



Mayor and City Council of Cumberland

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

City Administrator Jeffrey F. Silka
City Solicitor Michael Scott Cohen
City Clerk Allison K. Layton

MINUTES

Regular M&CC Meeting

Cumberland City Hall Council Chambers, 57 N. Liberty Street

DATE: October 03, 2023

I. OPEN SESSION – 6:15 P.M.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

PRESENT:

Council Member Richard J. "Rock" Cioni
Council Member James L. Furstenberg, III
Council Member Laurie P. Marchini
President Raymond M. Morriss

Council Member Eugene T. Frazier was absent

Also Present: Jeffrey F. Silka, City Administrator; Allison K. Layton, City Clerk; Michael S. Cohen, City Solicitor; Chuck Ternent, Chief of Police; Shannon Adams, Fire Chief

IV. Statement of Closed Meeting

Mayor Morriss announced that a closed session had been held on October 3, 2023 at 4:00 p.m., and read into the record a summary of that meeting, 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.

V. Presentations

1. Certificate of Recognition presented to Josef Sneathen for the completion of his Eagle Scout project of building dug-outs at Holly Fields in LaVale.

Mayor Morriss read the Certificate of Recognition, and presented it to Josef Sneathen. Josef provided background and details on his project of building dugouts at Holly Fields for team protection and organization to benefit the players and coaches.

2. Certificate of Recognition presented to Mason Trub for the completion of his Eagle Scout project at Rose Hill Cemetery.

Mayor Morriss read the Certificate of Recognition, and presented it to Mason Trub. Mason provided background and details on his clean-up project of Rose Hill Cemetery and building a display case for maps and information.

3. Presentation of quarterly awards given in recognition of employee career milestones.

Supervisors provided background on each employee. If Supervisors were not in attendance, Mayor Morriss provided information about the employee.

5 Years:

Lloyd Huff (not in attendance); has been with the Sanitary Sewer Department since August 28, 2018.

Michael Hartman (not in attendance); has been with the Water Reclamation Facility since August 27, 2018 as a Tech II Operator, and is currently in training to become the future Lab Analyst.

Isaac Cessna (not in attendance); Chief Adams provided background on Mr. Cessna, who has been employed for 5 years with the Fire Department, and is currently a Firefighter/Paramedic.

Ethan Snyder (in attendance); employed for 5 years with the Fire Department. Chief Adams provided background, saying he was one of the senior Firefighter/Paramedics on his crew.

Joseph Tipton (not in attendance); employed with Water Distribution Department since August 13, 2018.

10 Years:

Garhet Dolly (in attendance); employed with Fleet Management Department since September 2013, is currently an Automotive Technician II.

Brian Broadwater (in attendance); employed with the Public Works Department since 2013, is currently Fleet Manager.

15 Years:

Nicholas Mazzone (in attendance); employed with the Police Department for 15 years, currently working as a Detective with the C3I unit.

Jeremy Hedrick (in attendance); employed with the Police Department for 15 years, currently assigned as a Patrol Corporal.

20 Years:

Christopher Golliday (not in attendance); employed with the Police Department for 20 years, currently assigned as the Accreditation Manager for the department and is also on the Tactical Team.

25 Years:

Ed Kenner (in attendance); employed with the Fire Department since September 1998, currently working as an Equipment Operator/EMT.

VI. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Council Member Furstenberg, seconded by Council Member Cioni, and was passed on a vote of 4-0.

1. Approval of the Work and Regular Session Minutes of September 19, 2023

VIII. Public Comments

No public comments

All public comments are limited to 5 minutes per person

IX. New Business

(A) Ordinances

1. Ordinance 3966 (*1st reading*) - authorizing the transfer of 102-104-106 Altamont Terrace to Abiye Williams for the purchase price of \$4,800.

FIRST READING: The ordinance was submitted in title only for its first reading.

Motion to accept the first reading and table until next meeting was made by Council Member Marchini, seconded by Council Member Furstenburg, and was passed on a vote of 4-0.

(B) Orders (Consent Agenda)

Mr. Silka reviewed each item on the Consent Agenda, and Mayor Morriss called for questions or comments. **Motion** to approve each item was made by Council Member Furstenburg, seconded by Council Member Cioni, and was passed on a vote of 4-0.

Order 27,328 - authorizing the Chief of Police to accept a Maryland Highway Safety Office grant for FY24 in the amount of \$3,000 for police overtime concentrating on DUI Reduction and Occupant Protection.

Order 27,329 - approving Amendment No. 1 to the Cumberland Street Construction Agreement, between the Mayor and City Council of Cumberland and CSXT, dated November 5, 2019.

Order 27,330 - authorizing the City Administrator to accept the sole source proposal from Cargill Incorporated to provide road salt for an amount not-to-exceed \$200,000 for the term September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024, with pricing obtained through the statewide contract.

Order 27,331 - authorizing the purchase of a new Ford F600 Pacific Tek Power Vac Truck from Infrastructure Solutions Group, Inc. for an amount not-to-exceed \$207,953.74, which is Virginia Sheriffs Association Contract #23-05-0713 pricing and is in accordance with City Code Sec. 2-171 (c).

Order 27,332 - accepting the bid from Southern States Cooperative for the purchase of heating oil for the Water Reclamation Facility and the Water Filtration Plant, in the most current price (September 20, 2023) of \$77,337.50 for 23,000 gallons.

Order 27,333 - approving the ARPA combined Affordable Housing Assistance and Property Improvement funding modification to allow for a demolition assistance match up to \$10,000 per property.

Order 27,334 - accepting the proposal from Long View Systems Corporation USA for equipment, installation and support of a Tenable system to better secure and monitor the City's water supply and Wastewater management IT systems, as well as general IT Networks, in the amount not-to-exceed \$51,889.67.

Order 27,335 - amending Order No. 26,961 dated February 15, 2022 by approving an increase of ARPA funding in the amount of \$16,844.41 toward the Duck Pond project and approving a \$16,844.41 reduction to funding previously allotted to Jane's Place.

Order 27,336 - authorizing the Sole Source purchase of a professional service contract from ServicePro for improvements at the Duck Pond in Constitution Park in the amount not to exceed \$28,465.

X. Public Comments

Dave Biser, Long Drive, Cumberland, spoke about the vagrancy problem in the City. He stated that he took photos of the area, especially at the Blue Bridge and at George Washington's Headquarters, and said the area smells of urine, with beer cans and trash strewn about. He stated that he has been threatened by a vagrant. He also talked about downtown store fronts where people are defecating. He suggested putting Barberry bushes around because they're thorny, as a deterrent, or another environmental redesign. He added that one of the guys at GW Headquarters only comes there for the free food from a church, and noted that the man had a \$500 bike, along with multiple Trek bikes, works, and is not homeless.

Mr. Biser also discussed the problems with Breezeline, and questioned why the City can't get Comcast or Xfinity. Mayor Morriss stated that if Mr. Biser can convince either of those companies to come to Cumberland, feel free, and added that any provider that wants to come to the City is welcome.

The Mayor stated that he was in agreement with Mr. Biser about the vagrancy, and said the City is examining the problem and is trying to come up with the best solutions. The Mayor also stated that they want to build the City up, and said he overheard a conversation of someone moving to WV from MD because he's tired of not seeing the results of the City growing.

Heath Barnes, Mayor of Woodsboro, Maryland, wanted to introduce himself to M&CC, and advise that he is running for Congress in District 6. He stated that he sees the struggles going on, and the economy affecting the small communities even more than the larger areas. He added that he grew up on dairy farms, is not a politician, nor born into privilege, and said anyone can do anything they want to in America.

All public comments are limited to 5 minutes per person.

XI. Adjournment

With no further business at hand, the meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Minutes approved on October 17, 2023

Raymond M. Morriss, Mayor

ATTEST: Allison K. Layton, City Clerk