



Mayor and City Council of Cumberland

Mayor Raymond M. Morriss
Councilman Richard J. "Rock" Cioni
Councilman Eugene T. Frazier
Councilman James L. Furstenberg
Councilman Brian R. Lepley

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

MINUTES

M&CC Regular Public Meeting
57 N. Liberty Street, Cumberland, MD 21502

DATE: March 4, 2025

I. OPEN SESSION – 6:15 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

PRESENT:

Council Member Richard J. "Rock" Cioni
Council Member Eugene T. Frazier
Council Member James L. Furstenberg, III
Council Member Brian R. Lepley
President Raymond M. Morriss,

Also Present: Jeffrey F. Silka, City Administrator; Allison K. Layton, City Clerk;
Chief Adams; Captain Burt

IV. Statement of Closed Meeting

On March 4, 2025, the Mayor and City Council met in public session beginning at 4:30 p.m. in the 2nd floor Conference Room in City Hall for the purpose of immediately closing the meeting to receive the advice of the City Solicitor and outside counsel regarding the entry into a new Tolling Agreement with CSX and to discuss threatened litigation pertaining to CSX with staff. Authority to close the session is provided by Sections 3-305(b)(7) and (b)(8) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

V. Presentations

1. Presentation of awards given in recognition of employee career milestones.

Joe Powell – Public Works Technician II. Mayor Morriss acknowledged Joe's 30 years of employment with the City and expressed appreciation for his service upon his retirement.

Rusty Pyles – Kenny Dawson spoke to Rusty's employment with the City and expressed how much he enjoyed working with him. A photo was taken with the Mayor and City Council members.

VI. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Council Member Frazier, seconded by Council Member Cioni, and was passed on a vote of 5-0

1. Approving the Closed Session Minutes, Open Work Session Minutes and Regular Session Minutes of February 18, 2025

VII. Public Comments - All public comments are limited to 5 minutes per person *There were no sign ups*

VIII. Unfinished Business

(A) Ordinances

1. Ordinance 4006 (*2nd & 3rd readings*) - providing for the closure of a 10-foot wide alley identified by the City as Alley 144, running from the Eastern right of way line of Seymour Street East to the Western right of way line of the 15-foot wide alley identified by the City as Alley 137, bound on both sides by lands owned by the Trustees of the Church of God

SECOND READING: The ordinance was submitted in title only for its second reading. Motion to approve the reading was made by Council Member Furstenberg, seconded by Council Member Lepley, and was passed on a vote of 5-0.

Mayor Morriss called for questions or comments. Being none, the ordinance was 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 5-0.

IX. New Business

(A) Ordinances

1. Ordinance 4007 (*1st reading*) - providing for the issuance and sale of an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$5,200,000 of general obligation bonds of the Mayor and City Council of Cumberland

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 Council Member Fraizer, seconded by Council Member Cioni, and was passed on a vote of 5-0.

(B) Orders (Consent Agenda)

1. Order 27,633 - accepting the bid from Victory Trenchless for CIP Sewer Lines on Beechwood in the amount of \$105,221.34, utilizing the Buyboard pricing agreement
2. Order 27,664 – authorizing appointments to the Human Relations Commission and the Administrative Appeals Board
3. Order 27,665 - granting the City's attorneys and the City Solicitor the authority to consent to changes to the draft of the Third Amended and Restated Tolling Agreement with CSX Transportation, Inc. which they believe to be in the best interests of the City

X. Public Comments

All public comments are limited to 5 minutes per person

Carla Riggor addressed the Mayor and City Council of Robert Kennedy Jr. and his plan to remove fluoride from City water across the country. She provided a report from Dr. Blalock on the negative affect's fluoride causes such as brain damage when mixed with aluminum, increased ADD and ADHD, lowers IQ, linked to Alzheimer's Disease, Lou Gehrig disease, Cancers, and bone diseases. Fluoride was not always in the water and was never meant for ingesting. The largest study conducted, which involved 39,000 school children, found no reduction in cavities. In fact, children living in communities without fluoride in their water have lower rates of cavities. Fluoride is found in tooth paste, medications and vaccines.

Dr. Dinola provided a handout to the Mayor and City Council, highlighting the rates of health issues associated with fluoridated versus non-fluoridated water. And went on to explain nutritional deficiencies and eating habits in children and how the access to sugary foods lowers your immune system for up to five hours. He pointed out the cost is \$400K and saving those funds could be used for a health program that he would like to be involved in, to help educate oral hygiene.

Bernie Miltenberger – President of the Pure Water Committee expressed how much the community enjoys Dr. DiNola, a holistic dentist. He referred to a book titled Matters of the Mouth which mirrors the manner in which Dr. DiNola practices. The National Academies of Science conducted a three-year study in 2006 a concern found in the study was of Neurotoxicity in children's brains. The EPA reported the hazardous level for reduction in IQ is 1.5 parts per million with

a 3-7% reduction. He ended by referencing Dr. Ladapo a Surgeon General in Florida had fluoride removed in 19 cities since November.

XI. Adjournment

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

Minutes approved on April 15, 2025

Raymond M. Morriss, Mayor

ATTEST: Allison K. Layton, City Clerk