

# City of Hyattsville

*Hyattsville Municipal Building  
4310 Gallatin Street, 3rd Floor  
Hyattsville, MD 20781  
(301) 985-5000  
[www.hyattsville.org](http://www.hyattsville.org)*



## Meeting Minutes

**Monday, June 5, 2023**

**12:00 PM**

**Register in advance for this webinar:**

**[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_OtSJQn4KRGa9R8zUo8Kglg](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_OtSJQn4KRGa9R8zUo8Kglg)**

**Virtual**

## **City Council**

**Robert S. Croslin, Mayor**  
**Joseph Solomon, Council President, Ward 5**  
**Danny Schaible, Council Vice President, Ward 2**  
**Sam Denes, Ward 1**  
**Joanne Waszczak, Ward 1**  
**Emily Strab, Ward 2**  
**Jimmy McClellan, Ward 3**  
**Ben Simasek, Ward 3**  
**Edouard Haba, Ward 4**  
**Daniel Peabody, Ward 4**  
**Rommel Sandino, Ward 5**

## **ADMINISTRATION**

**Tracey E. Douglas, City Administrator**

**~~Laura Reams, City Clerk, 301-985-5009, [cityclerk@hyattsville.org](mailto:cityclerk@hyattsville.org)~~**

**WELCOME TO THE CITY OF HYATTSVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING!**  
**Your participation at this public meeting is valued and appreciated.**

**Present:**

**AGENDA/PACKET:** The Agenda/Packet is available for review at the Hyattsville Municipal Building and online at [www.hyattsville.org](http://www.hyattsville.org) prior to the scheduled meeting (generally available no later than the Friday prior to the scheduled Monday meeting). Please note, times given for agenda items are estimates only. Matters other than those indicated on the agenda may also be considered at Council discretion.

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITY ACT:** In compliance with the ADA, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting or other services in conjunction with this meeting, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (301) 985-5009. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

**AUDIBLE DEVICES:** Please ensure all audible devices are turned off or otherwise not audible when the City Council is in session. Thank you.

**PUBLIC INPUT:** If you wish to address the Council during the Public Comment period, please use the "Raise Hand" feature in the virtual meeting interface. Participants may also submit statements electronically using the eComment feature at [www.hyattsville.org/meetings](http://www.hyattsville.org/meetings) or via email to [cityclerk@hyattsville.org](mailto:cityclerk@hyattsville.org) no later than two (2) hours prior to the start of the meeting. All participants shall remain respectful in their contributions and associated functions of the virtual meeting interface are not intended for public dialogue or discussion.

**WAYS TO WATCH THE MEETING LIVE:** City Council meetings are broadcast live on cable television channel 71 (Comcast) and channel 12 (Verizon). You may also view meetings live online at [hyattsville-md.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?camera\\_id=2](http://hyattsville-md.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?camera_id=2)

**REPLAY SCHEDULE:** The meetings will be re-broadcast on cable television, channel 71 (Comcast) and channel 12 (Verizon) daily at 7:00 a.m., 1 p.m., and 8 p.m. Meetings are also able for replay online at [www.hyattsville.org/meetings](http://www.hyattsville.org/meetings).

**CITY INFORMATION:** Sign up to receive text and email notifications about Hyattsville events, government, police and programs at [www.hyattsville.org/list.aspx](http://www.hyattsville.org/list.aspx)

**INCLEMENT WEATHER:** In the event of inclement weather, please call 301-985-5000 to confirm the status of the Council meeting.

**Meeting Notice:**

The Hyattsville City Council will hold its meeting on Monday, June 5, 2023 remotely via video conference. The Council meeting will be conducted entirely remotely; there will be no in-person meeting attendance.

The meeting will be broadcast live on cable television channel 71 (Comcast), channel 12 (Verizon), and available via live stream at [www.hyattsville.org/meetings](http://www.hyattsville.org/meetings).

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

If you wish to address the Council during the Public Comment period, please use the "Raise Hand" feature in the virtual meeting interface. Participants may also submit statements electronically using the eComment feature at [www.hyattsville.org/meetings](http://www.hyattsville.org/meetings) or via email to [cityclerk@hyattsville.org](mailto:cityclerk@hyattsville.org) no later than two (2) hours prior to the start of the meeting. All participants shall remain respectful in their contributions and associated functions of the virtual meeting interface are not intended for public dialogue or discussion.

Members of the public who wish to comment during the virtual Council meeting must register in advance using the link below.

[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_OtSJQn4KRGa9R8zUo8Kglg](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_OtSJQn4KRGa9R8zUo8Kglg)

**1. Call to Order and Council Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m.

**Also present:**

City Administrator-Tracey Douglas

City Treasurer-Ron Brooks

Chief of Police-Jarod Towers

Director of Public Works-Lesley Riddle

Director of Human Resources-Jay Joyner

City Clerk-Laura Reams

Deputy City Clerk-Nate Groenendyk

Acting Director of Community and Economic Development-Holly Simmons

Deputy Directory of Public Works-Hal Metzler

**Present:**

Mayor Robert Croslin

Council President Joseph Solomon

Council Vice-President Danny Schaible

Councilmember Emily Strab

Councilmember Sam Denes

Councilmember Joanne Waszczak

Councilmember Ben Simasek

Councilmember Jimmy McClellan

Councilmember Daniel Peabody Left the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Councilmember Edouard Haba

Councilmember Rommel Sandino

**2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag****3. Approval of Agenda**

Councilmember Denes motioned to move item 6.f to the Action Agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Simasek and approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Council President Solomon, seconded by Councilmember Strab, that the Agenda be Approved as Amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Croslin, Solomon, Schaible, Strab, Denes, Waszczak, Simasek, McClellan, Haba, Peabody, and Sandino

**4. Public Comment (12:10 p.m. – 12:20 p.m.) Complete Speaker Card, Limit 2 minutes per speaker****5. City Administrator Update (12:20 p.m. - 12:40 p.m.)**

City Administrator Tracey Douglas provided updates on City related news and events.

City Treasurer Ron Brooks provided updates on the City's finances.

American Rescue Plan Program Manager Patrick Paschall provided updates on the ARPA funds.

Councilmember Solomon asked what the time frame is to release funds to the remaining applicants. Mr. Paschall stated by July 2023 all funds should be released and the programs closed.

Councilmember Waszczak asked which firm would be producing the City's audits. City Treasurer Ron Brooks stated the name of the firm is Lindsey & Associates.

Councilmember Waszczak also asked if the teen center would open at the same time as school in the fall. City Administrator Tracey Douglas stated it will not open at the same time as school. It should open in November 2023.

Councilmember Denes asked for an update regarding the additional network contract for the municipal buildings. Ms. Douglas stated the network switches have been installed and employees will start to move around in the building to their new offices.

**6. Consent Items (12:40 p.m. - 12:45 p.m.)**

Items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine in nature, and are approved in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless the Mayor/Council request specific items be removed from the Consent agenda for separate action.

A motion was made by Council President Solomon, seconded by Councilmember Simasek, that the Consent Agenda be Approved. The motion passed carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Croslin, Solomon, Schaible, Strab, Denes, Waszczak, Simasek, McClellan, Haba, Peabody, and Sandino

**6.a. ARPA: Restroom Renovation at 4310 Gallatin Street, City Building**[HCC-380-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to enter into an agreement with The Matthews Group (TMG) for a turnkey renovation of the restrooms at 4310 Gallatin St in an amount of \$280,000, pending legal review. The work is funded by American Rescue Plan Act (APRA) funds as approved by Council on May 1, 2023. The treasurer is authorized to make the necessary adjustments to the budget to facilitate this expenditure.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [RevWorkOrderPkg-112807.00-CityHyattsvilleCityBldgBathroomRenovations Signed](#)

**6.b. ARPA: West Hyattsville Alley Visioning and Conceptual Design**[HCC-381-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$38,000 to the Neighborhood Design Center (NDC) , utilizing their existing contract with the City, for the public and stakeholder outreach as well as the Conceptual Design for the renovation of the alley running approximately parallel to Hamilton St from Queen's Chapel Road to Ager Road. This is the first of several phases of the Ager Rd/Queen's Chapel Alley Pedestrian safety Improvements project and will be funded by American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds as approved by Council May 1, 2023. The Treasurer is authorized to make the necessary adjustments to the budget to facilitate this expenditure.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [NDC Proposal West Hyattsville Alley 04182023](#)

**6.c. ARPA: Intercom and Security Camera installation at David C. Driskell Community Park Recreation Building**[HCC-382-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council Authorize the City Administrator enter into an agreement with Biztec for the turn key installation of door intercoms, access control, and security cameras at the David C. Driskell Community Park Recreation Building, pending legal review. This expenditure is not to exceed \$45,000 and is to be funded utilizing American Rescue Plan Act funds as part of the Driskell Park Renovation project as approved by Council at the April 17th, 2023 meeting. The Treasurer is authorized to make the necessary adjustments to the budget to facilitate this expenditure.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [230504 - driskell building - Biztec - EST-003283 - hardware](#)  
[230419 - driskell building - Biztec - EST-003207 - installation](#)

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**6.d. ARPA: 5812 40th Avenue, Teen & Multigenerational Center Renovation - Change Order** [HCC-383-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to issue a change order to the current contract with The Matthews Group for the turn-key renovation of the 5812 40th Avenue building to house the Teen and Multigenerational Center, in an amount not to exceed \$454,000. The change order will be funded utilizing American Rescue Plan Act funds as presented at the April 17, 2023, Council Meeting. The Treasurer is authorized to make the necessary adjustments to the budget to facilitate this expenditure.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [TMG - 01408-0003 Redesign ROM \(2\)](#)

**6.e. ARPA: 2023 Throne Restroom Service Agreement** [HCC-384-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council Authorize the City Administrator to enter into an agreement with Throne Labs, Inc, pending legal review, to provide temporary ADA accessible restrooms at various locations throughout the City. This expenditure is not to exceed \$98,000 and will be funded utilizing American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds as part of the Public Restrooms and Shower Facility project as approved by Council at the April 17th, 2023, meeting. The treasurer is authorized to make the necessary adjustments to the budget to facilitate this expenditure.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Throne Labs Proposal Hyattsville 050823](#)

**6.g. FY23 Budget Amendment: Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development - Community Safety Works Grant** [HCC-400-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council amend the FY23 Special Revenues Fund budget to accept and appropriate the FY23 Community Safety Works Grant award in the amount of \$95,000 for the purchase of the City-wide camera system.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [FY23 Grant Acceptance - HPD Security Cameras](#)

**6.h. ARPA: A/V Equipment for Council Chambers** [HCC-401-FY23](#)

I move that Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$40,000 with B&H Photo and not to exceed \$6,000 with Washington Professional Systems for the purchase of equipment to support the upgrades of the City Council Chambers Audio/Visual system for hybrid meeting functionality. I further move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure of not to exceed \$8,300 to Schneider Systems for the installation of the audio-visual equipment. The total cost of this portion of the Council Chambers renovation is not to exceed \$54,300.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Council Chambers Upgrade Equipment and Labor 5 31 23](#)

**6.i. Disbursement of Ward 5 Discretionary Funds**[HCC-403-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the disbursement of \$100 from the Ward 5 discretionary fund to Edouard Haba for the Ward 4 Community Day Celebration, \$500 to Nicholas Orem Middle School Music Program, and \$1,000 to the Community Services Department Budget for the purchase of backpacks to support the Back to School event taking place in August 2023.

Sponsors: Solomon and Sandino

**6.j. Purchase of Five (5) ERT Heavy Duty Vests**[HCC-405-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$18,012.03 to Lawmen Supply Company for the purchase of five (5) ERT heavy duty vests.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Hyattsville Origin Armor QT 5-19-23](#)  
[Hyattsville quote with credit](#)  
[900193-23-MOD 4-ADC-Body Armor-2023-4-12 - signed](#)  
[CW17398 - Lawmen Rider Agreement \(Prince William\) - signed](#)  
[Lawmen Supply Amendment No. 1-vendor signed - signed](#)

**6.k. FY23 Budget Amendment: Accept and Appropriate the Maryland Smart Energy Communities Grant Agreement and Award for the Purchase of Three (3) E-Vehicles**[HCC-406-FY23](#)

I move that Mayor and Council amend the FY23 Special Revenues Funds budget to accept and appropriate the Maryland Smart Energy Communities Grant in the amount of \$22,500.00 toward the purchase of three (3) e-vehicles.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [MSEC FY23 Hyattsville award letter.docx](#)  
[MSEC Grant Agreement](#)

**6.l. Disbursement of Ward 4 Discretionary Funds**[HCC-408-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the disbursement of \$500 from the Ward 4 discretionary fund to the Nicholas Orem Middle School Music Program and \$1,200 to Councilmember Edouard Haba for the Ward 4 Community Day Celebration.

Sponsors: Haba and Peabody

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**6.m. Zoning Variance Request: V-57-22 - 3510 Lancer Drive, Hyattsville** [HCC-409-FY23](#)  
**(RECONSIDERATION)**

I move the City Council authorize the Mayor to send correspondence to the Board of Zoning Appeals in support of V-57-22 for the subject property at 3510 Lancer Drive, Hyattsville. The purpose of the zoning variance request is to validate existing conditions of net lot area, lot width, frontage width at front street line, lot coverage, front yard depth, side yard depth, and accessory building and shed and to obtain a building permit for the illegal construction of a shed and breezeway on the property.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [V-57-22 Site plan](#)  
[V-57-22 BZA referral 04.18.23.docx](#)  
[V-57-22 Application](#)

**6.n. Resolution 2023-02: Maryland DHCD Community Legacy FY2024 Application** [HCC-410-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council adopt Hyattsville Resolution 2023-02, a Resolution of the City of Hyattsville, Maryland in support of the City's application to the State of Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) for grant funding to support the City's Commercial Façade Improvement Program to be further described in the Community Legacy application.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Resolution 2023-02 - Maryland Facade Program Application](#)

**6.o. Cooperation Agreement Regarding Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Urban County Qualification - Federal FY 2024-2026** [HCC-411-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to enter into a Cooperation Agreement with Prince George's County, Maryland, to continue participation in the County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and the Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) for a three-year period during Federal Fiscal Years 2024 through 2026.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [PGC FY2024-2026 Coop. Agreement - City of Hyattsville](#)  
[PGC FY2024-2026 Coop. Agreements - Coop. Agreement and Legal Cert.](#)  
[PGC FY2024-2026 Coop. Agreements - Cert. of Coop. Agreement](#)

**6.p. ARPA - Tree Canopy Restoration Contract - Casey Trees** [HCC-415-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure of \$216,000 to Casey Trees for the planting of trees and related services under their existing contract with the City. This expenditure is part of the Hyattsville Tree Canopy Restoration Project and was part of the American Rescue Plan Act funds allocation as approved by Council on May 1st, 2023.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [casey trees - tree planting RFP - proposal](#)



**6.q. ARPA - Tree Canopy Restoration Contract - Bry's Landscaping** [HCC-416-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure of 65,000 to Bry's Landscaping for the planting of trees and related services under their existing contract with the City. This expenditure is part of the Hyattsville Tree Canopy Restoration Project and was part of the American Rescue Plan Act funds allocation as approved by Council on May 1st, 2023.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Brys - tree planting RFP - proposal](#)

**6.r. ARPA - Tree Canopy Restoration Contract - Lorenz, Inc.** [HCC-417-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure of \$50,000 to Lorenz, Inc. for the planting of trees and related services under their existing contract with the City. This expenditure is part of the Hyattsville Tree Canopy Restoration Project and was part of the American Rescue Plan Act funds allocation as approved by Council on May 1st, 2023.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Lorenz inc - tree planting RFP - proposal](#)

**6.s. Study of Intersection at Driskell Park** [HCC-418-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to enter into an agreement with RK&K to perform an intersection study for the intersection of Hamilton Street, Gallatin Street, 40th Avenue, and 39th Avenue to develop concepts for the improvement of the intersection for an expenditure not to exceed \$75,000, pending legal review.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Gallatin Street Intersection Study\\_RKK](#)

**6.t. Printer Copier Lease Approval** [HCC-419-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and City Council approve and authorize the City Administrator to enter into a lease with Doceo for printers and copiers in the city for a contract not to exceed 48 months, upon the review and approval by the City Attorney for legal sufficiency.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [RFP\\_ADM12052022 Printer Copier Lease](#)

**6.u. ARPA: Purchase of Three Solar Community Message Boards** [HCC-421-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to enter into an agreement with Soofa for the purchase of three (3) solar community message boards in an amount not to exceed \$67,500. I further move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to enter into a three-year annual licensing and maintenance agreement with Soofa for the signs, renewable for two additional years at an annual cost of \$18,600 per year. This agreement is pending the review and approval by the City Attorney for legal sufficiency. The purchase is funded by American Rescue Plan Act (APRA) funds as approved by Council on May 1, 2023. The treasurer is authorized to make the necessary adjustments to the budget to facilitate this expenditure.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Soofa Signs Overview](#)

**6.v. Disbursement of Ward 3 Discretionary Funds** [HCC-426-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the disbursement of \$734.68 of Ward 3 FY23 discretionary funds to the Nicholas Orem Middle School Music Program.

Sponsors: Simasek and McClellan

**6.w. Decommissioning and Surplus of Public Works and Community Services Vehicles** [HCC-427-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the decommissioning and disposal of the vehicles and equipment noted in the memo dated May 30, 2023.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [230530 - memo - surplus items](#)

**6.x. Disbursement of Ward 2 Discretionary Funds** [HCC-432-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the disbursement of \$500 of Ward 2 FY23 discretionary funds to support the Hyattsville Middle School Block Party.

Sponsors: Strab and Schaible

**7. Action Items (12:45 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.)**

**6.f. City Wide Compost Cart Purchase and Rollout - Change Order**[HCC-398-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to issue a change order to Rehrig Pacific Company in an amount not to exceed \$110,000 for the purchase of compost carts to be distributed to all homes in the City currently eligible for municipal compost pickup. This purchase is facilitated utilizing the Omnia Partners collective purchasing agreement, of which the City is a member. The Treasurer is authorized to make the necessary adjustments to the Capital Improvement budget to facilitate this expenditure.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Hyattsville MD 35G EG Organics w Manual Lock Quote 5-26-23](#)

Councilmember Denes asked how many households have trash collection and why didn't the City purchase the correct amount of compost carts during the first contract and when should residents expect to receive their bins. Deputy Director for Public Works Hal Metzler stated the City collects trash from 3,433 homes. The Public Works Department made a calculation error when counting the homes, the first time. It is anticipated the carts will be delivered to homes the 2nd week of July 2023.

A motion was made by Council President Solomon, seconded by Councilmember Simasek, that the Consent Agenda be Approved. The motion passed carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Croslin, Solomon, Schaible, Strab, Denes, Waszczak, Simasek, McClellan, Haba, Peabody, and Sandino

**7.a. Hyattsville Ordinance 2023-02: Fiscal Year 2024 Budget (Adoption)**[HCC-413-FY23](#)

I move the Mayor and Council adopt Hyattsville Ordinance 2023-02, an ordinance adopting an annual budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, for the general purpose, fixing the tax rates for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2023; authorizing collection of taxes herein levied, and appropriating funds for the fiscal year (SECOND READING AND ADOPTION).

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [University Town Center Special Tax Report \(2023\) 5-10-2023](#)  
[Hyattsville Ordinance 2023-02 Fiscal Year 2024 Budget DRAFT 5-12-2023](#)  
[5-Year Financial Forecast - Report](#)

Councilmember Denes asked if the City has considered cost saving measures such as no employee COLA's, suspending benefits, cancelling Town events, etc. and if this is done how will the Council and city residents be informed? City Administrator Tracey Douglas stated she has held meetings with the HR Director and City Treasurer, and they are discussing a few initial lists of proposals. Any drastic changes will be brought before the Council.

Councilmember Waszczak asked if other municipalities are behind in having their annual audits completed. City Administrator Tracey Douglas did not have the information related to other municipalities and their audits, but she suspects some may not be completed because of the pandemic.

Mayor Croslin stated a few years back under a different City Treasurer and Mayor, the city's audits were not completed for 3 to 5 years. He expressed his appreciation for City Treasurer Ron Brooks for working to rectify that so the City did not lose its Charter.

Councilmember Schaible stated he would like to see the return of the budget book. This is a very helpful document. He did state he is concerned over the projected City deficit when the revenues are increasing. He asked about the specificity of the projections for fiscal years 25 through 29. City Treasurer Ron Brooks stated this was just a forecast for the operating budget and it does not include the capital budget. The 10-year forecast is for the general operating budget and was provided per the City Charter.

A motion was made by Council President Solomon, seconded by Councilmember Strab, that this agenda item be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Croslin, Solomon, Strab, Waszczak, Simasek, McClellan, Haba, Peabody, and Sandino

**Nay:** Schaible, Denes

**8. Council Dialogue (1:15 p.m. - 1:25 p.m.)****9. Motion to Adjourn Sine Die**

The Meeting Adjourned at 2:06 p.m.

A motion was made by Council President Solomon, seconded by Councilmember Strab, that the meeting be Adjourned Sine Die. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Croslin, Solomon, Schaible, Strab, Denes, Waszczak, Simasek, McClellan, Haba, and Sandino