



Mayor and City Council of Cumberland

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

City Administrator Jeffrey F. Silka
City Solicitor Michael S. Cohen
City Clerk Marjorie A. Woodring

MINUTES

Regular M&CC Public Meeting
City Hall, 57 N. Liberty St., Cumberland

DATE: November 16, 2021

I. 6:15 p.m. OPEN SESSION

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

PRESENT:

Councilman Richard J. "Rock" Cioni
Councilman Eugene T. Frazier
Councilman Joseph P. George
President Raymond M. Morriss

Absent: Councilwoman Laurie P. Marchini

Also Present: Jeff Silva, City Administrator; Ken Tressler, Director of Administrative Services; Margie Woodring, City Clerk

IV. Proclamations

1. Proclamation presented to the Allegany High School Marching Band honoring their achievement in capturing the 2021 Tournament of Bands Atlantic Coast High School Marching Band Championship.

Mayor Morriss read the proclamation and presented it to senior band members and the coach. Larry Jackson, Head Band Coach, said that they appreciate the recognition and were proud to represent the City. He added that they are thankful for all who participated and supported the band. Mayor Morriss stated that the band represented the City of Cumberland very well, and said M&CC appreciates all the hard work that they put into achieving this championship.

2. Proclaiming November 27, 2021 to be Small Business Saturday in the City of Cumberland.

Mayor Morriss read the proclamation and presented it to Melinda Kelleher, Executive Director of the DDC. She stated that she appreciates the acknowledgement, that Small Business Saturday is a really important and critical day for the City's small businesses, and said she hopes this will be their best one ever. Mayor Morriss encouraged all Council Members to attend Small Business Saturday downtown, and said he hopes the whole community shops small and supports local businesses.

V. Director's Reports

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

(A) Fire

1. Fire Department monthly report for October, 2021

(B) Police

1. Police Department monthly report for October, 2021

(C) Utilities - Flood, Water, Sewer

1. Utilities Division Flood/Water/Sewer monthly report for October, 2021

VI. Approval of Minutes

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

1. Approval of the Work Session and Regular Session Minutes of August 17, 2021

VII. Unfinished Business

(A) Ordinances

1. **Ordinance 3905** (*2nd and 3rd readings*) - approving an application (ZMA #21-01) to amend the City's zoning map to rezone property at 718 Frederick Street from R-U (Urban Residential) to R-R (Rehabilitation and Redevelopment) Floating Zone.

SECOND READING: The ordinance was submitted in title only for its second reading.

Motion to approve the second reading and move to the third after comments was made by Councilman Frazier, seconded by Councilman Cioni, and was passed on a vote of 4-0.

Mayor Morriss called for questions or comments. Being none, the ordinance moved to its third reading.

THIRD READING: The ordinance was submitted in title only for its third reading and was passed on a vote of 4-0

2. **Ordinance 3906** (*2nd and 3rd readings*) - accepting the bid from Michael W. and Kimberly A. McKay for the purchase of 17 Paw Paw Alley for the amount of \$2,500 and authorizing execution and conveyance of a deed to effect the transfer.

SECOND READING: The ordinance was submitted in title only for its second reading. **Motion** to approve the second reading and move to the third after comments was made by Councilman Frazier, seconded by Councilman George, and was passed on a vote of 4-0.

Mayor Morriss called for questions or comments. Being none, the ordinance moved to its third reading.

THIRD READING: The ordinance was submitted in title only for its third reading and was passed on a vote of 4-0

VIII. New Business

(A) Ordinances

1. **Ordinance 3907** (*1st reading*) - authorizing the issuance and sale of General Obligation Bonds in the total amount not to exceed \$2,066,664 for the purpose of financing, reimbursing, or refinancing costs of the Decatur Street Waterline Project.

Mr. Silva advised that this project should begin in early spring of 2022, and said materials are already being secured by the contractor. He added that the total cost of this project is roughly \$3.1M, and said funding is being provided by an MDE grant, a state revolving loan, and an ARC grant.

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

(B) Orders (Consent Agenda)

Mr. Silva reviewed each item on the Consent Agenda, and Mayor Morriss called for questions or comments. **Motion** to approve all items was made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilman Cioni, and was approved by a vote of 4-0.

Order 26,901 - approving the Sole Source Purchase of a new 2021 Ford T-250 EnviroSight Camera Van for use by the Sewer Dept. from Infrastructure Solutions Group, Mechanicsville, VA, which is offering the VA Sheriff's Association Heavy Equipment Procurement Program Contract (#22-03-0721) pricing, in the not-to-exceed amount of \$250,000.00.

Mr. Silva advised that this purchase is included in the FY22 sewer budget and in upcoming CDA debt issue, and said this is a piggy-back with the VA Sheriff's Heavy Equipment Contract. He added that the City did demo 3 trucks and received bids on 3, and said this truck is the best for the City's needs.

Order 26,902 - declaring City-owned property at 309 S. Cedar Street (Tax ID No. 04-015460) as surplus property, authorizing it for public sale, and authorizing the execution of a deed to effect the transfer of the property after 20 days from the date of this order.

Mr. Silva advised that this is a recent tax foreclosure property, and said the City was going to demo it, but said there have been interested buyers who plan to renovate it, so it will be offered for public sale.

Order 26,903 - accepting the bid from The EADS Group, Inc. for the "Water Distribution Analysis and CIP Update Contract (15-21-W)" in the lump sum cost of \$32,000.

Mr. Silva advised that this was a competitively bid solicitation for reviewing the City's storage facilities and providing an in-depth review of the City's water storage assets. He added that this will aid the City in planning a future capital project, and said it provides recommendation for replacing the Fort Hill reservoir cover, which is planned to be a FY23 key project.

IX. Public Comments

Ed Taylor, 400 S. Allegany St., representing the members of the Cumberland Historic Cemetery Organization, spoke about an issue he has with the Heritage Days Festival, in that the Cumberland Historical Society, headed by Dave Williams, is now running the festival, which he said was not a very inclusive group, and stated that other groups have had problems with Dave Williams, not just his organization.

He stated that his organization was purposely kept out of all information about the festival in almost a year's time, and he spoke about several issues pertaining to the Historical Society's running of the festival. He asked the M&CC to work with the County Commissioners in revamping the festival to include everyone. He also asked M&CC not to close streets next year for the festival, if no revamping is done. He stated that a meeting needs to be held with the County Commissioners, and recommended that the tourism office handle the festival like it did years ago.

Mayor Morriss advised that they will work with County Tourism to see if something can be worked out.

Larry Brock, 914 Lexington Ave., representing Mountain Maryland Trails, spoke about the GAP Trail, which he said in his opinion is the largest tourist attraction in Cumberland, not necessarily in the County, and said last year 148,850 people used the trail, with 1/3 being from out of town. He also stated that 100,000 local users support local businesses and have an impact on the downtown. He talked about some signage painting that was done on the trail funded by his organization, and said the County did a good job of removing tree roots in the blacktop. He asked the City to pave the areas that have been fixed by the County, and said that for a large attraction bringing in \$5M income to the County, it should behoove the City to support that. Mr. Brock provided a photo, which he said he would email to M&CC. Mayor Morriss said Council would look at and review the photo and see what they could do. He agreed that the GAP Trail and the C&O Canal bring a lot of tourist dollars into the City, and said he understands what a great asset they both are.

Rick Bartlett, 10206 Hillcrest Dr., advised that he was tagging along with Mr. Brock tonight, and said he had enlisted him to be volunteer maintenance coordinator for the GAP Trail. He stated that this seems like a very small project, but said it has a big impact to tourists from out of town who don't see it every day, whereas with locals that use the trail find it easier to ignore. He said he and Mr. Brock just ask that it gets a bit of attention. Mayor Morriss stated he would get Mr. Bartlett's phone number, and said they would stay in touch.

All public comments are limited to 5 minutes per person

X. Adjournment

With no further business at hand, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Minutes approved on January 4, 2022

Mayor Raymond M. Morriss, Mayor

ATTEST: Marjorie A. Woodring, City Clerk