



Mayor and City Council of Cumberland

Mayor Raymond M. Morriss
Councilman Richard J. "Rock" Cioni
Councilman Eugene T. Frazier
Councilman James L. Furstenberg
Councilwoman Laurie P. Marchini

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

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WORK SESSION

City Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room
57 N. Liberty Street
Cumberland, MD 21502

Tuesday, December 17, 2024; 5:30 pm

PRESENT: Mayor Raymond M. Morriss; Council Members: Richard Cioni, Eugene Frazier (Absent), James Furstenberg, Laurie Marchini.

ALSO PRESENT: Jeffrey F. Silka, City Administrator; Allison Layton, City Clerk; Michael Cohen; City Solicitor; Dave Caporale; County Commissioner.

Media: Teresa McMinn, Cumberland Times-News and Hannah Fout, WCBC

I. REVIEW OF THE PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA OF DECEMBER 17, 2024

- Mayor Morriss inquired about the Downtown Development Commission (DDC) Committee recognition and it was noted that the Baltimore Street Committee should have been included on the list.
- Mayor Morriss also thanked Councilwoman Marchini for all of her contributions on the Baltimore Street Committee.
- Inquiry about No. 5 on the Orders; Mr. Silka advised it was for a renewal.
- Councilwoman Marchini asked to pull No. 4 on the Orders as she will not be voting on it.
- Discussion took place among the Councilmembers regarding the Baltimore Street parking situation. A suggestion was made for an option to pay without an App and it was advised the City would have to buy all new Kiosks.
- Mr. Silka updated about No. 1 on the Orders, advising this is referring to budget appropriations and clean up from the audit. He went over funds for various

departments and explained the use of funds. The Comptroller will assign \$1M to the unassigned fund balance for Capital Projects and equipment.

- No. 7 is awarding an increment to the Choose Cumberland Relocation Program.
- No. 8 for the National Historic Register is referring to the State required National Historic update with grant funding.
- No. 9 refers to properties the City has acquired and will now be surplus for sale.

II. MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL UPDATES

- This past weekend's Winter Festival was very successful and was enjoyed by all, Melinda Kelleher did a great job putting it together.
- NYE celebration will be 10:30-Midnight, streets will be closed and open container will be in effect. The Cas Taylor bridge will be closed for Fireworks at 9:00 PM. Santa will be at the Rosenbaum building and Mezzo's, so it is one last opportunity for Breakfast with Santa this Saturday.
- The DDC received a \$25K Main Street grant for 2024 & 2025 that has been allocated. Melinda has met with the CTF to discuss funding opportunities for maintenance for the new streetscape. National Main Street certification is due the end of January.
- The Order on the Agenda for the Historic District registry that is required, has not been done since 1978, buildings not eligible at that time are now eligible for a tax credit. Since January 2022, \$7-10M has been allocated to the downtown area.
- Wayfinding will be requesting a consultation in January.
- With restructuring of the DDC, many Main Street Committee members deserve recognition. Please thank Larry Jackson and Sandi Saville for all of their efforts they have contributed.
- Meetings with several school groups have brought to light their concerns with the homeless people and the care given at nursing homes.
- Tomorrow morning at 8:30 AM is the ceremony for Fort Hill and Unified football teams.
- Mayor Morriss expressed his gratitude to all Councilmembers for all of their hard work this year and the 6 years that Lauire has contributed to the City.
- A meeting with the revolving loan applications was held and if approved, monies will be repaid to start building up for small business loans

III. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business at hand, the meeting adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allison K. Layton
City Clerk

Minutes approved on January 7, 2025