

Mayor and City Council of Cumberland

WORK SESSION

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

Tuesday, October 6, 2020
5:15 p.m.

This meeting was held via Video-Conference

PRESENT: Raymond M. Morriss, President; Council Members: Seth Bernard, Richard Cioni, and Eugene Frazier. Councilwoman Laurie Marchini was absent.

ALSO PRESENT: Jeffrey D. Rhodes, City Administrator; Michael S. Cohen, City Solicitor; Marjorie Woodring, City Clerk

I. PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA REVIEW

Mr. Rhodes advised on the two Resolutions on the Agenda. Resolution R2020-05 will approve the application and receipt of financing for 2020 Community Legacy projects and Mr. Rhodes briefly reviewed the projects submitted:

1. Cumberland Main Street Fiber Installation
2. Cumberland Roof Replacement Program
3. Upper Story Redevelopment
4. Accessible Scattered Site Rental Housing – Cumberland Housing Group
5. ACM Gateway Center Community Space Enhancement
6. ACM College Center Loft Enhancement for Community & Workforce Development

Resolution R2020-06 will approve the receipt and financing for a 2020 Strategic Demolition project entitled “Cumberland Main Street Sprinkler Tap Installation – Phase I”, which will coincide with the Baltimore Street Redevelopment project and will provide 45 buildings downtown with access to sprinkler/fire suppression systems.

Mr. Rhodes reviewed Ordinance 3876 up for its First Reading, which will repeal and re-enact part of the City Code pertaining to service pipes supplying two or more premises with water. Mr. Cohen provided more information, saying that water service provided through service lines to residents has on/off valves, and residents should have their own. He stated that many don't, due to the age of the structure, and said that this ordinance will address those issues where one service line supplies two properties.

Mr. Rhodes reviewed the Consent Agenda's eight Orders:

- **Order 26,716** - authorizing the Chief of Police to accept an MHSO FY21 Maryland Highway Safety Office Traffic Safety Grant in the amount of \$3,000.00 for police overtime support concentrating on DUI enforcement and occupant protection for the project period 10/1/20 through 9/30/21
- **Order 26,717** - authorizing the Sole Source purchase of Engineering Programming and three (3) Ammonium Analyzers for the John D. DiFonzo Water Reclamation Facility's Bio-Reactors from Aerzen USA Corporation in the amount not to exceed \$30,187.00
- **Order 26,718** - authorizing execution of a contract with Cumberland Housing Alliance, Inc. (CHA), regarding the use of \$149,000 in MD Community Parks and Playground grant funding for upgrades to the playground located at 635 East First Street and owned by CHA
- **Order 26,719** - appointing individuals to vacant or expired seats on the Downtown Development Commission, Administrative Appeals Board, and Historic Preservation Commission
- **Order 26,720** - authorizing the Mayor to sign a letter of support for the City's application to the MD Heritage Areas Emergency Capital Fund for critically needed work at the George Washington's Headquarters Cabin

Mr. Rhodes stated that there are some roof shake and chinking issues at the cabin, and stated that the grant will be \$5,000, with a City match of \$5,000.

- **Order 26,721** - authorizing execution of an Easement Agreement with Cumberland Manor Associates LP whereby Cumberland Manor grants a permanent easement to the City for the purpose of laying, constructing, replacing, etc., the water line running through Cumberland Manor's property

Mr. Rhodes stated that this pertains to the 24" water main replacement on Decatur Street that has caused a number of problems over the last couple of decades.

- **Order 26,722** - declaring a 2005 Caterpillar 924G Loader to be surplus and authorizing it for trade-in
- **Order 26,723** - authorizing execution of an Amendment to Collective Bargaining Agreement with the UFCW Local 1994, pertaining to the current agreement effective July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2021, to provide for an amended pay schedule to be effective retroactive to July 1, 2020, and to provide for a one-time \$1,000 stipend payable for the year commencing July 1, 2020

Mr. Rhodes stated that the amendment will provide a 2% COLA through June 30, 2021, and a \$1,000 stipend to be able to retain officers and compete with other organizations.

II. DISCUSSION

Councilman Bernard had questions regarding the work on Washington's Headquarters Cabin, and who is supplying the grant monies. Mr. Rhodes advised that the grant is a Maryland Heritage Areas grant, and mentioned that there probably will be some type of easement, and said that they will check with Ms. McKenney for more information. Councilman Bernard stated that his main concern was if the work planned for would preclude the cabin from having future modifications, or even from possibly moving it. Mr. Cohen stated that the Mayor could sign the authorization for application for the grant tomorrow, but it would be better to wait until a final decision is made.

There was more discussion on whether or not to sign the authorization, with Mr. Cohen saying the Mayor could just refuse to accept the grant when it arrives. He added that as an alternative, they could put wording in to say it that the grant is preliminarily supported. It was decided that Ms. Woodring will speak with Ms. McKenney before the next meeting.

III. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business at hand, the meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie A. Woodring
City Clerk

Minutes approved November 4, 2020