

**CITY OF NEW CARROLLTON MINUTES  
COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2023, 7:00 P.M.**

The Council Legislative Meeting was held at 7:00 p.m., on Wednesday, March 15, 2023, as a virtual meeting. Attending were Councilmembers Cynthia DB Mills; Lincoln H.G. Lashley, Katrina R. Dodro, and Briana Urbina, (Allyne Hooks was absent); Mayor Phelecia Nembhard; Chief David G. Rice; Information Technology Administrator Andrew Facey; Lorna Grant-Charles, Director of Finance & Accounting and City Clerk Araceli Guzman-Benitez.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Mills called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**2. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

Chairperson Mills asked if everyone received their candidate certification letter.

Councilmember Lashley stated that he did not received his; City Clerk Araceli explained that Councilmember Lashley was not in the list of the first seven candidates to be reviewed by the Board of Elections and Ethics Commission.

Chairperson Mills addressed Councilmember Dodro in reference to resident complaints. She spoke about parking issues within the city.

**3. MEETING MINUTES**

- a.) Council Workshop/Special Legislative Meeting Minutes (February 1, 2023)
- b.) Council Special Workshop Meeting Minutes (February 8, 2023)
- c.) Council Legislative Meeting Minutes (February 15, 2023)

Motion: Chairperson Mills moved that the City Council approve the following minutes: (Council Workshop/Special Legislative Meeting, February 1, 2023); (Council Special Workshop Meeting, February 8, 2023), and (Council Legislative Meeting, February 15, 2023).  
**The minutes were not approved.**

**4. COUNCIL QUESTIONS/COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS PERTAINING TO INFORMATION THAT WILL BENEFIT THE RESIDENTS OF NEW CARROLLTON**

Chairperson Mills open the floor for the topic.

Councilmember Lashley encourages all residents to attend the multicultural event at Beckett Field on April 8, 2023; Councilmember Urbina addressed concerns of the uptick of crime in the community; shots were fired near her home; she encourages residents to report crime; any tips can be sent directly to Chief Rice; Chairperson Mills encouraged children to report any suspicious activity; lots of things happening at the schools; Councilmember Dodro stated that the County Council has passed one year moratorium short-term bill for one year; there is a bill passed last year of senior citizen home owners can apply for a discounted rate for residential process; visit the County's tax site to find more information: she requested to Human Resources to provide a list of all the different positions that staff hold currently; Finance to

provide a list of the categories with definitions.

Chief Rice discussed briefly crimes happening in the city.

**5. BUDGET: INTRODUCTION OF BUDGET ORDINANCE**

Chairperson Mills open the floor for the topic.

Lorna Grant-Charles, Director of Finance conducted the discussion of the introduction of the budget ordinance; a discussion followed, Councilmember Lashley asked for an explanation of the goal with the contingency reserve; Councilmember requested information that is more detailed.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**6. 6000 HARLAND STREET**

Motion: Chairperson Mills moved that the City Council of the City of New Carrollton approve the Construction of a Skate Park and other buildings around it, which was not in here. Councilmember Lashley seconded the motion and requested more in detail information. A discussion followed. Chairperson Mills stated that they need to add more buildings around it. Councilmember Dodro requested further information. A feasibility study was mentioned. Urbina seconded the motion **to table the topic, which will be discussed again in April**. The motion passed **(3-1-0)**.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**7. EMERGENCY REPLACEMENT OF THE COOLING TOWER AT THE MUNICIPAL CENTER**

Chairperson Mills open the floor for the topic.

Motion: Chairperson Mills moved that the City Council of the City of New Carrollton approve the replacement of the cooling tower at the Municipal Center in the amount totaling \$69,400.00 for equipment and scope of work. Councilmember Lashley seconded the motion. A discussion followed. **The motion failed (1-3-0)**.

**8. MUNICIPAL CENTER SOLAR INSTALLATION**

Motion: Councilmember Urbina moved that the City Council of the City of New Carrollton approve Hyperion, Inc. (Hyperion), as the contractor to design and install solar panels and related equipment at its Municipal Center for \$330,789.38. Councilmember Lashley seconded the motion. A discussion followed. **The motion failed (1-3-0)**.

**9. BIDS TO APPROVE THE AUDITOR COMPANY TO SERVE THE CITY OF NEW CARROLLTON FY2023 TO 2025**

Motion: Chairperson Mills moved that the City Council of the City of New Carrollton choose the \_\_\_\_\_ as the City Auditors for the City of New Carrollton FY2023 to FY2025. A discussion followed about money for a feasibility study, the question is where the money is. There are questions about the budget. **The motion failed (1-3-0)**.

**10. PROCLAMATION: CITY OF NEW CARROLLTONEARTH DAY**

Motion: Councilmember Mills moved that the Mayor and the City Council of New Carrollton proclaim April 22, 2023, as Earth Day in the City of New Carrollton. Councilmember Lashley seconded the motion. There was not a discussion. **The motions passed (3-1-0).**

**11. PROCLAMATION: CITY OF NEW CARROLLTON ARBOR DAY**

Motion: Councilmember Mills moved that the Mayor and the City Council of New Carrollton proclaim April 28, 2023, as Arbor Day in the City of New Carrollton. Councilmember Lashley Seconded the motion. There was not a discussion. **The motions passed (3-1-0).**

**12. COMMENTS ON PAID BILLS**

Please review the following list of bills:

Batch #1 (February 3, 2023); Batch # 2 (February 13, 2023); Batch #3 (February 22, 2023);  
Batch # 4 (February 13, 2023).

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

Chairperson Mills called the adjournment.

There being no further business, Chairperson Mills Closed the meeting at 8:33 pm.

The meeting ended at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Araceli Guzman-Benitez

*Araceli Guzman Benitez*

City Clerk

Adopted by the City Council on August 16, 2023.

Note: The official recording of the City of New Carrollton’s Council Legislative Meeting of Wednesday, March 15, 2023, has been posted to the City of New Carrollton’s website: [www.newcarrolltonmd.gov](http://www.newcarrolltonmd.gov).