

Mayor and City Council of Cumberland

WORK SESSION

City Hall Council Chambers
57 N. Liberty Street
Cumberland, MD 21502

Tuesday, May 17, 2022; 5:56 p.m.

PRESENT: Raymond M. Morriss, President; Council Members: Richard Cioni, Eugene Frazier, Joe George, and Laurie Marchini.

ALSO PRESENT: Jeffrey Silka, City Administrator; Michael S. Cohen, City Solicitor; Marjorie Woodring, City Clerk; Ken Tressler, Director of Administrative Services; Lee Borrer, Community Development Specialist; Matt Idleman, Deputy Director of Engineering

I. SPLASH PAD

Mr. Idleman provided a design packet for the splash pad from the consultants. He advised that this shows what the splash pad could look like, and said it's up to free imagination if M&CC has any other ideas, and said there are catalogs available to look at. He advised that the design provided today is right around the City's price range, and said it's about \$100K of actual equipment on the surface, along with \$200K of piping, pumps, etc. He also provided a site plan, saying it's completely customizable.

Mr. Idleman advised that the next step – once the design is confirmed and it gets approval – is to order materials. He stated that he doesn't know the lead time yet. He advised that the fence will be replaced, and said it will be extended out so you can get from one side of the pool to the other, which is an issue right now.

Mr. Tressler stated that they're concerned with getting the materials ordered, to start by fall and end in the spring of next year so that it can be open for the summer season. He added that the money needs to be used by April of next year.

Mayor Morriss stated that the splash pad is a great addition, but said the key to it is upgrading the pool area and existing buildings, too. Mr. Tressler stated that the both the fence and the deck need addressed.

There was discussion about ADA options that will be added. Mr. Idleman said the ADA upgrades won't include the concession stand, and Mr. Cohen stated that only new construction has to be compliant with ADA.

Council seemed to like the design presented. Councilwoman Marchini stated that in her opinion, ideally the splash pad would be outside the fence so that all could enjoy it. Mr. Idleman said that he agrees and it would be great in another part of town, but said it would be hard to make it work within the confines of the pool area.

There was discussion about having a splash pad at Canal Place at some point. Mayor Morriss stated it would be good to partner with the CPPDA on a splash pad in the future, but stated that for now, this is a step in the right direction.

II. AGENDA REVIEW – MAY 17, 2022

Mayor Morriss went over Ms. Borrer’s presentation, Director’s Reports, and Minutes. Councilman George questioned the Public Works report that stated 7 handicap signs were removed in April and zero added. He also questioned the increase in fire calls for District 3 in April, and said he will get with Chief Adams. The Councilman mentioned the Police Report, and said that in April, aside from petty theft, all crime categories and total incidents were down, and gave kudos to the work the police are doing. He added a congratulations as well for the Columbia Street drug bust this past week.

Mr. Silka suggested that people may be requesting to have handicap signs removed, and said there is a reason and he will check on it.

Mayor Morriss called for questions or comments on any item on the Consent Agenda. Being none, Mr. Silka reviewed Ordinance 3915 in New Business, and advised that Ordinance 3915 rejects the original bid of Del & Del Allegany Properties, LLC for 107/109 S. Allegany Street, and accepts the next highest bid of C Corp Leasing for the amount of \$5K.

III. MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL UPDATES

Councilwoman Marchini advised that the DDC hired a contractual Events Planner. She said that there’s a lot going on downtown this spring and summer, and stated that the windows contest has been very popular. She provided events and dates:

Delville Pub Crawl	May 24
Centre St. Block Party	June 11
Jazz Crawl	June 25
Queen City Funk & Soul	July 8

Councilwoman Marchini also advised that Sandi Saville will no longer be president of the DDC, but said she plans to stay involved. She added that the nominating committee has recommended Doug Schwab as president, Larry Jackson as vice-president, and Ed Huber will remain as treasurer. She said they are still looking for a secretary.

Councilwoman Marchini advised that with HPC, they are looking to create guidelines for murals in the historic district, and said they re-received the grant for historic planning, and also received another grant for training.

Mayor Morriss gave kudos to the staff for working with the DelFest organization and helping to make the Pub Crawl event happen.

Councilman Cioni stated that they will hopefully get the P&R board to ok spending \$4K from the Bauer Fund on Long Field to reimburse Dapper Dan for some of the work.

Mayor Morriss asked if there were any new developments with a handicap-accessible swing at Constitution Park. Councilman Cioni advised that everyone is on-board with that, and said they were hoping to partner with the Hooley Plunge people, and put up a plaque in memory of Dr. McCagh. He added that they were going to take it to their board, and said he will get back to Council when he hears anything.

There was discussion about naming ballfields and parks for people. Mayor Morriss suggested adding the additional name to the field or park without taking the original name away, or maybe having rotating names. He suggested having the P&R board work through that.

Councilman George stated that the P&Z Commission will not be meeting next week as there is nothing on the agenda.

Councilman Frazier stated that the HRDC meets this Thursday, and said they are taking applications for the Head Start program. He also stated that they had a workshop for tenants at the Union Rescue Mission, and said the landlords meeting at the Virginia Avenue HRDC facility every 2nd Wednesday. Mayor Morriss said that information needs to get out to the public.

Councilman Frazier mentioned that he was approached with the idea of having plaques on the buildings downtown providing information on the history of the building, when the mall upgrades are completed.

Mayor Morriss thanked Council for participating in the Day of Caring and Sharing, and gave kudos to County United Way and Let's Beautify Cumberland. He added that there were 49 projects, and 450 people came out to volunteer.

The Mayor mentioned that this Saturday at 2:00 PM will be the Casper Taylor Bridge dedication, and this Sunday will be Taco de Mayo at the CPPDA.

Councilman George suggested that in the Regular Session having a moment of silence after the Pledge of Allegiance for the passing of former Mayor Frank Nethken, Lee Schwartz of The Book Center, and Dick Paulman, director of the Department of Allegany County Social Services for many years. Councilman George advised that he has just been appointed to that board beginning in June.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business at hand, the work session adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie A. Woodring
City Clerk

Minutes approved on September 20, 2022