



# Mayor and City Council of Cumberland

*Mayor* Raymond M. Morriss  
*Councilman* Seth D. Bernard  
*Councilman* Richard J. "Rock" Cioni  
*Councilman* Eugene T. Frazier  
*Councilwoman* Laurie P. Marchini

City Administrator Jeffrey D. Rhodes  
City Solicitor Michael S. Cohen  
City Clerk Marjorie A. Woodring

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## MINUTES

Regular M&CC Public Meeting  
Via Video Conference

DATE: February 02, 2021

**I. OPEN SESSION - 6:15 PM - Convene in Open Session**

**II. Roll Call**

**PRESENT:**

Councilman Seth Bernard  
Councilman Richard J. "Rock" Cioni  
Councilman Eugene T. Frazier  
Councilwoman Laurie P. Marchini  
President Raymond M. Morriss

**Also Present:** Jeffrey D. Rhodes, City Administrator; Marjorie A. Woodring, City Clerk; Lee Borrer, Community Development Specialist

**III. Director's Reports**

**Motion** to approve the reports was made by Councilman Bernard, seconded by Councilman Cioni, and was passed on a vote of 5-0.

**(A) Administrative Services**

1. Administrative Services monthly report for December, 2020

**(B) Engineering**

1. Engineering Division monthly report for January, 2021

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

**Motion** to approve the minutes was made by Councilman Bernard, seconded by Councilman Cioni, and was passed on a vote of 5-0.

1. Approval of the Work Session Minutes of December 8, and the Work and Regular Session Minutes of December 15, 2020

## V. Public Hearings

1. Public Hearing to receive needs and project requests for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding

*The Hearing convened at 6:19 p.m.*

Ms. Borrer provided a PowerPoint presentation on this CDBG annual hearing to receive funding requests. She reviewed background on the funding, which is granted by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, and reviewed the application process. She stated that proposed priority needs are housing, economic development, and homelessness, and said that the estimated allocation is \$750K - \$800K. Ms. Borrer advised that the second public hearing will be on April 6, 2021 at during the Regular M&CC Public Meeting, where staff recommendations will be presented.

The following funding requests were presented during the online meeting:

Marlene Oleksa - Janes Place at Child Advocacy Center - gave background on her organization which provides a child-friendly place for interviews by law enforcement when there is an allegation or investigation, and advised that the project that they are proposing is providing advocacy support to children and their families by having staff on hand for comfort and guidance. She said outreach and prevention efforts will also be included in the project proposal.

Alan Zapf - Allegany Young People Enrichment Services (AYPES) - provided background on his youth center at 119 N. Centre Street that serves approximately 60-70 children in middle and high school, from low-income to wealthy. Mr. Zapf stated he is requesting funds for programs, for operating costs (building renovations) and other needs. He advised that the building was donated to their organization and is now under 501-C.

Kelli Kirchner - Living Waters Ministries - provided background on their church in Cumberland and said they have partnered with several other projects, churches and entities in the City. She said they are working with Chief Ternent in allowing their building, which they bought in 2019, to be an emergency shelter in South Cumberland. She advised that their two major project requests are putting in a small kitchen for serving homeless and low-income folks, and putting in handicap facilities and a ramp.

Deanna Clark - Associated Charities - provided background on her organization which provides emergency assistance to the homeless, and provides short-term and long-term medication programs. She requested general funding for her organization, which she advised they have greatly relied on and appreciated in the past.

Richard Kerns - AHEC West - provided background on his organization which increases access to and promotes quality in health care in Western MD. He advised that he is speaking on behalf of Health Right tonight, which is a part of AHEC, and provides healthcare to those who don't have insurance, and also without dental

insurance. He advised that they are seeking a continuation of the current year amount of \$10K for dental services for low-income residents of Cumberland.

Julie O'Neal – YMCA – provided background on her organization at the Riverside location. She advised that their request is assistance with replacement of their dehumidification unit in their aquatic area. She stated that the unit is 24 years old, has been completely rebuilt two times, and provided an overview of their pool facilities and aquatic classes. Ms. O'Neal advised that they currently have \$250K of funding in place, and need the remaining \$200K.

*The Hearing adjourned at 6:54 p.m.*

## **VI. Unfinished Business**

### **(A) Ordinances**

Mr. Rhodes provided background on the ordinance, and advised that these properties were formerly blighted, and are a part of the City's blight program to get properties back on the tax rolls. He added that they have been declared surplus, and have already been bid once.

1. **Ordinance No. 3884** (*2nd and 3rd readings*) - accepting the bids for the purchase of 17 Waverly Terrace, 19 Waverly Terrace, and 417 Walnut Street and authorizing conveyance of the properties to the successful bidders.

**SECOND READING:** The ordinance was presented in title only for its second reading. The reading was interrupted and a **motion** to suspend the second reading and move to the third after comment was made by Councilman Bernard, seconded by Councilwoman Marchini, and was passed on a vote of 5-0.

Mayor Morriss called for questions or comments. Being none, the ordinance moved to its third reading.

**THIRD READING:** The ordinance was presented in title only for its third reading and was passed on a vote of 5-0.

## **VII. New Business**

### **(B) Orders (Consent Agenda)**

Mr. Rhodes reviewed each item on the Consent Agenda, and Mayor Morriss called for questions or comments. **Motion** to approve all items was made by Councilwoman Marchini, seconded by Councilman Cioni, and was passed on a vote of 5-0.

**Order 26,754** - approving the execution of a Deed of Gift to the MD Historical Trust authorizing transfer of 178 artifacts catalogued in the Candoc Lane Site during the NEPA archeological evaluation of the 78" Parallel Pipeline Project to the MD State Repository

Mr. Rhodes advised that this order authorizes conveyance of artifacts that were dug up and catalogued during the 78" Pipeline Project, and said that they are basically just pieces of glass, coal, nails, bricks, shingles and jars.

**Order 26,755** - granting a one-time Historic District Property Tax Credit to 15 Prospect Square (Wunderlick) in the amount of \$1,608.50 to be applied over the course of five (5) years; property tax assessment freeze not applicable.

Mr. Rhodes advised said this tax credit represents 10% of the project cost which was \$6,086, for window replacement and roofing changes.

**Order 26,756** - authorizing execution of a Right-of-Way Agreement with The Potomac Edison Company regarding the installation of an electric vehicle charging station, to be installed and maintained by Potomac Edison, at the Liberty Street surface parking lot

Mr. Rhodes advised that this is a “no-cost” project to the City, and stated that City staff had reached out to Potomac Edison thinking it would be a good idea in the downtown. He said it turned out that Potomac Edison already had a project looking to place a couple of units cost-free, and added that Raquel Ketterman, Environmental Specialist, led the effort.

Mayor Morriss spoke about Dr. Sean McCagh, who passed away over the weekend. The Mayor said he was a wonderful and humble man that did so much for the community, and explained how the Hooley Plunge was Dr. McCagh’s original idea and had built it into what it is now. He said through the doctor’s tireless efforts, over \$1.5M has been raised for Special Olympics in this area. The Mayor advised that City Hall is lit up in green in honor of Dr. McCagh, and offered condolences to his family.

#### **VIII. Public Comments**

*No public comments*

All public comments are limited to 5 minutes per person

#### **IX. Adjournment**

With no further business at hand, the meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Minutes approved on February 16, 2021

Raymond M. Morriss, Mayor

ATTEST: Marjorie A. Woodring, City Clerk