak to Chief Morris of the Chief's Association, and he indicated to him that one of the major concerns as far as decontamination was the replacement of some of the Level A suits that are carried on the trailer, which are the suits that look like astronaut suits. He said they have aging equipment they are concerned about, and they want to rotate the things that are old to a training aspect after replacing them. Mr. Cannon said he believes this was a line item more specifically referencing trailers. He said the reason he is asking about this is he is not really sure how many hazmat issues actually occur in Wicomico County, and, when one may occur, if it is a circumstance whereas those particular trailers could be shared, or even if the City of Salisbury has such a trailer that could be borrowed. He said he does not know what the sense of urgency might be when the trailer could be borrowed, or some type of an offset created with the City of Salisbury where they could send their trailer to whatever location in the County it might be needed, or even if there was one station in Wicomico County where they have a trailer and that, again, would be shared among other agencies. Mr. Shipley said, currently, the way a hazmat incident would go down, just to give a brief explanation, they would receive a call in the 911 Center, and then fire apparatus, fire engines, and support staff would be sent to the incident. He said, once they get on the scene, they are the ones who make the determination of whether they are going to call Salisbury hazmat, whether they are going to call for a decontamination unit, or whether they are going to call people from his operation down, so it is just a deployment scheme that has always been in place. He said, if there were multiple incidents going on, the system would be stressed if they were using all three resources, but that would be incident-based. Mr. Hall then said, again, how many times can Mr. Shipley recall they have had incidences or multiple incidences, to which Mr. Shipley responded, Mr. Dodd requested a report on last year, and they went on 62 of what they would call petroleum spills, and they had 35 gas leaks. He said there was no biohazard information, and there were no explosions. Mr. Dodd asked if there were any chlorine leaks, to which Mr. Shipley responded, that would be the biohazard. Mr. Dodd said, when Mr. Shipley said "bio," he thought he was talking about human. Mr. Shipley said Council also asked him to try to drill down the size of these incidents, but he did not have the time to do that, but these are the aggregate numbers of what calls they went on. Mr. Hall asked if decontamination suits were used, to which Mr. Shipley responded, he cannot answer as to the number of times because he does not have that information.

Mr. Dodd said it was mentioned that the fire crews go to the scene first, and he knows other Counties have what they call a hazmat box so they gather enough information to know it is a hazardous materials incident. He then asked why Wicomico County is not at that level yet, to which Mr. Shipley responded, it is just the fire service they are following. Mr. Dodd said he knows for years the fire service has been talking about going to box alarms, and Station 14 has already experimented with it, and Salisbury wanted to do a pilot program a couple of years ago. He said, when they gather enough information, they can dispatch the resources needed automatically, to which Mr. Shipley responded, he would agree with him. Mr. Dodd said he thinks, at some point, Wicomico County needs to get to that level. Mr. Shipley said, with the box alarm experiment Mr. Dodd mentioned, which is currently going on in Sharptown, he believes the Chief's Association, in concert with his office, are going to move it, he thinks, to Hebron.

Mrs. Hurley said they do have a representative from the Volunteer Firefighters Association, so perhaps she would like to speak about her experience. Ms. Shanda Perry came before Council. Addressing Mr. Hall, she said she has heard him ask a couple of times whether they use these decontamination trailers

when and if these incidents happen. She clarified, first of all, they are not asking to replace the trailers themselves. She said they are asking to replace the equipment, meaning any of the absorbents, any of the decontamination suits, and anything that is used to clean up not only the scene, but they are talking about these decontamination units being used to clean up their personnel who, potentially, maybe do not know it is a hazmat incident upon arrival. She said she agrees with the change happening to it being a hazmat incident, and the right equipment being dispatched originally, but that is not happening yet, so they have to be proactive to keep the firefighters, EMTs and paramedics safe. She said, when they do get to a scene, if there is a possible contamination, those suits, powders, and liquids that are used to clean that up is what those trailers are holding. She said those items do expire, and that is why they are asking for the money, to replace expired items that are on those trailers. She said fire departments throughout the last year have been replacing those out of funds they are putting out, whether it be other money they receive from the County, or fundraising, etc., so they are asking for the extra money because it has come to their attention that almost everything is now expiring. She said it has been said "When do you ever use that?" She said she will give Council an example of a change that has happened recently. She said for years and years they have used Epi Pens on their ambulances for adults and pediatrics. She said the price of those has gone from a couple of hundred dollars to well over \$600 a pen. She said she has never used one in 25 years, but they have to be on that ambulance. She said there has been a change with MIMS, the doctors, and the associations to change that. She said now they can use Epi draw, which means they actually take the vial, and anybody can use a syringe, and it costs about \$3 for them to do that now, but it took them twenty-some years to get there. She said, when Council asks "Why do they need this, they have never had an incident," that kind of cuts a little deep because she thinks they have to be expecting it to happen. She said that is part of what they walk into, whether knowingly or unknowingly, every time they go to an accident. She said, if they do not know if a tractor trailer has the correct placards on or not, they do not know what they are walking into. She said it is her opinion that the equipment on those trailers needs to be replaced. Mr. Hall said he understands that, and he understands the chemicals do expire every two to four years, which means they should be replacing those chemicals every two to four years, or they should be using another source, such as the City's, to take care of those instances. Ms. Perry responded, correct her if she is wrong, but her understanding is the City Mr. Hall is speaking of has the hazmat units, which would go in and take care of the spills, and the County has the decontamination trailers, which are used afterwards for cleaning up their personnel, not necessarily the scene. She clarified, it is not her understanding that Salisbury has that. She said they may have some of that, but not enough if it was an actual mass incident, which is what she is talking about. Mr. Kilmer said, as he understands it, the County works cooperatively with the City on this, to which Ms. Perry responded, as far as she knows, the hazmat unit is made available when requested through the City, as it is with the other three stations that have the decontamination units and would work wherever and go wherever, whether it was within the City limits or the County. She said they have even been used to go over into Dorchester County to help as well because of their locality to Sharptown, and they have a mutual agreement with Dorchester County. Mr. Kilmer said he is not necessarily opposed to looking at ways to revamp how the County does some of this stuff, and maybe that is what they need to look at, but he does think if they have the situation as it exists today and these things are expiring, they should fund it this year. He said, if they want to work with the volunteer firefighters and the City of Salisbury to figure out a different way to do it since there is concern that there is waste, he thinks that is something to do. He said Council saying they want it to work differently, but not fund this year and just letting these expired things continue out there he does not think is the wisest way to deal with public safety.

Mr. Dodd said he has not seen the trailers, and Mr. Shipley mentioned the Class A hazmat suit. He then asked if that is what needs to be replaced, to which Ms. Perry responded, her company does not

personally have the trailer. She said she would have to contact someone who would know more about that, and she apologizes for not having those answers. She said she does not personally have one of those trailers, so she cannot speak for that. She said she is sure not everything on the trailer is expiring. She said she is sure they have some suits that are expiring this year, and there might be a couple that will expire next year because she is sure they try to space out their funding as they have been replacing things. She said she cannot speak for those other three companies. She said, for locality reasoning, there is a trailer on the East Side, the West Side, and then Delmar, she believes. She said it is not that everybody has one, but it is, obviously, shared within their region. She said, again, if they needed two of them in one place, they would be requested to go. She said she can try to get that information for Council just to give them an idea of a yearly budget when they are looking at replacements to see how much it is every year based on when things expire, which may be two years, four years, or maybe some things are six years because everything has a different manufacturer date on it.

Mr. Cannon said he appreciates what Mr. Hall is saying, and the questions he is asking, such as why they should replace anything if it is actually not really being used, and, if it is a case where there is an emergency, if there is another way to more efficiently set up some type of a system whereas one station could maybe be the focus of this unit, and it could easily be distributed to where any emergency might be. He clarified, that is the reason, he thinks, for the concern. He said they are looking at purchasing three of these, and maybe they would only need one, and centrally locate it in the Salisbury area, but that is something for another year. Mr. Hall said it is interesting because Council is in favor of public safety, and that is why they are here, but this has come up this year. He said his question is if they could postpone this until next year after they go through it more thoroughly, and then present it next year. He said they do have these expiring products, but they will still expire next year as well as this year, so are they gaining anything by doing it this year without going through it thoroughly and vetting it like it should be. Mr. Cannon asked if Mr. Hall means to make the cut for a one-year delay, to which Mr. Hall responded, that is correct. Mr. Cannon said, if they did that, it would remove the \$27,000 from the budget, and that would give them, based on this spreadsheet, a balance of \$27,000 in the plus, which would either go to the undesignated fund balance, or they may choose to add it to another Department, or they may choose not to make a cut in some of the other Departments that are already being cut. He then asked if there is a second part of that Mr. Hall would like to see done. He clarified, in other words, if Council were to cut the \$27,000 on the ambulance hazmat for this year, is Mr. Hall looking to avoid a cut in another area, or would he want to add something to another Department.

Mr. Dodd said he has not been well-versed in Homeland Security lately. He then asked if there are any grants available for replacement of any of the stock the County might need, to which Mr. Shipley responded, they can look into it. Mr. Dodd asked if they have a grant writer at Emergency Services, to which Mr. Shipley responded, they do not have a grant writer, but they take care of it themselves.

Mr. Joe Holloway said he is in favor of leaving it in the budget. He said they talk about sharing some of this stuff, but these guys are volunteers. He said they have jobs they have to work, and a lot of times they end up on an accident scene at 3:00 in the morning, they get diesel fuel on them or whatever, and they still have to go to work at 7:30 or 8:00 a.m., so they have to get cleaned up, and they cannot wait for a fire department to come from Hebron to Parsonsburg or vice versa so they can go to their day job. He said he is in favor of leaving that money where it is at, and he is the one who is always wanting to cut. Mr. Cannon then asked if cleaning diesel off is what this would be used for, and would they not have uniforms on, to which Mr. Shipley responded, the analogy he makes is the small pool scenario where they see the people walking through, and that is what they are doing. He said they are spraying them and they are decontaminating the scene. Mr. Cannon asked if it is not that they are

decontaminating the individual, but is actually the suit, to which Mr. Shipley responded, there are Level A and Level B suits, with Level B being coveralls.

Mr. Cannon asked what the consensus is as far as making this cut, to which Mr. Hall responded, he still would like to make the cut, of course. Mr. Dodd said he would like to keep it, Mr. Joe Holloway said he would keep it, and Mr. Davis said he would keep it. Mr. Cannon said, as it is right now, nothing has changed in this.

Mr. Cannon asked if there is anything else anyone would like to look at, to which Mr. Joe Holloway responded, on the airport, they had discussions about removing the whole funding at one point because they really did not know what the money was going to be spent on, and Mr. Strausburg said he was going to bring information to Council on how he was going to spend the \$350,000. He said now they have it cut back to \$260,000. Mr. Strausburg, Director of Administration, speaking from the audience, said that was included in an email he sent Mrs. Hurley. Mr. Joe Holloway then asked if Mr. Strausburg can explain to the public what he is going to do with that money, to which Mr. Strausburg responded, absolutely. Mr. Cannon clarified, Mr. Joe Holloway is referring to the fact that the airport was initially budgeted for \$350,000, and Council has made a cut of \$90,000 to that appropriation. Mr. Strausburg came before Council. He said he discussed with Mrs. Hurley this morning that he will give Council a list of accounts which he is approaching as if it is grant funding. He said they would limit this to those accounts that are necessary for the operation of the airport grounds and the airport terminal. He said they have a weekly airport meeting attended by Councilman Hall, Mr. Matt Creamer, Mrs. Dawn Veatch, and the airport accountant. He said, to be eligible to receive that funding, if there were a proposal from the airport to utilize part of that funding for a particular expenditure, it would be approved at that meeting by himself and Councilman Hall so that both the Executive Branch and Council would have representation for the allocation and spending of those funds. He said that way it would not just go over to the airport as a lump sum. Mr. Joe Holloway asked if Mr. Hall will confer with Council before he makes those decisions, or would that just be up to him, to which Mr. Strausburg responded, he will leave that up to Council as to how they want to handle that. Mr. Hall said he would not necessarily confer with Council, but, if they wish, he will if they think it is going to change anything. He said these are, in some cases, not major expenditures. He said, for instance, they had some roof problems out at the airport. He then asked if Council would like to be aware of roof problems, to which Mr. Joe Holloway responded, they probably would want to know if the roof is leaking. Mr. Hall said, when the Government Office Building leaks, Council is not necessarily aware of it except when they see the buckets sitting around. Mr. Joe Holloway said he understands the process they are trying to follow. He said they had talked about taking it all out, and they have taken \$90,000. Mr. Strausburg said he realizes this is a change, but what he is attempting to do is to give Council comfort that this money will be well spent, and it will be spent on the actual operation of the airport itself. Mr. Kilmer said he appreciates that, and he has been pushing the hardest to cut this from the budget. He said he would probably be happier with a larger cut, but maybe Mr. Hall can update Council monthly on how things are going, to which Mr. Hall responded, he would be thrilled. Mr. Joe Holloway said at one time back in the earlier days when he was on Council, everybody that served on committees kept Council updated on what was going on with those committees, and they got away from that after a while, and he does not know why that is.

Mr. Hall said he would like to have Mr. Strausburg respond, again, as to why they are cutting the \$25,900 from SWED, to which Mr. Kilmer responded, that would be him. He said this is to keep SWED at level funding. He said it would have been an increase of \$25,900, and this would be to keep it at level funding. He said they have funded SWED at level funding for the past three years, so that is what this is.

Mr. Hall asked if Mr. Dave Ryan can come up and defend this to say they need this, to which Mr. Cannon responded, certainly. Mr. Cannon said he would personally like to see Council not cut SWED, as he has said before. Mr. Dave Ryan, Executive Director of Salisbury-Wicomico Economic Development (SWED), came before Council. He said he appreciates Council allowing him to come up to the table. He said the request they are asking for is simply to get them out there more. He said virtually every dollar in that \$25,900 is for extra promotion. He said they want to get out more and promote Wicomico County more. He said it seems like every time they go somewhere, whether it is a conference, trade show, corporate visitation from companies that may be located here with decision making authority, or maybe as prospects, it just seems like they come back with a lead, a project, or an ancillary type of development for prospects. He said, to penetrate more organizations, such as the National Association of Corporate Real Estate, the Industry Management Council, the National Association of Industrial Offices, and the Regional Institute of Maryland, they are participating in those sparingly, and they would like to increase that. He said they just want to get the word out for Wicomico County because businesses will not last forever. He said they have seen great changes in their economy over a long period of time, and they can bet those changes will continue. He said attrition is going to occur, and now is the time to get out and really get their message out there, and that is what they are trying to do with this extra money. He said he is happy to answer any questions anyone has, and he appreciates the invitation. He said, regardless of this decision, they will go out there and do everything in their power with the dollars they have, like they have always done, to increase business in Wicomico County. Mr. Cannon said, when he first came on Council, and this has been true for the last few years, economic development was their number one priority in Wicomico County. He said, when they have the chance to make a contribution to what he thinks is one of the strongest organizations in Wicomico County pushing for this type of development, they should support that, and he would not want to see the cut here. He said that leads, of course, to another discussion.

Mr. Cannon asked, if Council would like to keep this funding in here for SWED, does anyone have an appetite to make adjustments to any of the other Departments they have on the list to compensate for that. He said it could get ugly, but that is what they have to do. Mr. Kilmer said they had a nice compromise worked out, and everyone was happy. Mr. Cannon said SWED is not asking for a lot, and it is a minimal amount to make a huge difference in that Department. He said this is a Department that has been responsible for an awful lot of change and growth in Wicomico County. He said the public does not always hear about it because Mr. Ryan does not publically promote it, to which Mr. Ryan responded, they should, and will do a better job of doing that. Mr. Cannon said, regardless of that, there is not a business in Wicomico County that does not know who SWED and Mr. Dave Ryan are, and in the State of Maryland it goes much farther than that. Mr. Hall said he agrees with Mr. Cannon, and he does not think there should be a sense of anxiety whether Mr. Ryan should attend a conference on behalf of Wicomico County, to which Mr. Ryan responded, that is not going to happen. He said, if there is a lead that will come back, they are not going to let funding get in the way of a good project. He said this is just to get out there more, and he thinks they can generate more prospects. Mr. Cannon said they will have to get a consensus from Council, to which Mr. Kilmer responded, this is not, obviously, a reflection that Mr. Ryan is doing bad work. He clarified, they are not trying to cut his budget from last year, but it is just blunting an increase, so it is not that he is doing a bad job, to which Mr. Ryan responded, he understands that, and they just want to promote Wicomico County more. Mr. Cannon asked for a consensus as to whether or not they leave the cut in. He then asked Mr. Davis, who responded, he is up in the air right now. Mr. Cannon asked Mr. Joe Holloway, to which he responded, he is up in the air, and he sits on the Board. Mr. Cannon said Council will give it some thought and review this since they have until the 14th of June. Mr. Kilmer said it would be better to decide tonight, to which Mr. Cannon responded, they have two who are undecided. Mr. Joe Holloway said he would leave the cut in. Mr.

Cannon asked Mr. Hall what he would like to do, to which Mr. Hall responded, he would like to have this amount left in the budget. Mr. Cannon asked Mr. Kilmer what he would like to do, to which Mr. Kilmer responded, he would cut it. Mr. Dodd said he is up in the air too. Mr. Cannon said they will review this. He said they will make a decision by the 14th, which means Council will have to figure out definitively which way they want to go on this, again, keeping in mind that without anything else changing, if this is an issue they want to address, they are going to have to look at other Departments where they would have to take away from. Mr. Kilmer asked where Mr. Cannon would take it from, to which Mr. Cannon responded, they have very few areas they could take it from. He said they could take it from State's Attorney, the Library, or Roads. Mr. Joe Holloway said all they hear about are ditches and crime, to which Mr. Cannon responded, he understands, but those are the three areas. Mr. Joe Holloway said they all know how important SWED is, and Council all agrees on that, but they also know they have a balanced budget up here, supposedly. He said Mr. Ryan knows Council is flexible, and if he gets jammed in a corner and wants to go somewhere and see something, there is no problem with coming back as they have a contingency fund, and he is not too shy to do that. Mr. Ryan clarified, what he meant by his comment was, for a very strong prospect, they would not let funding get in the way, and he would definitely be back. He said, at the same time, to generate those very strong prospects, they would like to get out there more, and they would like to promote the County more. He said, otherwise, those prospects do not become quite as strong. Mr. Joe Holloway said SWED does have money, and it is not as if Council is trying to take money away from his budget, to which Mr. Ryan responded, the County funds economic development at \$149,000, which is appreciated. He said he is not complaining, and he is not asking for sympathy, but, comparatively, they are relatively low compared to other organizations throughout the State, and they would like to be more efficient. Mr. Joe Holloway clarified, what he is saying is, if Council does not give him this extra money and he needs extra money, he can come back and see them, to which Mr. Cannon responded, he is not going to agree to that.

Mr. Cannon said Council has asked for numbers, and they are talking about such a small amount compared to the entire budget, but it has to be balanced. He said, if they were to do away with this cut, and they were to try to absorb it in the other Departments, they could move State's Attorney to \$63,832, to which Mr. Joe Holloway responded, Mrs. Dykes cannot hire an attorney and pay their benefits for that. Mr. Culver, speaking out from the audience, said they should cut it from the library. Mr. Cannon said they could also take \$7,500 from the Library, and \$7,500 from Roads. Mr. Hall said \$61,000 is needed for COLA for the Library. Mr. Cannon said they can leave the State's Attorney at \$80,000, to which Mr. Kilmer responded, he thinks if they are going to fund the State's Attorney, it needs to be at that number or not do it at all because they cannot hire and provide benefits at the lower amount, as Mr. Joe Holloway said. He said they would have to cut something else. Mr. Cannon said the suggestion was made they could take that from the Airport, so they could put the Airport in for \$97,168. Mr. Joe Holloway said they could leave SWED in there and take it from the Airport, and let him promote the Airport with that amount of money. Mr. Cannon said that is what he was suggesting. He said they would leave State's Attorney, change the Library to \$61,000, and Roads would be \$80,000. After further discussion, it was decided to leave SWED in the budget.

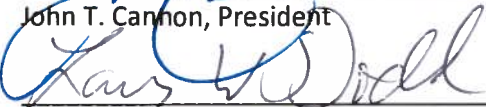
Mr. Cannon said it seems as if the calculations they made give them a balanced budget. He then asked if there is anything else the Councilmembers would like to review or discuss. There were no other comments. Mr. Cannon said this is what they will prepare for the 14th, and go from there. There was no further discussion.

Signatures on next page

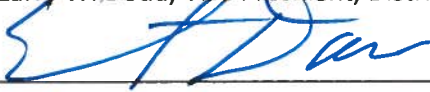
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John T. Cannon, President



Larry W. Dodd, Vice President, District 3



Ernest F. Davis, District 1



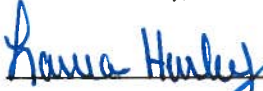
Marc Kilmer, District 2



John B. Hall, District 4

Joe Holloway, District 5

absent _____
Matt Holloway, At-Large



Laura Hurley, Council Administrator