



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, February 3, 2026; 5:15 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; Robert Smith, City Engineer.

Media: Hannah Fout from WCBC, Theresa McMinn from Cumberland Times News

Public: John Cody Readd

I. DISCUSSION ON THE PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY PERMITS

Mr. Silka advised that any time a right-of-way is blocked, a permit is required from Community Development. With more construction downtown, dumpsters and construction vehicles are taking up parking spots for extended periods, which is adversely affecting customer traffic and parking.

At this time, there is no fee for a Right of Way permit, and the recommendation is to implement a fee moving forward. The breakdown for a non-metered space would be \$25 a week, \$100 a month, and no charge for day use. For a time-metered zone, the breakdown would be \$8 a day, \$40 a week, or \$160 a month. All of the Council members agree to implement the fee.

II. CITY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES

Mr. Silka provided an update on the June 27, 2026, parade in celebration of the Country's 250th anniversary. Also, a Meeting with businesses to begin efforts on Virginia Avenue will take place when the weather is more favorable.

III. REVIEW OF THE PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA OF FEBRUARY 3, 2026

Order No. 4 refers to a parking agreement with the Wills Hotel for 25 spaces and accompanying reserved parking signage in the Frederick Street garage.

IV. MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL UPDATES

- Parks and Recreation conducted a survey on park usage that also asked about the types of amenities, activities, and facilities citizens would like to see made available. The survey received 164 responses, which were shared with Council. Sponsors for the scoreboard at Bowers Field are still needed.
- The Skatepark entrance sign has been installed. Frisbee golf is under consideration, cameras are being installed at Mason's Sports Complex, and a newsletter for park events is in progress.

With no further business at hand, the meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allison K. Layton
City Clerk

Minutes approved on February 17, 2026



Closed Session Minutes

City Hall, 57 N. Liberty Street, Cumberland, MD 21502

2nd Floor Conference Room

Tuesday, February 3, 2026; 4:45 p.m.

On February 3, 2026, the Mayor and City Council met in public session beginning at 4:45 p.m. in the 2nd floor Conference Room of City Hall for the purpose of immediately closing the meeting to receive the advice of the City Solicitor regarding pending litigation against PFAS manufacturers, distributors and vendors and the retention of counsel for representation in the litigation. Authority to close the session is provided by Section 3-305(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 Frazier 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; and Michael Cohen; Solicitor; Robert Smith; City Engineer, and Michael Stag; Litigation Attorney