



# 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 S. Cohen  
City Clerk Allison K. Layton

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## Mayor and City Council of Cumberland

### WORK SESSION

City Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room  
57 N. Liberty Street  
Cumberland, MD 21502  
Tuesday, May 19, 2026; 5:30 pm

**PRESENT:** Mayor Raymond M. Morriss; Council Members: Richard J. "Rock" Cioni, Eugene Frazier, James Furstenberg, and Brian Lepley

**ALSO PRESENT:** Jeffrey F. Silka, City Administrator; Allison Layton, City Clerk; Michael Cohen, City Solicitor

Media: Hannah Fout from WCBC, and Theresa McMinn from Cumberland Times News  
Members of the public

#### **I. LEGISLATIVE ACTION REQUEST**

Mr. Silka began the discussion from the previous meeting regarding the City's pursuit of statewide legislation and the Mayor's and City Council's approval to request a Legislative Action Request be sent to the Maryland Municipal League regarding the following:

1. For the control of motorized bikes and scooters operating within traffic.  
Currently, there is limited regulation on vehicles under 50cc, and the

Ordinance in place only prohibits their use on sidewalks. In the meantime, a task force is being formed to enforce compliance on our existing Ordinance.

2. The FAMLI Act is going to cost the City around \$84K a year for employees beginning January 1, 2027. The program is available after one year of accumulation and withholds 0.04% from the employee. The suggestion is to ask MML to support legislation that would allow Local Governments who already offer a substantial leave package to be exempted from the FAMLI leave program, or have the option to opt out.

All of the Council Members agreed to the Legislative Action Requests. They will be on the next agenda for approval.

## **II. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FEES AND EMPLOYMENT COMMITMENTS**

Mr. Silka noted that currently only the Police Department requires professional development commitments upon hiring. Fire Department academy training costs between \$10 K and \$ 15K, excluding gear and internal training. The department lost 11 employees from 2020 to 2024, with nine leaving within two years and one after receiving EMT certification. To safeguard our investment in training employees in every department, we suggest implementing an MOU to ensure it's not just a training opportunity to take the credentials somewhere else.

## **III. CITY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES**

- Melinda Kelleher will attend the next meeting to explain the new Main Street setup, which consists of a stand-alone 501 (c) (3). It will consist of a board not appointed by the Council, which will include a Council liaison.
- June 8, 2026, is the deadline for the parade registration.
- The partnership with the University of MD athletic department will reconvene in the future due to personnel changes.

## **IV. REVIEW OF THE PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA OF MAY 5, 2026**

Mr. Silka reviewed some topics for clarification:

Order No. 6 refers to Perfect Reflections' proposal for downtown cleaning for the DDC.

Order No. 12 refers to the transition from Legit Health and the establishment of a contract with GBS Benefits to act as the City's healthcare managers for the upcoming year.

**V. MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL UPDATES**

- Ty Johnson's football camp was well attended.
- The day of Sharing and Caring was attended by 505 volunteers and 55 projects
- Downtown Delfest event from 6:00 PM-9:30 PM on Centre Street
- Farmer's Market is every Thursday from 9:30 AM-1:00 PM

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business at hand, the meeting adjourned at 5:57 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Allison K. Layton  
City Clerk

Minutes approved on June 2, 2026