

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
CITY OF NEW CARROLLTON
DECEMBER 1, 2025

Present were Councilmembers Duane H. Rosenberg, Cynthia Mills, Lincoln Lashley, Briana Urbina, and Agnelli Sybel Malavé; Mayor Phelecia E Nembhard, City Manager Maisha Williams, DPW Director William Barclay, Police Chief Linwood Alston, and City Clerk Kaitlyn Schisler.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council Chair Rosenberg in the Municipal Center, Room 230.

II. Get to Know your Councilmember

Councilmember Malavé began the series “Get to Know your Councilmember” which will highlight one councilmember per month. She presented a slide which detailed personal and professional information as an introduction to the public.

III. Public Comments

The following members of the public made comment:

- Jolene Ivy expressed strong concern about the council considering changes to the non-resident voting policy.
- Cynthia Poles-Suite raised concerns regarding financial oversight, focusing on the dormancy report. She questioned the need for four administrative cars.
- Marilyn Padmore stated that New Carrollton residents want conversations around the parameters and qualifications of non-citizen voting. She also asked for clarification on certain pieces of information from the Samsara dormancy report.
- David Lai advocated against revisiting the all-resident voting policy, noting that its implementation since last year has resulted in a smooth election.
- Councilmember Urbina reinforced the opposition to reopening the discussion on all resident voting, deeming it premature and irresponsible since the policy was passed less than a year ago with no identified administrative or logistical problems.
- Councilmember Lashley recommended tabling the agenda item, but confirmed his support for the resolution based on valuing the right to vote.
- Councilmember Mills clarified that the council is not trying to abolish all resident voting but wants to discuss updates to qualifications, such as the three-month residency requirement.
- Craig McLane expressed concern over the agenda item revisiting all-resident voting, noting that overturning legislation from previous officials is no way to run a government.
- Mayor Nembhard agreed the issue is controversial and has received calls both for and against it, stressing that the core issue for many residents is the process by which the decision was made.
- Chair Rosenberg summarized public comment emails including a request from Darlene Ward to reverse All Resident Voting. Cynthia Poles-Suite urged a referendum, expressing concern that short residency requirements allow temporary residents to vote. Laura Urbina opposed revisiting the policy, citing potential fear and instability for immigrant residents. Edgar Urena supported the all resident voting policy.

IV. Council Announcements

Council announcements included updates on potential school delays due to winter weather, and notices of upcoming community events, including a food giveaway on December 19 and the annual gingerbread contest at the Darnell Chance Historic Site and Museum. Scheduling matters were also discussed, including consideration of adjustments to the December 17 legislative meeting due to a scheduling conflict, as well as identification of an email vote that violated OMA requirements, and a reminder that elected officials are required to complete OMA training.

IV. Open Meetings Act Guidance

Councilmember Urbina gave a brief overview of the Open Meetings Act for the Council and Administration.

V. Request for Proposal RFP-NC-2026-3 Audit, Org Assess, Comp Study

The Council reviewed and discussed a draft RFP for a compensation study based on October council legislation, outlining an employee salary audit, organizational assessment, and compensation study. Council members provided feedback regarding timelines, task prioritization, clarification of deliverables, data privacy considerations, and inclusion of related resolutions as attachments. The draft RFP was shared for further review prior to submission to the City Manager and procurement.

VI. Budget Calendar

The Council discussed scheduling an all-day budget review meeting in advance of the March 30 budget submission deadline and emphasized the need to provide residents at least 7–10 days to review the proposed budget prior to a public hearing. Dates of April 25 and May 2 were considered, with a preference expressed for May 2 to allow additional review time.

VII. All Resident Voting-Current Council Perspectives

The Council discussed revisiting voter eligibility parameters, including residency and identification requirements, while affirming the intent not to reverse existing “all residents voting” legislation. Councilmember Urbina moved to table the discussion until Charles Davis (BOE Chair) could be present. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lashley. The motion did not pass. Councilmembers identified concerns with the current 30-day residency requirement and discussed potential refinements, including extended residency verification and identification standards. The Chair agreed to continue the discussion and work with a council member to draft proposed revisions for future consideration. Councilmember Urbina exited the meeting (8:46 pm).

VIII. Samsara Dormancy Report

The Council reviewed vehicle tracking and fleet reports, including administrative and police vehicles, and discussed mileage discrepancies, system data issues, and the status of totaled vehicles pending insurance reimbursement. The Police Chief outlined the use of police pool cars for operational needs and crime deterrence. Follow-up was requested on Samsara data inaccuracies, device issues, and a revised reporting format to support future budget decisions.

IX. Motion to Adjourn

Councilmember Lashley made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Mills seconded the motion. The motion passed (4-0-0) and the meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kaitlyn Schisler
City Clerk

Note: These minutes are a summary of the actions taken by the City Council and do not include all details of the discussions. Please refer to the official meeting video for a complete record.

Agendas and Approved Meeting Minutes can be found at:
<https://www.newcarrolltonmd.gov/AgendaCenter>