

Columbia Council Representative Report - 1/10/2024

- Resident Speakout
 - Watershed discussion
 - Policies and CA casting votes in village elections, understanding of Covenants
- Budget Discussion
 - Draft Capital Budget Vote - vote passed as presented
 - Discussion of moving to a 2-year cycle budget
 - Consideration given to having a new President/CEO being committed to a 2-year budget that the Board voted on
 - A more efficient use of Staff time and forces Board to think more strategically rather than tactically
 - Whether or not to have the Howard County Community Foundation dole out grants to or bring it in house to CA
 - Whether to include this in the draft budget
 - President wants to have CA make the decision about where the money goes rather than the Community Foundation
 - Vote to reduce the Treasury Collection by \$100k and grant \$100k to Community Foundation - motion failed
 - Discussion regarding the Excess Cash for the Villages
 - Vote on the Draft Income Operating Expenses - passed
 - Motion to approve the annual charge rate and cap as submitted in the budget
 - Motion was made to reduce the charge by \$0.06
 - Noted that it impacts Commercial as well as Residents
 - Would require looking at all the budget again as there would be a large impact
 - Motion failed
 - Motion made to allocate \$100k to the Veteran's War Memorial
 - President suggested \$80k for the memorial and \$20k to the President's Fund for Nonprofit Organizations
 - Motion passed