



# 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

M&CC Regular Meeting  
City Hall, Cumberland

DATE: August 20, 2019

### I. OPEN SESSION

### II. Pledge of Allegiance

### III. Roll Call

#### PRESENT

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

#### ABSENT

Councilman Seth Bernard

ALSO PRESENT: Jeffrey D. Rhodes, City Administrator; Michael S. Cohen, City Solicitor; Marjorie A. Woodring, City Clerk; Police Chief Charles Hinnant; Fire Chief Donald Dunn

### IV. Presentations

1. Certificate of Recognition to Eric Mawhinney for capturing the Men's Championship of the Mason Cup Marbles Tournament, and Certificate of Appreciation recognizing the Mawhinney family for their continued organization of the Mason Cup and various other marble tournaments.

Mayor Morriss presented a Certificate of Recognition to Eric Mawhinney for his Men's Mason Cup Championship win, and presented Eric's entire family with a Certificate of Recognition for their years of service in this and other marble tournaments through the years.

2. Presentation of the 2019 Let's Beautify Cumberland Blue Ribbon Award Winners and the Good Neighbor Award Certificates by Co-chairs Ginny Decker and Ed Mullaney

Ed Mullaney, Co-Chair of Let's Beautify Cumberland, spoke about the origins of LBC in 1996, talked about his current team members and volunteers, and recognized Mayor Ed Athey and Butch Hendershot's efforts in this organization. He then acknowledged Co-Chair Ginny Decker's work, City Forester Paul Eriksson's contributions, and LBC's coordination with County United Way. Mr. Mullaney then presented the All Star Award to Ray and Linda Shield for continually improving their property, and the Blue Ribbon and Good Neighbor Awards to various businesses and residents for their contributions in the beautification of the City.

## **V. Director's Reports**

### **(A) Administrative Services**

1. Administrative Services monthly report for July, 2019

### **(B) Police**

1. Police Department monthly report for July, 2019

### **(C) Utilities - Flood, Water, Sewer**

1. Utilities Division-Flood/Water/Sewer monthly reports for June and July, 2019

Motion to approve the reports was made by Councilman Cioni, seconded by Councilwoman Marchini, and was approved on a vote of 4-0.

## **VI. New Business**

### **(A) Orders (Consent Agenda)**

Mr. Rhodes reviewed each item on the Consent Agenda, and Mayor Morriss called for questions or comments. Motion to approve Consent Agenda Orders 26,509 – 26,511 was made by Councilman Frazier, seconded by Councilwoman Marchini, and was passed on a vote of 4-0.

Order No. 26,509 authorizing the approval of a Forest Stewardship Plan for the City of Cumberland and the Evitts Creek Water Company

Paul Eriksson, City Forester, spoke on the Forest Health and Condition Report, which he stated was a managing guide for identifying areas in the forest in need of attention, regeneration, or diversity. He added that the plan has been vetted by public forum and Evitts Creek Steering Committee, Shade Tree Commission, Foresters, etc., and if approved by M&CC they will take it to the PA Department of Natural Resources and Department of Forestry for final approval.

Steve Resh, professional forester for 32 years, advised that he helped to put the plan together and expounded on the quality of the document, saying it is unsurpassed and will help guide the City with the watershed for the next 40 years at least.

Tom Matthews, retired DNR wildlife biologist and member of the Allegany County Forestry Board, stated that he has monitored the development of this plan and said it was a great process and is a great document, and said he was thrilled as a resident to see a science-based approach to this important forest plan and encouraged Mayor and Council to vote to approve it.

Order No. 26,510 declaring a 2002 GMC Sierra Pickup (VIN 1GTEK19V32E181847) as surplus and authorizing its trade-in or disposal

Order No. 26,511 authorizing Special Taxing District exemptions for 33 N. Centre Street (\$625.39) and 47 Baltimore Street (\$397.42) for the 2019/2020 tax years

## **VII. Letters / Petitions**

1. Letter from Captain Chuck Ternent of the Cumberland City Police Department requesting the Mayor and City Council to review and comment on a FY20 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant award in the amount of \$12,278.00 that will be used to purchase additional less lethal equipment in the form of Tasers or conducted electrical weapons to be utilized by the Cumberland Police Department and the Allegany County Sheriff's Office.

The letter was acknowledged and entered into the public record.

## **VIII. Public Comments**

Charles Shelquist, 803 Hill Top Drive, provided a written statement with comments on proposed CDA bonds, and questioned if the City was in a position to take on this debt for future projects, and if it will affect the City's bond rating.

Mayor Morriss said he could assure him that during the budgetary process this year and the Public Budget Work Session, these items were discussed as far as debt and where the City is and needs to be, and will keep his comments in mind. He added that as far as setting a limit to borrowing, he will discuss it with Council, but advised that it was similar to what the Federal Government does.

There was discussion between Mayor Morriss and a person in attendance regarding the difference between what the City does and what the Federal government does.

Councilwoman Marchini gave a shout-out to all the kids and School Resource Officers returning to school and especially to Jeremy Hendricks and Chris Fraley. Mayor Morriss asked Chief Hinnant to bring some SROs to a future meeting, saying they do a wonderful job in the schools.

Delegate Mike McKay spoke on the House of Delegates Work Stability Group coming to Allegany College's Continuing Education Building on August 28<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. and provided a background on the group and places the group visited prior to coming to Cumberland. He invited Mayor and Council to attend and speak with his colleagues about how to maintain economic stability.

All public comments are limited to 5 minutes per person

**IX. Adjournment**

With no further business at hand, the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Minutes approved on November 5, 2019

Raymond M. Morriss, Mayor

ATTEST: Marjorie A. Woodring, City Clerk