



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

MINUTES

M&CC Regular Meeting
City Hall Council Chambers, 57 N. Liberty Street, Cumberland

DATE: December 17, 2019

I. Work Session

1. 5:00 p.m. - Convene in Open Work Session (Agenda published separately)

II. CLOSED SESSION

1. 5:30 p.m. - Closed the Work Session for the purpose of holding an Executive Session pursuant to Section 3-305 (b) (1) and (7) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland to discuss a personnel matter, board and commission appointments, to receive legal advice regarding a pending liability claim, and to receive legal advice regarding proposed legislation
2. Executive Session

III. OPEN SESSION

1. 6:15 p.m. - Reconvene into Open Session

IV. Pledge of Allegiance

V. Roll Call

PRESENT:

Councilman Bernard
Councilman Cioni
Councilman Frazier
Councilwoman Marchini
President Morriss

ALSO PRESENT:

Jeffrey D. Rhodes, City Administrator; Michael S. Cohen, City Solicitor; Marjorie Woodring, City Clerk, Captain Chuck Ternent, Interim Chief of Police; Donald Dunn, Fire Chief

VI. Statement of Closed Meeting

1. Summary Statement of the Executive Session held December 17, 2019

Mayor Morriss announced that a Closed Session had been held on December 17, 2019 at 5:55 p.m. and read into the record a summary of that session, which is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes as required under Section 3-306 (c) (2) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

VII. Presentations

1. Presentation of the Thin Blue Line Flag from Sheriff Craig Robertson

Allegany County Sheriff Craig Robertson provided background on the Thin Blue Line wall hanging which was presented to Montgomery County by a young boy. Sheriff Robertson discussed the controversy with the wall hanging in Montgomery County, and remarked that he would be honored to display such an item, and had received numerous offers from various people to make one for him. Within a week, he received three. He explained that one will hang in his office, one in the County Commissioner's office, with Mayor Morriss accepting one as well. Sheriff Robertson stated that the one being given to M&CC was made by Nathan Grabenstein, a member of the District 16 Fire Department.

VIII. Director's Reports

Motion to approve the Reports was made by Councilwoman Marchini, seconded by Councilman Cioni, and was passed on a vote of 5-0.

(A) Administrative Services

Administrative Services monthly report for October, 2019

(B) Public Works

Maintenance Division monthly report for November, 2019

(C) Fire

Fire Department monthly report for November, 2019

(D) Police

Police Department monthly report for November, 2019

(F) Utilities - Flood, Water, Sewer

Utilities Division Flood/Water/Sewer monthly report for November, 2019

IX. New Business

(A) Resolutions

Mr. Rhodes reviewed the Resolution which authorizes tax credits for certain businesses in the Gateway Enterprise Zone, for tax year 2020-2021.

The Resolution was presented in title only. Motion to approve the Resolution was made by Councilwoman Marchini, seconded by Councilman Cioni, and was passed on a vote of 5-0.

Resolution No. R2019-06 - authorizing certain businesses within the Gateway Enterprise Zone to receive tax credits for the tax year 2020-2021

(B) Orders (Consent Agenda)

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

Order 26575 accepting the State bid from Hertrich Fleet Services, Inc. for three 2020 Police Interceptor utility vehicles, for a total not-to-exceed cost of \$111,174

Order 26,576 authorizing the abatement of taxes and utilities for properties: 101 North Cedar St.; 1 Evergreen Ter.; 623 Maryland Ave.; 117 Independence St.; 3 Altamont Ter.; 6 Altamont Ter.; and 222 Bond St.

Order 26,577 - lifting Section 11-113 of the City Code pertaining to open containers from 10:00 p.m. on December 31, 2019 through 1:00 a.m. on January 1, 2020 on the downtown mall for the New Year's Eve celebration; notwithstanding that open glass containers shall not be permitted

Order 26,578 - approving appropriations and transfers for Fiscal Year 2018-2019

Order 26,579 - approving project amendments to the Community Development Block Grant Program, effective December 17, 2019, for 2019 Bellevue Street Sidewalk Improvements and 2019 Constitution Park Grove 4 Inclusive Playground

Order 26,580 – authorizing execution of a "Bridge Inventory and Inspection Activity Contribution Agreement" with PennDOT regarding the federally required inspection of the Koon Dam Bridge by PennDOT, and providing that the City shall pay a 20% cost share reimbursement to PennDOT in the amount of \$19,334.37 covering the 5-year term of the agreement

Order 26,581 - appointing Larry Jackson to the Historic Preservation Commission for a three (3) year term effective December 31, 2019 through December 31, 2022

Order 26,582 accepting the Sole Source proposal from System Integration Technologies for the Phase 2/Year 2 of the SCADA Control System Upgrade for the JJD Water Reclamation Facility in the amount of \$27,544

Order 26,583 - approving the sole source proposal from Taylor Sports and Recreation to furnish and install Phase I of the playground equipment for the accessible playground at Grove 4 in Constitution Park in the amount not to exceed \$48,039

X. Public Comments

Richard Beckwith, 501 Jones Falls Ct., Bowie, MD, spoke on his concerns about how the Carver High/Carver Community Center had been handled, how it became in disrepair, read from the 1/16/02 contract between the Maryland Housing and Community Development and the City, and posed several questions to M&CC regarding Carver's total funding and its allocation. Mayor Morriss agreed that it was disgraceful what has happened to Carver and said he totally supports what Mr. Beckwith is trying to do. He added that Carver should be a valuable resource as a community center, and said he will be speaking with the City Solicitor as to what, if anything, the City can legally do to help.

A discussion followed with M&CC and several people in attendance regarding wanting to work together in finding out about the final report of the renovations, the funds spent, and what the City can do to help Carver become a fixture in the community again.

All public comments are limited to 5 minutes per person

XI. Adjournment

With no further business at hand, the meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Minutes approved on April 7, 2020

Raymond M. Morriss, Mayor

ATTEST: Marjorie A. Woodring, City Clerk