

City of Hyattsville

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



Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 7, 2022

7:00 PM

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_6wJwqOI0Sk2sAcDVKpzCA

Virtual

City Council

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

ADMINISTRATION

Tracey E. Douglas, City Administrator
Laura Reams, City Clerk, 301-985-5009, cityclerk@hyattsville.org

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

AGENDA/PACKET: The Agenda/Packet is available for review at the Hyattsville Municipal Building and online at 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 or via email to 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

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.

CITY INFORMATION: Sign up to receive text and email notifications about Hyattsville events, government, police and programs at 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:

As we continue to take precautions due to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic, the Hyattsville City Council will hold its meeting on Monday, March 7, 2022 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.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

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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_6wJwqOl0Sk2sAcDVKpzCA

1. Call to Order and Council Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Also Present:

City Administrator-Tracey Douglas
Assistant City Administrator-Jim Chandler
City Clerk-Laura Reams
ARPA Funds Manager-Patrick Paschall
City Planner-Taylor Robey

Present:	Interim Mayor Robert Croslin Council Vice-President Danny Schaible Councilmember Sam Denes Councilmember Joanne Waszczak Councilmember Ben Simasek Councilmember Jimmy McClellan Councilmember Edouard Haba Councilmember Daniel Peabody Councilmember Joseph Solomon
Absent:	Councilmember Rommel Sandino

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

3. Approval of Agenda

Council Vice-President Schaible moved to move HCC-262-FY22 to the Action Agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Haba and approved unanimously.

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

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

Absent: Sandino

5. Public Comment (7:10 p.m. – 7:20 p.m.) Complete Speaker Card, Limit 2 minutes per speaker

Chuck Perry provided written comment in opposition to automated speed enforcement and license plate recognition technology. He referenced the amount of money being spent on law enforcement in comparison to education.

Anan Berasi commented electronically to improve the Avalon Bay legislation.

Claire Panak commented electronically in support of the early childhood eligibility for Enrichment Grants. Cliff Mayo commented electronically in opposition to the Suffrage Point development
Daniel Muth commented electronically in opposition to the Suffrage Point development.

Greg Smith submitted a letter signed by over 50 Hyattsville residents opposed to the Suffrage Point lower parcel development, and spoke about his opposition to the development.

James Brodie spoke to request policing at 38th and Longfellow as well as parking enforcement, and other community concerns.

6. Community Notices and Meetings**6.a. Main City Calendar: March 8 - March 21, 2022**[HCC-258-FY22](#)

N/A

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [City Calendar Mar 8- Mar 21 2022](#)

7. City Administrator Update (7:20 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.)

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

8. Motion to Close (7:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.)

8.a. Motion to Close[HCC-270-FY22](#)

I move the Mayor and Council close the Council Meeting of March 7, 2022 to consult with the City Attorney and staff about litigation. The reasons for closing the meeting under these exceptions are to maintain legally required confidentiality regarding ongoing and pending litigation.

This session will be closed under the authority of the Annotated Code of Maryland State Government General Provisions Article Section 3-305 (b)(8) consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

Sponsors: City Administrator

The meeting went into closed session at 7:39 and returned to open session at 9:00 p.m. No action was taken during the closed session.

A motion was made by Council Vice-President Schaible, seconded by Councilmember Haba, that the Council go into Closed Session. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Absent: Sandino

9. Proclamations (8:00 p.m. - 8:05 p.m.)**9.a. Proclamation Celebrating March 2022 as Women's History Month in the City of Hyattsville**[HCC-276-FY22](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council proclaim March 2022 to be Women's History Month in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [CM 0307 Women's History Month 2022](#)

A motion was made by Council Vice-President Schaible, seconded by Councilmember Simasek, that this agenda item be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Absent: Sandino

10. Consent Items (8:05 p.m. - 8:10 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 Vice-President Schaible, seconded by Councilmember Solomon, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Absent: Sandino

10.a. Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Hyattsville and Eastern Mennonite University [HCC-237-FY22](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council ratify the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Hyattsville and Eastern Mennonite University's Washington Community Scholars' Center entered into by the City Administrator on February 8, 2022 in order to provide an unpaid internship opportunity to assist our Mental Health Programs Manager with the development of the CIT Program.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [MOU - COH & EMU Signed by Tracey](#)

10.c. Disbursement of FY22 Education Enrichment Grant Funds [HCC-272-FY22](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the expenditure of \$10,000 to support the grant proposals recommended from the Education Advisory Committee and listed in the attached memo for dissemination of the FY22 Education Enrichment Grants.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [EAC - EEGP 2022 Recommendations](#)
[EAC EEGP 2022 Applications Recommended](#)

11. Action Items (8:10 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.)

10.b. Automated Speed Enforcement Contract - Verra Mobility[HCC-262-FY22](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to approve a contract between the City of Hyattsville Police Department and Verra Mobility for automated speed enforcement for a term of five (5) years at a cost not to exceed \$305,000 annually. This contract has been reviewed and approved by the City Attorney for legal sufficiency.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Hyattsville Verra Mobility Speed Agreement 2-28-22](#)

Councilmember Schaible asked about cost. Chief Towers responded that the cost of this new contract is lower than the current month to month contract with a different vendor.

Councilmember Haba asked about location for new cameras. Chief Towers said any future cameras would only be added after a traffic study and other required procedures.

Councilmember Haba asked about a reference to Galveston (HGAC) in the contract. Chief Towers responded that Hyattsville may be a member of MCOG and riding on that contract.

Councilmember Haba inquired about the contract language that addresses the Consumer Price Index and taxes. Chief Towers said the City Attorney has reviewed the contract. City Administrator Douglas said that she will review the contract before signing the agreement. City Treasurer Ronald Brooks said that all costs are 'net' of the contract.

Councilmember Haba expressed his discomfort with the contractor holding metadata at the end of the contract period.

Councilmember Denes asked about location of red-light cameras. Chief Towers explained that the City has a contract with this vendor for red light cameras; this would be taking over speed.

Interim Mayor Croslin asked if the Council wants to hold this motion or proceed with a vote. Council Vice President Schaible said he is comfortable with the item as it is proposed.

Councilmember Waszczak questioned ownership of the metadata. Chief Towers said that the way it is written in the contract is common.

A motion was made by Council Vice-President Schaible, seconded by Councilmember Denes, that this agenda item be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Croslin, Solomon, Schaible, Denes, Waszczak, Simasek, McClellan, and Peabody

Nay: Haba

Absent: Sandino

11.a. Avalon Bay - Preliminary Plan of Subdivision 4-21032

[HCC-275-FY22](#)

I move the City Council authorize the Mayor to provide correspondence to the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission in support of Preliminary Plan of Subdivision 4-21032, subject to the following conditions:

1. The site plan is amended to reflect a 2-foot variance to the total frontage minimum depth requirement to accommodate other improvements between the building façade and right-of-way. The intent of the variance is to provide adequate width to support:
 - a. Two (2) 10-foot vehicle travel lanes.
 - b. Four (4) feet of pavement between the tree and furniture zone and first travel lane shall be allocated to a future bike lane along the property pending future development along this right-of-way.
2. While Toledo Road is at interim condition, a Public Use Easement (PUE) shall be granted over the improved portion of the roadway.
3. When the entirety of Toledo Road between Toledo Terrace and Belcrest Road is improved to a public standard and with the conditions outlined above, the applicant must file a confirmatory deed stating that the roadway is to be publicly dedicated to the City of Hyattsville, upon inspection by, and approval of, the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [City Council Materials 2022.07.03 Avalon Bay](#)
[Exhibit 1 Proposed Avalon Bay Development and Required JCP Demo](#)

City Planner Taylor Robey presented on the plan.

Councilmember Denes asked about the interim language and a 4 foot bike lane. Ms. Robey explained that the improvements do not currently impact the entirety of Toledo Road. A bike lane could be allocated in the future.

Councilmember Schaible expressed his concern about parking. Director Chandler explained that the expanded plan will address those issues.

Councilmember Waszczak addressed bike lane widths. Mr. Chandler said that a variance to expand the bike lane may narrow sidewalks.

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

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

Absent: Sandino

11.b. Suffrage Pointe Development - Conceptual Site Plan (CSP-18002) and Preliminary Plan of Subdivision 4-21052 [HCC-271-FY22](#)

I move the City Council authorize the Mayor to provide correspondence(s) to the Prince George's County District Council regarding and the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission regarding Conceptual Site Plan (CSP) 18002 and Preliminary Plan of Subdivision 4-21052. The correspondence shall express the City requests the District Council and Planning Board adopt the following revisions to the application as conditions for approval:

1. The City is requesting that the Prince George's County District Council, in its revision to the resolution for the density requirements specified in the Resolution for CSP-18002, shall be limited to 6.7 units per net acre for single-family attached units and nine (9) dwelling units per net acre for 'single-family attached' or townhouse units. Furthermore, the applicant shall be required to amend applicable Preliminary Plan of Subdivision (PPS) applications to reflect the revised net acreage standards and resubmit to the Planning Board for its consideration; (*New condition*)
2. The City is recommending the PPS application be revised, or resolution be conditioned as Urban Street Design Standard Alley, STD 100.31. The internal alleyway shall be designed and constructed to a public standard and dedicated to the City as a public right-of-way. The site plans and any future dedication of plat shall incorporate language stating that the alleyway shall be publicly dedicated to the City of Hyattsville.
3. Per Urban Street Standards, turning radius from any roadway connecting to City roadway shall have a Minimum Turning Radius of 15'.
4. The internal alleyway shall include an adequate turnaround space for emergency vehicles. This can be achieved through the elimination of lots 23 & 24.
5. Overhead lighting shall be designed and constructed to Pepco standards for acceptance into the public utility system. The lighting shall be placed at the entrance/exit of the site at Gallatin Street, entrance/exit of the site on Alley 3, and at the terminus of the alley.
6. The applicant shall dedicate Parcel B2 for a Public Use Easement (PUE) in which the applicant shall maintain ownership of Parcel B2, but access of the parcel shall be granted to the general public. Parcel B2 shall primarily serve to provide compensatory storage for the subject parcel, but shall be used by the public, and permitted at the City's discretion, under a separate Memorandum of Understanding

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Memo - PPS 4-19053 - Suffrage Point - 3.1.2022 Final](#)
[Exhibit A - DC Resolution for CSP](#)
[Council Materials Suffrage PPS](#)

Councilmember Simasek introduced an amendment to the motion.

Councilmember Peabody asked if the motion should be tabled until further information is gathered. Mr. Chandler said that the conditions 2-6 are likely not affected by the CSP.

Councilmember Simasek asked for clarification on the date of the hearing and a deadline for this correspondence. Mr. Chandler said it is important to address the CSP promptly.

Councilmember Solomon asked Councilmember Simasek to further explain his amendment. Councilmember Simasek explained that the density requirements in the current language exceed the CSP.

Councilmember Schaible questioned the timing of this correspondence. Councilmember Waszczak expressed her agreement.

Councilmember Waszczak would like the reduced density to be utilized to create a buffer for the floodplain.

Councilmember Haba would be supportive of tabling this motion for a few weeks to gain more information.

Mr. Chandler said the hearing cannot be delayed. It would result in automatic approval of the request from the developer.

Councilmember Peabody will support correspondence addressing the CSP.

Councilmember Simasek withdrew his amendment and moved to table the motion. Councilmember Schaible seconded.

Mr. Chandler expects the hearing to take place in short order; he is concerned that at this point he does not have authorization to speak on behalf of the City.

Councilmember Haba asked for clarification on the motion on the table. Councilmember Simasek asked Mr. Chandler for clarification on what Mr. Chandler would want to speak on. Mr. Chandler said it would be only point 1 below.

Councilmember Peabody asked for a point of order so is asking the City Clerk to clarify. He would like to see Mr. Chandler authorized to speak on the acreage.

City Clerk Laura Reams clarified that the current motion is to table the original motion.

Councilmember Simasek amended the original motion to strike points 2-6 from the motion and amend point 1 to specifically address density requirements.

A motion was made by Councilmember Simasek, seconded by Councilmember Peabody, that this agenda item be Approved as Amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye:	Croslin, Solomon, Denes, Waszczak, Simasek, McClellan, Haba, and Peabody
Absent:	Sandino
Abstain:	Schaible

11.c. Purchase of Replacement Citizen Rescue/Emergency Response Team Vehicle[HCC-267-FY22](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to approve the purchase of a replacement Emergency Response Team Vehicle from The Armored Group under the Federal GSA contract in the amount of \$188,000.00.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [2- TAG GSA Quote Armored Sprinter Tactical Van October 29 2021](#)

Councilmember Waszczak asked Chief Towers to explain this purchase as a replacement. Chief Towers shared photos of the interior and exterior of the current 2003 re-purposed vehicle, which is to be replaced. He also gave extensive details on the proposed vehicle.

A motion was made by Council Vice-President Schaible, seconded by Councilmember Denes, that this agenda item be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Croslin, Solomon, Denes, Waszczak, Simasek, McClellan, Haba, and Peabody

Nay: Schaible

Absent: Sandino

11.d. Citywide Rekor Fixed LPR (License Plate Recognition) System[HCC-266-FY22](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the lease purchase of ten fixed LPRs from Rekor, at a cost not to exceed \$12,000 annually, for a term of five years. The contract has been reviewed and approved by the City Attorney for legal sufficiency.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [3- Hyattsville PD, MD Quote](#)

Councilmember Haba asked for background information. He asked Chief Towers the ultimate goal of the request. Chief Towers responded that the License Plate Recognition System would allow HPD to resolve criminal cases more quickly. Councilmember Haba is concerned with the indiscriminate data collection.

Councilmember Solomon questioned Chief Towers about whether other agencies in Maryland are using systems like this. Chief Towers explained that there are fixed and roaming LPRs in use across the state.

Councilmember Solomon asked if there is anything less intrusive. Chief Towers said that the data from this system is housed only in Hyattsville. Chief Towers could not address ownership of the data. Councilmember Solomon asked if the existing CCTV could be improved with higher resolution cameras. Chief Towers said the application of the CCTV will not serve the same purpose.

Councilmember Solomon asked about grants. Chief Towers said there have been in the past but not at present.

A motion was made by Council Vice-President Schaible, seconded by Councilmember Denes, that this agenda item be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Croslin, Solomon, Schaible, Denes, Waszczak, Simasek, McClellan, and Peabody

Nay: Haba

Absent: Sandino

12. Discussion Items (9:00 p.m. - 10:45 p.m.)

A motion was made by Council President Solomon, seconded by Councilmember McClellan, that all Discussion items be Tabled. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Absent: Sandino

12.a. FY23 Budget Initiative: Hyattsville Learning Lab -TABLED-[HCC-218-FY22](#)

I move that the City of Hyattsville include \$3,000 in its FY23 legislative budget in support of the Hyattsville Learning Lab educational summer programming.

Sponsors: McClellan

12.b. FY23 Budget Initiative: Establishment of Youth Advisory Council -TABLED-[HCC-219-FY22](#)

I move that the City Council establish a Youth Advisory Council for the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: Waszczak

Attachments: [Estimated YAC annual budget CM Waszczak](#)

12.c. FY23 Budget Initiative: Stipend Program to Diversify Membership of City of Hyattsville Advisory Committees, Boards, Commissions and Task Forces -TABLED-[HCC-220-FY22](#)

I move that Council create a program to provide stipends to members of City of Hyattsville Advisory Committees, Boards, Commissions and Task Forces with the goal of recruiting and retaining membership that proportionally represents the community.

Sponsors: Waszczak

Attachments: [Board and Committee Member Payment Agreement](#)

12.d. FY23 Budget Initiative: West Hyattsville Metro Area Traffic Study -TABLED- [HCC-221-FY22](#)

I move that the Interim Mayor and Council include \$100,000.00 in the FY23 Hyattsville City Budget for the development of a West Hyattsville Metro Area Traffic Study. The traffic study will evaluate and propose solutions to address:

Riverfront Area/Ager Rd (in partnership with Prince George's County):

- Traffic calming or traffic light installation at the intersection of Little Branch Run, Ager Road and Lancer Drive
- Traffic calming or traffic light installation at the intersection of Nicholson Street and Ager Rd.

Kirkwood Area/Nicholson Street/Ager Rd:

- Traffic pattern for 2600-2700 blocks of Nicholson Street, Lancer Drive, and Kirkwood Place (for ingress and egress onto Ager Rd.)
- Removal of City installed barricades at Kirkwood entrances
- Removal of City installed fence between Kirkwood and Riverfront property

Hamilton Street/Jamestown Rd. (in partnership with Prince George's County):

- Hamilton/Jamestown Cyclist and Pedestrian Safety mechanisms
- On street Parking redesign for the segment of Hamilton street between Queens Chapel and Ager Rd.
- Improved road for alley behind Hamilton Street between Ager Rd and Queens Chapel Road

General Design:

- Inclusion street art/painted street designs to add vibrancy and define neighborhood overall look and feel
- Wayfinding and signage for various parks, police station, other resources located in the general vicinity
- Traffic pattern, safety, and parking for the West Hyattsville transit corridor

I further move that the Interim Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to collaborate with all necessary agencies of Prince George's County, The State of Maryland, and Maryland Park and Planning for the purpose of developing solutions where the City is not directly responsible for the maintenance or design of a parcel or roadway.

Sponsors: Solomon, Haba and Sandino

12.e. American Rescue Plan Emergency Relief Discussion -TABLED- [HCC-274-FY22](#)

Discussion about emergency relief plans using American Rescue Plan funds.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Emergency Relief Discussion Agenda 03.07.2022](#)
[COH Emergency Relief Submissions for Public Hearing v03.02.2022](#)
[ARPA Emergency Relief Public Hearing Presentation 03.02.2022](#)

13. Council Dialogue (10:45 p.m. - 10:55 p.m.)

14. Motion to Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:03 p.m.

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

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

Absent: Sandino