



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 Special Public Meeting
City Hall, 57 N. Liberty Street, Cumberland, MD 21502

DATE: September 14, 2021

I. CLOSED SESSION

1. 12:30 p.m. - Convene in open session for the purpose of closing the meeting pursuant to Section 3-305(b)(1) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland to conduct interviews for the open Council seat and to hold discussion relative to the same.
2. Closed Session

II. OPEN SESSION

1. 4:30 p.m. - Reconvene into Open Session

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Roll Call

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

Also Present: Marjorie A. Woodring, City Clerk; Mark Gandolfi, City Comptroller; Robert Smith, City Engineer

V. Statement of Closed Meeting

1. Summary statements of the closed meetings held September 13 and 14, 2021

Mayor Morriss announced that closed sessions had been held on September 13, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. & September 14, 2021 at 12:30 p.m. and read into the record summaries of those sessions, which are 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.

VI. New Business

(A) Ordinances

1. **Ordinance 3900** (*1st reading*) - providing for the issuance and sale of \$7.3M of General Obligation Bonds to be issued under the State Local Government Infrastructure Financing Program to finance and/or refinance certain identified costs for (a) office equipment and information technology improvement, equipment and software; (b) new and/or replacement vehicles; (c) facility and infrastructure improvements; (d) street improvements; and (e) water system, sewer system and flood control improvements and equipment.

Mr. Gandolfi advised that this ordinance will adopt the authority to secure and execute \$7.3M in bonds, and explained that the City is partnering with CDA - 2021 bond issuance which pools with other municipalities to get better rates. He advised that this will provide 7.1M for projects on the list that he provided, and said they were the same projects seen during the FY22 budget presentation. Mr. Gandolfi explained that the difference between the \$7.1M and \$7.3M is to allow for closing costs. He advised that the projects that will be funded are broken down between the General Fund, Water Fund, and Sewer Fund, and explained that some projects have other sources of funding attached to them as well. Mr. Gandolfi said sometimes projects come in under budget, which he said is a good thing, and means less money will need to be borrowed next year, or the City can do an additional project this year. He explained that Engineering puts out capital project plans go at 5 and 10 years, and if a project comes in under budget they will have a good idea what project would be best to add funding to.

There was discussion to have a work session in the near future to update Council on Engineering's 5-year plan as a refresher to keep on top of what the City's doing. Mr. Gandolfi advised that although it's recognized that projects may come in under or over, he wanted to make Council aware that for the Baltimore Street Town Centre project they're showing more than they expected to spend for that by FY23, which he said is the anticipated amount needed to fully fund the project. He stated that they are trying to do all the borrowing now so funding is in place. He added that as Engineering has more and more grants coming in, hopefully they will have everything they need between grants and borrowing.

There were discussions on several of the projects on Mr. Gandolfi's list, including Virginia Avenue Community Enhancement and the Marion Street Bridge and McMullen Avenue Bridge, with Mr. Smith explaining the work and grants associated with each. There was discussion about ARPA possibly being available as well. Mr. Smith advised that he thinks water main replacement would be a good use for ARPA funds, and mentioned paving from The Dingle down to Allegany Street on Fayette Street and replacing a 4" water line. Mr. Gandolfi advised that they have so many needs and components in the City that ARPA funds can be used for – larger ticket items that are bigger than \$300K, with some being \$3M - \$8M.

Mr. Gandolfi said that as far as Police and Fire, they are in the process now with Community Development needs and said by the end of this week they are

prepared to provide M&CC with a menu of recommendations. He advised that they have already addressed revenue loss, and premium pay, and said Pillars 1 (community programs) and 4 (infrastructure) of the ARPA components are remaining, which he advised will be combined together into an executive summary presentation for Council. He said that this will probably evolve as M&CC add things they would like to see on there, and gave the proposed skate park as an example.

Mayor Morriss discussed balance regarding projects, stating that they will take the advice of all sides and look at the sustainability and best overall plan because they're all worthy projects. Mr. Gandolfi stated that projects that actually leverage other funding in addition to ARPA will typically score higher, and discussed sustainability of projects. He added that ARPA funds have to be obligated or spent by December 31, 2024, with obligated funds having to be spent by December 2026, or the funds will be lost.

FIRST READING: The ordinance was presented in title only for its first reading. Motion to accept the first reading and table until next meeting was made by Councilwoman Marchini, seconded by Councilman Cioni, and was passed on a vote of 4-0.

VII. Public Comments

No comments.

All public comments are limited to 5 minutes per person

VIII. Adjournment

With no further business at hand, the meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Minutes approved on October 19, 2021

Raymond M. Morriss, Mayor

ATTEST: Marjorie A. Woodring, City Clerk