

**CITY OF NEW CARROLLTON MINUTES
COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2022**

The Council Workshop Meeting was held at 7:00 p.m., on Wednesday, March 2, 2022, as a virtual meeting. In attendance was Chairperson Cynthia DB Mills; Councilmembers Katrina R. Dodro Allyne Hooks; Sarah Potter-Robbins and Briana Urbina; Mayor Phelecia Nembhard; City Administrative Officer Latasha Gatling; Assistant City Administrative Officer Michael McMahon; HR Director Cynthia Johnson; Director of Public Works Andre Triplett; Information Technology Administrator Andrew Facey; Chief of Police David Rice; and City Clerk Robinson Brown .

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Mills asked everyone to take thirty seconds for the war victims in Ukraine. Chairperson Mills then welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

2. REPORT OF THE MAYOR AND ADMINISTRATION

Mayor Nembhard started the meeting with Chief David Rice. He mentioned that he had sent an email to everyone regarding the gentleman whose life was lost due to a fatal car accident. He did not release his name as he had not yet notified the family. Chief Rice then provided the January and February Stats.

Director of Public Works Andre Triplett was called to give his report. He began by stating that the Clear Water Partnership installed the handrails on the bridge located on Carrollton Parkway. He's now waiting for a date to be given to open the bridge. Public works has begun filling potholes in the city with temporary filling repair and will be doing a permanent repair in the near future (within a month or two). Public works is slowly dismantling snow equipment. All equipment will be serviced and stored. The Community Gardens will be tilled and water tanks will be serviced.

Mr. Triplett then gave the following stats: Senior Van service had 43 riders in February; Bulk Pick-Ups had in December and 189 in January; Sump Discharges 3 in February; Trees trimmed 0 in February; Trees removed 0 in February; Vehicles in for service 17 in February; Pot-holes filled 0 in February.

City Administrative Officer Latasha Gatling stated that we are still working on the budget and should have it completed on schedule by March 30th, 2022. Ms. Gatling also informed everyone that we are two or three weeks out from having the new phone system implemented. We're also working on a few different grants for the city. She, the mayor, and chief had the first round of negotiations with the FOP. She also included a report from Information Technology on the last page. Ms. Gatling also informed everyone that they should be receiving a flyer soon about when we will be distributing COVID test kits and masks to families in the city.

Mayor Nembhard wished all the women on the call a "Happy women's month." She then thanked Andre Triplett for the update on the bridge. She addressed the speeding in the city

and expressed her concerns for pedestrians in the city. Mayor Nembhard thanked all residents who responded to the city's survey.

3. COUNCIL QUESTIONS/COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson Mills introduced the city's new HR Director, Ms. Cynthia Johnson.

Chief Rice informed every one of the complaints he received about the orange cones in the city and that he and his department will begin enforcing the Commercial Vehicle Rule.

Mr. Triplett responded that Public Works has swept the entire City and all cones have been removed.

Chairperson Mills then asked the Council if they have questions or comments.

Councilmember Hooks wished Chairperson Mills a speedy recovery and Councilmember Potter-Robbins a continued speedy recovery.

Councilmember Hooks sent best wishes to Councilmember Dodro's mother and daughter.

Councilmember Hooks sent condolences on behalf of the council to the elderly gentleman who lost his life in the city.

Councilmember Hooks addressed the grammatical error found in the previous report and requested clarification on the term "City staff."

Assistant City Administrative Officer, Michael McMahon chimed in to clarify.

Councilmember Urbina thanked all who supported and help her family as she returned home after having her baby.

Councilmember Urbina asked Chief Rice about the carjacking incident that occurred in the city.

Chief Rice informed her that they were working with the Task Force and that the person(s) involved were apprehended.

Councilmember Dodro thanked everyone who had asked and expressed concern for her family.

Councilmember Dodro asked Andre Triplett about the dead trees that were exposed during the snow storm and needed to be removed. He informed her that the city is going to remove them within a week.

Councilmember Dodro asked the Chief about the funding for the new Youth Task Force. She also wanted to know if the monies and/or resources were being shared with other municipalities? He replied yes and proceeded to explain the program and its mission. Chief Rice then provided an update about the carjacking that took place in the city, stating that it took place at the condominiums in the Fountain Club apartment community.

Councilmember Dodro addressed the advertisement that was placed in the Constant Contact eNewsletter, stating that it needed to be removed as it is for Prince George's County residents, not New Carrollton residents.

4. 6000 HARLAND STREET AS COMMUNITY CENTER REVIEW

Chairperson Mills initiated the discussion inquiring about the survey that was given to the residents. Mr. McMahon gave a brief history of the property followed by the results of the survey. The results indicated that most of the residents were in support of a community center with a pool.

Councilmember Potter-Robbins was in favor of the idea.

Councilmember Hooks was in favor of the Community Center, but not the pool.

Councilmember Urbina was in favor of the Community Center.

Councilmember Dodro was in favor of the Community Center.

5. ARPA UPDATE DISCUSSION

Mr. McMahon provided an update for the American Rescue Plan Act.

Chairperson Mills asked if the ARPA fund would allow the city to place trash cans on some of the main streets in New Carrollton?

Mr. McMahon responded that it falls under general government services, so yes it would.

6. ANNEXATION PLAN DISCUSSION

Mr. McMahon briefly discussed the history of Annexation in the City of New Carrollton. He provided the results of his research as well as his recommendations for future Annexation endeavors.

Councilmember Potter-Robbins had no comment.

Councilmember Hooks asked if the Annexation included the Shopping Center on Annapolis Road?

Mr. McMahon responded: No, it is not.

Councilmember Urbina stated that she supports the Annexation, but wanted to know more about the process.

Councilmember Dodro stated that she was in favor of reaching out to the property owners again, but offering a 3–5 year tax credit instead of a 10 year tax abatement for Annexation.

Mayor Nembhard offered some suggestions and emphasized that some businesses expressed interest in becoming part of New Carrollton, and how they too could benefit from the Annexation.

7. AUDIO VISUAL ROOM RFP UPDATE/RECOMMENDATION

Andrew Facey reiterated that the City issued a Request-For-Proposals to redesign the Municipal Center Audio Visual Room. Three proposals were received. AVI was the low bidder but staff determined their proposal was unresponsive to the RFP. Staff is recommending Wiser AV at \$58,680 with an annual maintenance fee of \$6,360.

Chairperson Mills shared what she had witnessed when she toured the Audio Visual Room and agreed that the current situation has to be rectified.

Councilmember Hooks suggested that we have more than one technician come in to assess the situation and salvage the equipment that can still be of use.

Councilmember Urbina was unsure, but much more inclined to spend the PEG funds after seeing the photos of the Audio Visual Room.

Councilmember Dodro was in favor of using the PEG funds to update the Audio Visual Room.

8. CURBSIDE PICK-UP

Chairperson Mills discussed curbside pick-up after being presented with the amount of money it is costing the city for employees injured as a result of picking up trash from the backyards of city residents.

Councilmember Urbina was not in favor of curbside pick-up.

Councilmember Dodro was not in favor of curbside pick-up.

9. MEETING MINUTES

a.) Council Workshop Meeting Minutes (February 2, 2022)

b.) Council Workshop Meeting Minutes (February 14, 2022)

c.) Council Legislative Meeting Minutes (February 16, 2022)

No discussion.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT - RESIDENTS' CONCERNS, AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION AND TELEPHONE CALLS

Pamela Lucky of 6406 Kaslo informed the council that is trying to get more of her neighbors involved with the meetings, and the mayor and council are doing a great job.

11. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No discussion.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Councilmember Urbina moved to adjourn the Council Workshop Meeting of Wednesday, March 2, 2022. Seconded by Councilmember Hooks. The motion was approved (3-0-0).

The meeting ended at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robinson Brown

City Clerk

Adopted by the City Council on April 20, 2022.

Note: The official recording of the City of New Carrollton's Council Workshop Meeting of Wednesday, March 2, 2022, has been posted to the City of New Carrollton's website.