



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 Public Meeting
Video Conference

DATE: March 16, 2021

I. OPEN SESSION - 6:15 PM

II. Roll Call

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

Also Present: Jeffrey D. Rhodes, City Administrator; Marjorie A. Woodring, City Clerk;
Kenneth Tressler, Director of Administrative Services

III. Proclamations

1. Proclamation declaring the month of March as "Red Cross Month" - to be accepted by Jason Keeling, Executive Director of the Allegany Highlands Chapter of the American Red Cross

Mayor Morriss read the Proclamation, and Jason Keeling thanked the M&CC, and provided background on Red Cross Month across the country. He gave a brief summary of the work they have done locally, saying that last year they collected almost 2,000 units of blood, provided various services to families of active-duty service members and veterans, provide life-saving CPR courses, and disaster relief. He added that last year in Allegany County they provided disaster relief – food, shelter, clothes, etc. - for 22 families of house fires. Mr. Keeling also advised that his Chapter is redistricting, and stated that Cumberland is now served from Morgantown, WV as the Appalachia region, and said Mr. Steve Finger is a Chapter Board member, and is also a representative that the City can contact.

IV. Director's Reports

Motion to approve the reports was made by Councilman Frazier, seconded by Councilman Cioni, and was passed on a vote of 5-0.

(A) Public Works

1. Maintenance Division monthly report for January and February, 2021

(B) Fire

1. Fire Department monthly report for February, 2021

(C) Police

1. Police Department monthly report for February, 2021

(D) Utilities - Flood, Water, Sewer

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

V. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Councilwoman Marchini, seconded by Councilman Frazier, and was passed on a vote of 5-0.

1. Approval of the Work Session and Closed Session Minutes of February 23, 2021, and the Closed and Regular Session Minutes of March 2, 2021

VI. New Business

(A) Resolutions

1. **Resolution No. R2021-02** (*1 Reading Only*) - to authorize the City to issue (i) a tax-exempt series of general obligation bonds in order to finance or reimburse the costs of projects authorized for debt funding in the FY21 budget and to refinance an outstanding general obligation bond issued to Community Development Administration loan ("CDA") in 2011, and (ii) a taxable series of general obligation bonds in order to refinance certain outstanding general obligation bonds issued to CDA in 2012, 2014, and 2015 and certain City general obligation bonds issued in 2013, together with related costs; and providing that any such general obligation bonds will be sold by public sale at competitive bid.

Mr. Rhodes stated that in short, the City is borrowing money relative to new debt, for the FY21 budget in the net amount of \$3.9M, and then re-financing existing debt of about \$3.5M because of better interest rates, which saves the City about \$1.5M. Mr. Tressler stated that this Resolution is complicated because issuing new debt as well as refunding debt. He stated that the additional ordinances were to approve the bond parameters, and stated that the Resolution was to provide details of the series, including the portions of the bonds that are being refinanced. He added that it's still the same bond, still the same deals, and still the same financing they have been talking about for a while now. Mr. Tressler also mentioned that they received the second bond rating report today, which was A-Stable. He said that once this is passed, they will go out to market and try to sell the bonds. Mr. Rhodes noted that the City's ratings have improved, and it has been A-Stable for a couple years now, so they are very pleased about that.

READING: The Resolution was presented in title only for its one reading, and Mayor Morriss called for questions or comments. **Motion** to approve the Resolution was made by Councilman Cioni, seconded by Councilman Bernard, and was passed on a vote of 4-0, with Councilwoman Marchini abstaining.

(B) Orders (Consent Agenda)

Mr. Rhodes provided background on all Consent Agenda items, and Mayor Morriss called for questions or comments. **Motion** to approve all items was made by Councilwoman Marchini, seconded by Councilman Frazier, and was passed on a vote of 5-0.

Order 26,763 - accepting the sole source proposal from Hertrich Fleet Services, Inc. to provide a 2021 Ford F150 4WD Extended Cab for the amount not to exceed \$33,194 - using joint pricing through the Howard County, MD Contract #4400003197.

Order 26,764 - declaring a 2001 Freightliner Ambulance (VIN #1FVABLBW51HB62976) to be surplus and authorizing its donation to the Mountain Maryland Search and Rescue (MMSR).

Mr. Rhodes advised that MMSR will not be using this vehicle as an ambulance; rather they will use it as K-9 transportation. Councilman Bernard advised that he had spoken with Lt. Tichnell about this search and rescue organization, learned a little bit more about it, and encouraged Council to reach out to the Lieutenant. The Mayor stated that they do a lot of good work around the area, and said it's an excellent use of the vehicle.

Order 26,765 - authorizing the execution of a temporary Encroachment Agreement with Greis Kaarvaliksen, owner of 2 Grandview Terrace, to allow for his use and access of the public right-of-way adjacent to his property and to repair and maintain the steps and porch in this designated area.

Mr. Rhodes advised that Mr. Kaarvaliksen has done a lot of work in that neighborhood on properties he has purchased, and said that this encroachment agreement will give him access for continued maintenance.

Order 26,766 - authorizing a Special Taxing District Exemption for 55 Baltimore Street for the 2020-2021 tax year in the amount of \$1,104.72 (Original tax \$1,472.42 / 75% residential occupancy).

Order 26,767 - authorizing appointments to the Human Relations Commission, Planning & Zoning Commission, Parks & Recreation Board, and Shade Tree Commission.

VII. Public Comments

All public comments are limited to 5 minutes per person

VIII. Adjournment

With no further business at hand, the meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Minutes approved on April 6, 2021

Raymond M. Morriss, Mayor

ATTEST: Marjorie A. Woodring, City Clerk