

# 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, April 3, 2023**

**7:00 PM**

**Register in advance for this webinar:**

**[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_BvkPhopuR3aJGJroyEeOgg](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BvkPhopuR3aJGJroyEeOgg)**

## 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**  
**Kareem Redmond, Ward 3**  
**Edouard Haba, Ward 4**  
**Michelle Lee, 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.**

**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, April 3, 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:**

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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.

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

**Also present:**

City Administrator-Tracey Douglas

Deputy City Administrator-Consuela Barbour

Assistant City Administrator-Jim Chandler

City Treasurer-Ron Brooks

Director of Public Works-Lesley Riddle

Director of Human Resources-Jay Joyner

Deputy City Clerk-Nate Groenendyk

Deputy Director of Public Works-Hal Metzler

City Planner-Taylor Robey

**Present:**

Mayor Robert Croslin

Council President Joseph Solomon

Council Vice-President Danny Schaible

Councilmember Joanne Waszczak Arrived at 8:58 p.m.

Councilmember Ben Simasek

Councilmember Sam Denes

Councilmember Daniel Peabody

Councilmember Emily Strab Arrived at 7:20 p.m.

Councilmember Jimmy McClellan Left the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Councilmember Edouard Haba

Councilmember Rommel Sandino

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

A motion was made by Council Vice-President Schaible, seconded by Councilmember Peabody, that the Agenda be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

**Absent:** Waszczak, and Strab

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

Jorge Benitez Perez spoke on behalf of CASA and its members in favor of the Rent Stabilization and Affordability Fund HCC-324-FY23.

Patricia Cossard supports the Rent Stabilization and Affordability Fund HCC-324-FY23.

Angela Justice asked if there will be ARPA funding for local businesses again.

Greg Smith spoke on behalf of the Rent Stabilization and Affordability Fund HCC-324-FY23.

Amy Phillips supports the Rent Stabilization and Affordability Fund HCC-324-FY23.

Gandina Barcia supports the Rent Stabilization and Affordability Fund HCC-324-FY23.

Chris supports the Rent Stabilization and Affordability Fund HCC-324-FY23.

Lettis supports the Rent Stabilization and Affordability Fund HCC-324-FY23.

Ms. MerLyn supports the Rent Stabilization and Affordability Fund HCC-324-FY23.

Ja'mika Slater supports the Rent Stabilization and Affordability Fund HCC-324-FY23.

Miguel supports the Rent Stabilization and Affordability Fund HCC-324-FY23.

Paula supports the Rent Stabilization and Affordability Fund HCC-324-FY23

A participant in the Zoom (not identified) spoke in support of the Rent Stabilization and Affordability Fund HCC-324-FY23.

Victor Ramos supports the Rent Stabilization and Affordability Fund HCC-324-FY23..

Ana Mejila supports the Rent Stabilization and Affordability Fund HCC-324-FY23.

Annelies Goger supports the Rent Stabilization and Affordability Fund HCC-324-FY23 and would like ARPA funds to be used to automate application for Rent Stabilization. Ms. Goger spoke in opposition to WMATA changes in the Yellow Line.

**5. Community Notices and Meetings**

**5.a. Main City Calendar: April 18, 2022 - May 1, 2022**[HCC-338-FY23](#)

N/A

Sponsors: City AdministratorAttachments: [City Calendar April 18, 2023 - May 1, 2023](#)**6. City Administrator Update (7:20 p.m. - 7:40 p.m.)**

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

**7. Presentations (7:40 p.m. - 8:20 p.m.)**

**7.a. WMATA Fiscal Year 2024 Budget: Proposed Fare and Service Changes**[HCC-337-FY23](#)

Presentation Only

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [FY2024 WMATA Budget - City of Hyattsville Testimony](#)  
[FY2024 Service Proposal - Hyattsville 04032023](#)

Charlie Scott from WMATA introduced the changes proposed for FY2024.

Councilmember McClellan asked Mr. Scott if it would be possible for the Yellow Line to resume its previous route to Greenbelt. Mr. Scott said that everything is reviewed annually and the decisions may change in future years.

Councilmember Simasek questioned whether weekday and weekend service would be the same. Mr. Scott replied that WMATA's aim is consistent service across all days.

Councilmember Haba said that the proposal Mr. Scott presented will do a disservice to Hyattsville residents. His hope is that WMATA will act as a partner to make service more convenient. Mr. Scott acknowledged that there are some inconveniences.

Council President Solomon asked if WMATA has data on station-jumping and whether the data is different from one station to another based on revenue. Mr. Scott said that fare revenue was not a factor in the service proposal. WMATA hopes to improve equity for Green Line users. Mr. Scott said that WMATA has statistics on fare-jumping.

Councilmember Solomon asked if WMATA plans to apply for any of the infrastructure grants from the federal government. Mr. Scott said WMATA would like to have more 'pocket tracks' and though that it more long term, and they expect to work with the federal administration including utilizing grants moving forward.

**7.b. Street Art Pilot Program Presentation**[HCC-328-FY23](#)

Presentation

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [3.10.2023 Asphalt Art City Council Presentation Draft \(1\)](#)  
[Graham Projects Hyattsville presentation 3.20.23 \(1\)](#)

Deputy Public Works Director Hal Metzler and Transportation Manager Taylor Robey introduced the team from Toole Design, Barbara Mosler, and Graham Coreil-Allen from Graham Projects to present on the traffic calming work proposed for Jefferson Street and Church Place.

Councilmember Schaible commented that he's excited about this work coming to Hyattsville.

Councilmember Denes emphasized his appreciation of grippy paint.

Councilmember Strab thanked the presenters and is excited for the work coming to Hyattsville.

**8. Proclamations**

All proclamations were adopted in a single vote.

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

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

**Absent:** Waszczak

**8.a. Proclamation Celebrating April 2023 as Autism Acceptance Month**[HCC-330-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council adopt a proclamation recognizing April 2023 as Autism Acceptance Month in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [CM 0403 Autism Acceptance Month April 2023](#)

**8.b. Proclamation in Honor of National Volunteer Week**[HCC-332-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council proclaim April 16 - 22, 2023 as National Volunteer Week in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [CM 0403 National Volunteer Week 2023](#)

**8.c. Proclamation in Honor of National Public Health Week**[HCC-334-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council proclaim April 3 - 9, 2023 as National Public Health Week in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [CM 0403 Public Health Week 2023](#)

**8.d. Proclamation Celebrating April 2023 as Arab American Heritage Month**[HCC-336-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council adopt a proclamation recognizing April 2023 as Arab American Heritage Month in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [CM 0403 Arab American Heritage Month 2023](#)

**9. Appointments****9.a. Appointments to the Education Advisory Committee**[HCC-335-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council approve the appointments of Michael Angeloni (Ward 5) and Lisvette Garcia (Ward 1) to the Education Advisory Committee for a term of two (2) years ending on April 30, 2024.

Sponsors: Strab and Peabody

Attachments: [Lisvette Garcia W1 Mar 10 23 redac](#)  
[Michael Angeloni W5 redac](#)

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, Schaible, Simasek, Denes, Peabody, Strab, McClellan, Haba, and Sandino

**Absent:** Waszczak

**10. Consent Items (8:20 p.m. - 8:25 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 Peabody, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

**Absent:** Waszczak



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**10.a. Hyattsville Ordinance 2023-01: Adopting the Compensation Review Committee Recommendation** [HCC-323-FY23](#)

I move the Mayor and Council adopt Hyattsville Ordinance 2023-01, an Ordinance whereby the City Council raises the salary of the Mayor and Councilmembers beginning July 1, 2025, and grants raises in each successive year through July 1, 2028 pursuant to the recommendation of the 2022 Compensation Review Committee (SECOND READING).

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Ordinance 2023-01 2023 Compensation Ordinance 3.12.23](#)  
[Compensation Review Committee & Recommendation Report 2023](#)  
[2022 Comp and Review Committee](#)

**10.b. Acceptance of the Prince George's County Stormwater Stewardship Grant** [HCC-327-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator enter into an agreement with The Chesapeake Bay trust to accept the Prince George's County Stormwater Stewardship Award in the amount of \$32,172 to conduct outreach, education, and training on invasive species and removal, pending review by the City Attorney. The Treasurer is authorized to make the necessary budget modifications required to accept and expend the proceeds of the grant.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Scanned from a Xerox Multifunction Printer \(7\)](#)

**10.c. Hyatt Park Community Garden Memorandum of Understanding** [HCC-331-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Hyatt Park Community Garden Association for the use and administration of the community garden space at Hyatt Park, pending review by the City Attorney.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Hyatt Park Community Garden Association MOU 2023 -tracked](#)

**11. Action Items (8:25 p.m. - 9:05 p.m.)**

**11.a. Phase 2A Re-imagination of David C Driskell Community Park**[HCC-333-FY23](#)

I move the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to approve the Neighborhood Design Center proposal for the Re-imagination of David C Driskell Community Park on the existing contract. The cost not to exceed \$400,000.00

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [DCD Phase 2A Scope Rev2](#)

Director of Public Works Lesley Riddle explained the project, which has been funded by a grant. Councilmember Simasek asked if updates to park facilities would impact the design. Director Riddle said that design would take 4-5 years and an investment in park structures is warranted.

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

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

**Absent:** Waszczak

**11.b. Rent Stabilization and Affordability Fund**[HCC-324-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council Authorize the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance on regulating the annual rate of increase in rental prices in the City of Hyattsville.

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

Council President Solomon asked Assistant City Administrator Jim Chandler the next steps. He expressed his appreciation for the support of his colleagues. Director Chandler explained that an ordinance would be drafted and sent to the City Attorney who would present the ordinance to Council and answer any questions.

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

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

**12. Council Dialogue (9:05 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.)****13. Motion to Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 9:16 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, Waszczak, Simasek, Denes, Peabody, Strab, Haba, and Sandino

**Absent:** McClellan

