



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

Mayor and City Council of Cumberland

WORK SESSION

City Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room
57 N. Liberty Street
Cumberland, MD 21502
Tuesday, April 7, 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; Deputy Chief Pearce; Chief Adams; and Shannon Berry, Assistant to the City Clerk.

Media: Hannah Fout from WCBC.

I. PARTNERSHIP WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND FOOTBALL

Mr. Silka proposed a partnership with the University of Maryland to potentially offer additional activities funded by ticket sales, with no financial commitment required. The partnership would include hosting a "Cumberland Day" at Maryland's opening football game on Labor Day weekend. This initiative seeks to enhance community support and ultimately bring practice games to the city. All Council members agreed to the partnership.

II. CITY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES

- **250th Celebration Parade:** Scheduled for **Saturday, June 27**, currently has 13 confirmed units. Downtown will be closed from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM to host various activities, including food trucks, a DJ, and a festival-like atmosphere.
- **Sports Center Feasibility Study:** An RFP for a consultant to study the feasibility of a sports center is being released. The project is funded by a \$63,000 grant and a \$30,000 city match, and the study is expected to take approximately six months.
- **Historic Preservation:** A candidate has been selected for a second interview for the Historic Preservation Planner position.

III. REVIEW OF THE PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA OF APRIL 7, 2026

- **Bicycle Regulations:** Ordinance 4048 was introduced to ban bicycles from sidewalks as part of updated city bike regulations.
- **Open Container:** Order # 27,970 pertains to the Gatsby Gala event being held on April 26, 2026.
- **Parade Route:** Order 27,973 pertains to defining a designated route through the city.
- **Interim Chief:** Order 27,981 pertains to a designated point of contact as Chief Adams makes his transition to retirement.

IV. MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL UPDATES

- 250th Parade fliers are available for distribution.
- The Easter Egg Hunt was successful, and the relocation to the Mason's Sports Complex resulted in a safer layout.
- The Skatepark is still successful and well-maintained. A request was received for beverage vending.
- Let's Beautify Cumberland's Day of Sharing and Caring event will be held on May 15, 2026. The City has been asked to consider being a \$5K sponsor for gloves and vests.

With no further business at hand, the meeting adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allison K. Layton

City Clerk

Minutes approved on April 21, 2026



Closed Session Minutes

City Hall, 57 N. Liberty Street, Cumberland, MD 21502
2nd Floor Conference Room
Tuesday, April 7, 2026; 5:00 p.m.

On April 7, 2026, the Mayor and City Council met in public session beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the 2nd floor Conference Room of City Hall for the purpose of immediately closing the to discuss matters related to the recruitment of a new Fire Chief and to receive legal advice from the City Solicitor relative to the availability of a particular tax credit. Authority to close the session is provided by Sections 3-305(b)(1)(i) and (b)(7) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

MOTION: Motion to enter into Closed Session was made by Council Member Furstenberg seconded by Council Member Cioni, and was passed on a vote of 5-0.

PRESENT: Raymond M. Morriss, President; Council Members Richard “Rock” Cioni, Jimmy Furstenberg, Eugene Frazier, and Brian Lepley

ALSO PRESENT: Jeffrey F. Silka, City Administrator; Allison K. Layton, City Clerk; Michael Cohen, Solicitor; Ken Tressler, Director of Administrative Services; and Shannon Berry, Assistant to the City Clerk.