



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 Scott Cohen
City Clerk Allison K. Layton

MINUTES

M&CC Regular Public Meeting
57 N. Liberty Street, Cumberland, MD 21502

DATE: June 3, 2025

I. OPEN SESSION – 6:15 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

PRESENT:

Council Member Richard J. "Rock" Cioni (Absent)
Council Member Eugene T. Frazier
Council Member James L. Furstenberg, III
Council Member Brian R. Lepley
President Raymond M. Morriss,

Also Present: Jeffrey F. Silka, City Administrator; Allison K. Layton, City Clerk; Chief Adams; Chief Ternent

IV. Statement of Closed Meeting

The Mayor and City Council of Cumberland will meet in public session beginning at 4:30 p.m. in the 2nd floor Conference Room of City Hall on Tuesday, June 3, 2025 for the purpose of immediately closing the meeting to discuss issues pertaining to an employee's work performance. Authority to close the session is provided by Section 3-305(b)(1)(i) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

V. Presentations

1. A presentation from the City's Environmental Specialist surrounding updates & information regarding Curbside Recycling

Raquel Kettermann discussed the changes being implemented in the current trash and recycling program. She provided a handout detailing these changes and announced that new recycling trucks will be available in August. Co-mingled recycling will be collected on the first trash pickup day, while paper recycling will be picked up on the second trash pickup day. Additionally, trash will no longer be collected from the recycling bins.

Raquel explained that co-mingled recycling includes plastics (1, 2, 4, 5, and 7), glass bottles and jars, aluminum cans, steel cans, and only food or beverage containers with a maximum size of 2 gallons and a minimum size of 2 inches.

She discussed various issues observed throughout the county, including co-mingled recycling and mixed paper recycling. In the future, these items will be tagged and left behind for correction. Stickers will be placed on items that are not picked up to indicate the error.

Mixed paper and cardboard must be broken down, bundled, and secured. Packing materials that come inside boxes should not be recycled with the boxes. Once the new trucks are in operation, the previous limit of 24X24 inches will no longer apply; slightly larger items will be acceptable unless otherwise specified.

Recycling goes to the Burgmeier recycling center in Altoona for separation, and mixed paper goes to PennMar, where it is prepared for the broker to be sent to the mills.

VI. Directors Reports

Motion to approve the reports was made by Council Member Frazier, seconded by Council Member Furstenberg, and was passed on a vote of 4-0

(A) Police Department

1. Police Department Monthly Report for April 2025

VII. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Council Member Furstenberg, seconded by Council Member Lepley, and was passed on a vote of 4-0

1. Approving the Closed Session Minutes, Open Work Session Minutes, and Regular Session Minutes of May 20, 2025

VIII. Public Comments for Agenda Items Only

All public comments are limited to 5 minutes per person

Harvey May – spoke to the Mayor and City Council Members regarding the garbage Ordinance and noted that the Constitution provides freedom of speech and the Bill of Rights. He added that at the second reading, an amendment can be made, but if it is passed, liberty and justice for some. Senior citizens will still be subsidizing the cost of garbage.

IX. Unfinished Business

(A) Ordinances

1. Ordinance 4009 *2nd and 3rd readings*) - providing for the City Tax Levy for FY26

SECOND READING: Motion to accept the second reading was made by Council Member Furstenberg, seconded by Council Member Lepley, and was passed on a vote of 4-0.

Mayor Morriss called for questions or comments. Being none, the ordinance was moved to its third reading.

THIRD READING: The ordinance was submitted in title only for its third reading and was passed on a vote of 4-0.

2. Ordinance 4010 (*2nd & 3rd readings*) - providing for the annual expenditure appropriation for the FY26 General Fund

SECOND READING: Motion to accept the second reading was made by Council Member Frazier, seconded by Council Member Lepley, and was passed on a vote of 4-0.

Mayor Morriss called for questions or comments. Being none, the ordinance was moved to its third reading.

THIRD READING: The ordinance was submitted in title only for its third reading and was passed on a vote of 4-0.

3. Ordinance 4011 (*2nd & 3rd readings*) - providing for the annual expenditure appropriation for the FY26 Sewer Fund

SECOND READING: Motion to accept the second reading was made by Council Member Lepley, seconded by Council Member Frazier, and was passed on a vote of 4-0.

Mayor Morriss called for questions or comments. Being none, the ordinance was moved to its third reading.

THIRD READING: The ordinance was submitted in title only for its third reading and was passed on a vote of 4-0.

4. Ordinance 4012 (*2nd & 3rd readings*) - providing for the annual expenditure appropriation for the FY26 Special Purpose Funds

SECOND READING: Motion to accept the second reading was made by Council Member Furstenberg, seconded by Council Member Frazier, and was passed on a vote of 4-0. Mayor Morriss called for questions or comments. Being none, the ordinance was moved to its third reading.

THIRD READING: The ordinance was submitted in title only for its third reading and was passed on a vote of 4-0.

5. Ordinance 4013 (*2nd & 3rd readings*) - providing for the annual expenditure appropriation for the FY26 Water Fund

SECOND READING: Motion to accept the second reading was made by Council Member Frazier, seconded by Council Member Furstenberg, and was passed on a vote of 4-0. Mayor Morriss called for questions or comments. Being none, the ordinance was moved to its third reading.

THIRD READING: The ordinance was submitted in title only for its third reading and was passed on a vote of 4-0.

6. Ordinance 4014 (*2nd & 3rd readings*) - providing for an increase in refuse collection rates effective July 1, 2025

SECOND READING: Motion to accept the second reading was made by Council Member Lepley, seconded by Council Member Frazier, and was passed on a vote of 4-0. Mayor Morriss called for questions or comments. Being none, the ordinance was moved to its third reading.

THIRD READING: The ordinance was submitted in title only for its third reading and was passed on a vote of 4-0.

X. New Business

(A) Ordinances

1. Ordinance 4015 (*1st reading*) - providing for an increase in water rates effective July 1, 2025

FIRST READING: The ordinance was submitted in title only for its first reading. Motion to approve the first reading and table until next meeting was made by Council Member Furstenberg, seconded by Council Member Lepley, and was passed on a vote of 4-0.

(B) Orders (Consent Agenda)

Mayor Morriss reviewed a new item to be added to the Consent Agenda. Motion to approve the addition of the item to the Consent Agenda was made by Council Member Frazier, seconded by Council Member Furstenberg, and was passed on a vote of 4-0.

1. Order 27,734 - lifting the provisions of Section 11-113 of the City Code to allow open containers of alcohol within a defined area of the downtown for the Celebration of Live event honoring Barb Buehl on June 7, 2025 from 7:00 PM to 11:59 PM; notwithstanding, that open glass containers shall not be permitted

(C) Orders (Consent Agenda)

Mr. Silka reviewed each item on the Consent Agenda and Mayor Morriss called for questions or comments. **Motion** to approve each item was made by Council Member Lepley, seconded by Council Member Furstenberg, and was passed on a vote of 4-0.

1. Order 27,727 - approving Substantial Amendment #1 4112025 to reprogram \$82,398.32 from activities affecting the 2022, 2023 and 2024 Community Development Block Grant Annual Action Plans
2. Order 27,728 - rescinding Order No. 24,207 originally approved on May 31, 2005 and adopting the Dumpster Permit rate of \$60 for a twelve month permit, to be effective July 1, 2025
3. Order 27,729 - authorizing the execution of an Outdoor Dining Lease Agreement with JZ's Pub LLC for the use of the public right of way immediately in front of and adjacent to the property for outside cafe dining for a term effective June 3, 2025 through May 31, 2026
4. Order 27,730 - authorizing the Mayor to execute a three-year Collective Bargaining Agreement with the United Food and Commercial Workers Local 1994 (Police), as ratified by UFCW 1994 on May 19, 2025, for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028
5. Order 27,731 - accepting the proposal from Tyler Technologies for the renewal of the LOGOS.net Finance/HR/time and attendance system support and maintenance contract for a one year term through June 30, 2026 at a cost not to exceed \$91,289.07
6. Order 27,732 - Declaring 315 Bond Street to be surplus property to offer for sale
7. Order 27, 733- approving the hourly rate increase for the City Solicitor Michael Cohen to \$185 per hour effective July 1, 2025
8. Order 27,734 - lifting the provisions of Section 11-113 of the City Code to allow open containers of alcohol within a defined area of the downtown for the Celebration of Live event honoring Barb Buehl on June 7, 2025

from 7:00 PM to 11:59 PM; notwithstanding, that open glass containers shall not be permitted

XIII. Public Comments

All public comments are limited to 5 minutes per person.

Rich Godlove addressed the Council Members and informed them of his residency in the area and his employment with the CPD from 1994 to 2000. He then went on to work for the Bureau of Prisons until 2022. His background includes being a business owner, a chief security officer for internal affairs at Frostburg State University and Allegany College of Maryland, and the owner of Zen Shi in Frostburg.

He has raised his family in the community and knows what our community needs, so he has announced that he is running for Sheriff in the 2026 election and is asking for support.

Dana Tinnen- left

Dean Devic addressed the Council regarding construction in his neighborhood, Prospect Square, located behind the Courthouse, and the last of the neighborhood's residential parking spaces being taken away by the Courthouse. No notice was given to any of the residents of this happening, and his concern is that all of the buildings will no longer be viewed as valuable to rent or buy due to not having parking. His research indicates that this issue is occurring in other regions as well, where courthouses are taking over public parking.

Mayor Morriss thanked Dean and advised that the City of Cumberland did not install the signage, and the matter would be addressed.

XI. Adjournment

With no further business at hand, the meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Minutes approved on June 17, 2025

Raymond M. Morriss, Mayor

ATTEST: Allison K. Layton, City Clerk