



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
Video-conference

DATE: January 05, 2021

I. OPEN SESSION - 6:15 PM

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; Ken Tressler, Director of Administrative Services; Robert Smith, City Engineer

III. 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

1. Administrative Services monthly report for November, 2020

(B) Engineering

1. Engineering Division monthly report for December, 2020

(C) Fire

1. Fire Department monthly report for November, 2020

IV. Approval of Minutes

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

1. Approval of the Work and Closed Session Minutes of October 27, 2020, and the Work, Closed, and Regular Session Minutes of November 4, 2020.

V. **Unfinished Business**

(A) **Ordinances**

1. **Ordinance 3881** (*2nd and 3rd readings*) - authorizing the issuance and sale of general obligation bonds and bond anticipation notes each in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$4,525,000, and general obligation refunding bonds to finance or refinance costs of projects authorized for debt funding in the FY2021 budget.

Mr. Tressler reviewed the Ordinance that will allow for new debt issuance, and advised that this is debt that was approved to issue in the FY21 budget. He stated that they had originally expected to do this through Maryland CDA, but because refunding is being done, it makes sense to combine and not have to pay issuance costs twice. He said this will be for police and fire vehicles, heavy equipment, some money for the Baltimore Street Bridge and Baltimore Street Access Project, a couple of water line projects and a flood control improvement project.

SECOND READING: The Ordinance was presented in title only for its second reading. The reading was interrupted, and **Motion** to accept 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.

The Mayor 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.

2. **Ordinance No. 3882** (*2nd and 3rd readings*) - authorizing the issuance and sale of (1) general obligation refunding bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$42,260,000 to refund in whole or in part (A) the City's outstanding 2011 through 2019 Community Development Administration (CDA) loans, and (B) certain other outstanding general obligation bonds, and (2) general obligation bonds to subsequently refund any general obligation refunding bonds identified in (1) that are actually issued.

Mr. Tressler reviewed the Ordinance which provides for refunding bonds, and said the City will take advantage of historic low rates. He said there are several different bonds they are looking to refund, with a total amount being over \$14M, with the expectation to save over \$1.5M. Mr. Tressler stated that it's important to note that the ordinance allows M&CC to give approval to refund more than what will be refunded this spring, with the hope to close in March. He added that it's basically every outstanding bond that they may want to consider in the future. He said some have not been outstanding long enough to refinance now, and said if the rates stay low, they'll probably do another one.

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

The Mayor 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.

VI. New Business

(A) Resolutions

1. **Resolution R2021-01** (*1st. reading*)- declaring the official intent of the Mayor and City Council to reimburse expenditures paid with respect to police vehicles budgeted in FY21 from proceeds of "Reimbursement Bonds"

Mr. Tressler reviewed the resolution, and explained that this allows for the City to make some acquisitions prior to the bond closing, and the bond closing will reimburse those expenditures. He said that they had planned to issue CDA debt last fall, but that didn't happen, and several police vehicles had been previously approved. Mr. Tressler advised that historically, these vehicles take over a year to deliver; however, they were notified recently that they're ready now, and the City needs to take possession, so they have been paid for. He stated that they were intended to be paid for by the new bond issue, but this will allow the City to refund itself from bond proceeds.

FIRST READING: The Resolution was presented in title only for its first reading. **Motion** to approve the Resolution was made by Councilwoman Marchini, seconded by Councilman Bernard, and was passed on a vote of 5-0.

(B) Ordinances

1. **Ordinance No. 3883** (*1st reading*) - authorizing the execution of a Contract of Sale and deed to convey 884 Sperry Terrace to Harold P. and Ann V. Atkins for \$9,200.00.

Mr. Rhodes provided background on the Ordinance, advising that this property was discussed a couple weeks ago, and said that neighbors wanted to purchase it from the City for the cost of the demolition of this blighted house. He stated that it was declared surplus at the last meeting, and said the next step is to complete the sale and transfer the deed.

FIRST READING: The Ordinance was presented in title only for its first reading. **Motion** to approve the first reading and table until next meeting was made by Councilman Frazier, seconded by Councilwoman Marchini, and was passed on a vote of 5-0.

(C) Orders (Consent Agenda)

Mr. Rhodes reviewed each item on the Consent Agenda, and Mayor Morriss called for questions or comments. **Motion** to approve each Consent Agenda item was made by

Councilwoman Marchini, seconded by Councilman Cioni, and was passed on a vote of 5-0.

Order 26,748 - authorizing the Chief of Police to accept the 2020 Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Grant (2020 CESF) in the amount of \$58,983.00. The Cumberland Police Department will use the funds to protect the public and employees from coronavirus contamination by purchasing resources to protect the police facility and vehicles as well as promote safe communication via virtual media.

Mr. Rhodes advised that some of the items to be purchased through this grant is for prisoner transport equipment to separate them from officers, cleaning services, changes to the Police Department lobby, safety kiosks, thermometers, masks, sanitizers, etc.

Order 26,749 - accepting the bid of Denali Water Solutions for the "WFP Residuals Management Transportation, Storage, Beneficial Use and/or Disposal" Project (33-20-WFP) in variable amounts based on material generated.

Mr. Rhodes advised that this project is for water source sediment transportation, storage and disposal.

Order 26,750 - authorizing the Mayor's execution, on behalf of the Downtown Development Commission (DDC), of a Professional Services Agreement by and between the DDC, the Cumberland Economic Development Corporation (CEDC) and Cochran Studio, Inc. regarding services provided by Cochran Studio for the Baltimore Street Redevelopment Project for a term effective December 15, 2020, and extending through completion of 100% construction drawings being submitted to SHA, for an amount not to exceed \$25,250 to be funded by Lenders Loan Pool unrestricted funds.

Mr. Rhodes advised that this Agreement covers things like meeting attendance, design oversight review by Mr. Cochran, a planting plan, and soil specifications.

VII. Letters / Petitions

1. Letter from the City Clerk advising that the MD State Board of Canvassers certified the 2020 General Election results on December 8, 2020, and that Eugene T. Frazier and Laurie P. Marchini, having received the two highest number of votes for the office of Council, are hereby declared nominated and will be sworn into office on January 4, 2020.

The letter was acknowledged and entered into public record.

Councilwoman Marchini and Councilman Frazier both thanked the citizens of Cumberland for their vote of confidence in re-electing them at the November election. Mayor Morris stated that he was looking forward to working with them again for the next several years.

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 6:06 p.m.

Minutes approved on February 16, 2021

Raymond M. Morriss, Mayor

ATTEST: Marjorie A. Woodring, City Clerk