



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: January 6, 2026

I. OPEN SESSION – 6:15 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

PRESENT:

Council Member Eugene T. Frazier
Council Member James L. Furstenberg, III
Council Member Brian R. Lepley
President Raymond M. Morriss

ABSENT: Council Member Richard J. "Rock" Cioni"

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

IV. Presentations

1. Presentation of awards given in recognition of employee career milestone anniversaries

5 Years

Stu Czapski, Cumberland Economic Development Corporation.

Hunter McCrobie, Fire Fighter and certified equipment operator

Nicolas Miller, Fire Fighter Paramedic

Alex Brooks – *not present*

10 Years

Matt Miller, Executive Director of the Cumberland Economic Development Corporation

20 Years

Russell Collins, Public Works – *not present*

Matthew Dennison, Public Works – *not present*

Marty Watts, Water Distribution Superintendent

25 Year

Danielle Miller, Accounting – *not present*

30 Year

Keith Lewis, Meter Technician Coordinator

V. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Council Member Furstenberg, seconded by Council Member , and was passed on a vote of 4-0

1. Approving the Closed Session Minutes, Open Work Session Minutes and Regular Session Minutes of December 16, 2025

VI. Public Comments for Agenda Items Only

All public comments are limited to 5 minutes per person.

No comments were received

IV. Unfinished Business

(A) Ordinances

1. Ordinance 4038 (2nd & 3rd readings) - authorizing and empowering Mayor and City Council of Cumberland to issue and sell (1)(A) general obligation bonds and (B) general obligation bond anticipation notes, each in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$7,550,000, and (2) general obligation refunding bonds subject to the limitations provided for herein, in order to finance, reimburse or refinance costs of certain projects

SECOND READING: Motion to forego the second reading was made by Council Member Frazier, seconded by Council Member Furstenberg, and was passed on a vote of 4-0.

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 4-0.

V. New Business

(A) Ordinances

1. Ordinance 4039 (*1st reading*) - repealing Article I of Chapter 14 of the City Code pertaining to Health and Sanitation Nuisances and to reenact it with amendments

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 Frazier, seconded by Council Member Lepley, and was passed on a vote of 4-0.

(B) Orders (Consent Agenda)

Mr. Silka reviewed each item on the Consent Agenda and Mayor Morriss called for questions or comments. Motion to approve each item was made by Council Member Lepley, seconded by Council Member Furstenberg, and was passed on a vote of 4-0.

1. Order 27,929 - awarding an increment of the Choose Cumberland Relocation Package grant to Suzanne Klinejohn-Jones in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 (City match \$10,000, Grant \$10,000), with the cumulative programmatic City amount not to exceed \$100,000, utilizing grant funds received from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development

2. Order 27,930 - authorizing the execution of a donation agreement between the Mayor and City Council of Cumberland and C Corp Leasing, Inc., for the donation of the parcels of real properties at 842 Dephart Drive, 846 Gephart Drive, 800 Maryland Avenue, 802 Maryland Avenue and 804 Maryland Avenue and improvements thereon, if any, to the City, and accepting the deeds effecting the transfer of said properties; and releasing certain reverter provisions in the deeds for two properties (107 N. Allegany Street and 619 Greene Street) previously conveyed by the City to the Owner
3. Order 27,931 - approving a Historic District Tax Incentive Program credit and assessment freeze for property at 204 Washington St. (Tax No. 06-014399) owned by John Pendleton, based on total eligible project costs of \$38,219.29 for a Property Tax Credit of \$3,821.93 valid for 3 years and a Property Tax Assessment Freeze for 2 years
4. Order 27,932 - declaring real property known as 124-126 Arch Street as surplus property to be offered for sale
5. Order 27,933 - accepting the proposal from Micro-Tech Designs for the WFP Main Filter Panel (City Project 2025-12-WFP) to perform PLC replacement to the Main Filter Panel in the cost not to exceed \$110,410
6. Order 27,934 - approving the sole source purchase from Southern States Cooperative of heating oil for the Water Reclamation Facility and the Water Filtration Plant in the estimated amount of \$54,740.00 for 23,000 gallons, being the current cost as of December 23, 2025
7. Order 27,935 - authorizing appointments to the Historic Preservation Commission
8. Order 27,936 - authorizing the revocation of an Outdoor Dining Lease Agreement, originally approved on October 21, 2025, by Order 27,868 between the Mayor and City Council and Uncle Jack's Pizzeria and Pub Inc., at the request of the Allegany County Liquor Board, effective 30 days from this date
9. Order 27,937 - approving the sole source purchase of garage door replacements at the Municipal Service Center and Public Safety Building from Overhead Door in the not to exceed cost of \$87,249

10. Order 27,938 - accepting the proposal from CUES, Inc., for the purchase and installation of GraniteNET Asset Inspection and Decision Support software in the City CCTV truck and office in an amount not to exceed \$35,000
11. Order 27,939 - accepting the bid from Carl Belt, Inc., for the Mechanic Street and Harrison Street Intersection Improvements Project (City Project 2024-06-PVG) in the amount not to exceed \$384,597 and rejecting all other bids received for this project

VI. Public Comments

Michael Mudge spoke of Ruth Davis-Rogers and noted her contribution to the City and the work she has done with Historic Preservation.

VII. Adjournment

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

Minutes approved on January 20, 2026

Raymond M. Morriss, Mayor

ATTEST: Allison K. Layton, City Clerk