



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, January 7, 2025; 5:15 pm

PRESENT: Mayor Raymond M. Morriss; Council Members: Richard Cioni, Eugene Frazier, James Furstenberg, Brian Lepley.

ALSO PRESENT: Jeffrey F. Silka, City Administrator; Allison Layton, City Clerk; Chief Ternent

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

Becky McLaren

I. REVIEW OF THE PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA OF JANUARY 7, 2025

Mayor Morriss discussed the three people receiving employee milestone awards and reviewed the agenda with the Councilmembers.

In regards to Order No. 27,616, Councilman Furstenberg suggested implementing a 15 – minute gap to allow for free parking for quick visits into a business. The ParkMobile App operates in 15- minute increments, so the first 15 minutes would be free and the second would be \$1. A suggestion was made in regards to the enforcement officers and ensuring they are well trained to use the App and are able to provide assistance to anyone in need of using the App.

Officers are only monitoring during business hours (8:00 AM-4:00 PM) and special events so for those visiting an establishment for dinner, there would be no fee charged. Mayor Morriss updated that for those who do not use the App there are other parking options available as always on Centre Street, the George Street parking garage and Merchant’s Alley.

Mr. Silka updated that the currently installed Kiosks will not be replaced, they will be converted to ParkMobile due to the cost of operation. ParkMobile also has a number available for those who cannot access the app or use the QR code to pay.

A concern with the \$2 per hour charge is that of locals returning back to patron businesses again. It was observed on more than 1 occasion, the same cars being parked for 8 hours or more, so the issue exists and needs addressed. Implementing enforcement without a time limit or fee will be difficult. Charging a fee is the enforcement mechanism, ParkMobile can monitor time by license plate.

It was mentioned providing informative awareness to help with parking such as a Facebook announcement as well as signage for downtown businesses to assist customers as well. ParkMobile assigns the customer a zone in the area they have secured their vehicle. Once the 2 hours has lapsed, the customer cannot park in that zone for 30 minutes.

A discussion took place among all Council concerning the pros and cons of all of the mentioned ideas as well as the 30 minutes of lapsed time.

It was suggested and agreed that Order No 27,616 would remain on the table and a revised Order be drafted to include the 15 minute and 30- minute time restraints.

Mr. Silka provided information for Order No. 27,631 the amended Tolling Agreement with CSX and explained that the agreement stops time to allow for negotiations.

Order No. 27,628 is for the Playground at Constitution Park.

Order No. 27,623 is for a \$10,000 Micro- Revolving loan for the Queen City Creamery.

II. MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL UPDATES

All agreed that New Year's Eve was a great turnout.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business at hand, the meeting adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allison K. Layton
City Clerk

Minutes approved on January 21, 2025

Mayor and City Council of Cumberland

Closed Session Minutes

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

2nd Floor Conference Room

Tuesday, January 7, 2025; 5:15 p.m.

On January 7, 2025, the Mayor and City Council met in closed session at 5:15 p.m. in the 2nd Floor Conference Room in City Hall for the purpose of immediately closing the meeting discuss Board and Commission appointments. Authority to close the session is provided by Section 3-305(b)(1) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

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

PRESENT: Raymond M. Morriss, President; Council Members Richard Cioni, Jimmy Furstenberg, Brian Lepley and Eugene Fraizer

ALSO PRESENT: Jeffrey F. Silka, City Administrator; Allison K. Layton, City Clerk