

City of Hyattsville

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



Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 17, 2022

7:00 PM

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_aBbo-sC7TXmBQINwfeGiQw

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
Ben Simasek, Ward 3
Jimmy McClellan, 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

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, October 17, 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_aBbo-sC7TXmBQiNwfeGiQw

1. Call to Order and Council Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Also Present:

City Administrator-Tracey Douglas
City Treasurer-Ron Brooks
Director of Public Works-Lesley Riddle
Director of Community Services-Sandra Shepherd
Director of Human Resources-Vivian Snellman
City Clerk-Laura Reams
Deputy City Clerk-Nate Groenendyk
Director of Human Resources-Jay Joyner

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

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

3. Approval of Agenda

Council Vice-President Schaible made a motion to move item 12.b Memorandum of Understanding: iMind Behavioral Health from the consent agenda to the action agenda. Councilmember Waszczak seconded the motion. The motion to move item 12.b to the action agenda was approved unanimously.

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

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

4. Approval of the Minutes**4.a. Approval of the Minutes**[HCC-94-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council approve the Council Meeting Minutes of September 19, 2022.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [MeetingMinutes September19 2022](#)

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, Denes, Waszczak, Simasek, McClellan, Haba, Peabody, and Sandino

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

David Marshall provided a written comment in opposition to converting any two-way street into a one-way street in the Church Place design. He added a comment requesting the City to pay for the increase in City Staff health care premiums. He also added his opposition to the proposed redistricting map that would change his ward.

6. Community Notices and Meetings**6.a. Main City Calendar: November 8, 2022 - November 21, 2022**[HCC-101-FY23](#)

N/A

Sponsors: City Administrator

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

7. City Administrator Update (7:20 p.m. - 7:40 p.m.)

City Administrator Tracey Douglas gave an update on City related news and events.

Councilmember Sandino asked for an update on ARPA grants for childcare and food assistance.

American Rescue Plan Fund Manager Patrick Paschall, gave an update on the progress of the programs.

Council Vice-President Schaible asked about the time frame for the rent stabilization study.

Ms. Douglas replied that after receiving proposals, the details will be brought before Council to determine timing.

Councilmember Haba reiterated his request for the names of businesses that have applied for ARPA funds.

Councilmember Waszczak asked for an update on the progress of implementing a sliding scale property tax rate.

City Treasurer Ron Brooks replied that this issue will be discussed with a consultant.

8. Presentations (7:40 p.m. - 7:55 p.m.)

8.a. Special Ward 2 Election - Presentation of Results[HCC-95-FY23](#)

Presentation Only

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Ward 2 Special Election Results Presentation](#)

Board of Supervisors of Elections Zach Peters gave a presentation recapping the Special Ward 2 election.

Council President Solomon commented on the success of the election and requested additional information into non-citizen voting.

Councilmember Waszczak asked about voting demographics by age.

City Clerk Laura Reams responded that the Clerk's Office has been and will continue to analyze voter data.

Councilmember Haba expressed his request for in-person voting to include a site west of Queen's Chapel Rd.

Council Vice-President Schaible asked if there any other ideas for improving voter turnout.

Mr. Peters replied that the turnout issue is one that the Board and the Clerk's Office is continually looking to address.

Ms. Reams added that the City continues to work on expanding its outreach.

9. Motion to Close (7:55 p.m. - 8:25 p.m.)

9.a. Motion to Close[HCC-102-FY23](#)

I move the Mayor and Council close the Council Meeting of October 17, 2022 to consult with the City Attorney and staff regarding possible litigation. The reasons for closing the meeting under these exceptions are to maintain legally required confidentiality regarding 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

Pursuant to the requirement of the Annotated Code of Maryland State Government Article 3- 104(1) (2); this statement is included in these minutes:

A closed session of the Council of the City of Hyattsville was held virtually at 8:14 p.m. on October 17, 2022.

In addition to the City Council, the following staff members were present: City Administrator Tracey Douglas, Assistant City Administrator Jim Chandler, City Attorney E.I. Cornbrooks IV, City Clerk Laura Reams, and Deputy City Clerk Nate Groenendyk.

The authority under which the session was closed was 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.

Topics Discussed: Council received a briefing from City Attorney Cornbrooks and Assistant City Administrator Chandler in regard to the District Council's decision regarding CSP-10002-C/DSP-10011-C: Queens Chapel Town Center, LLC (KFC).

Action Taken: Council President Solomon made a motion to authorize City Attorney Cornbrooks to file a petition for judicial review appealing the district council's decision regarding CSP-10002-C/DSP-10011-C: Queens Chapel Town Center, LLC (KFC). The motion was seconded by Councilmember Peabody. The Council voted unanimously to approve the motion, with Mayor Croslin abstaining from the vote.

The closed session adjourned at 9:02 p.m. on a motion made by Councilmember Waszczak and seconded by Councilmember Denes. The motion to return to open session was approved, unanimously.

The open session recommenced at 9:06 p.m.

A motion was made by Council President Solomon, seconded by Councilmember Sandino, to move to Closed Session. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

10. Proclamations

10.a. Proclamation Recognizing Economic Development Week in the City of Hyattsville [HCC-91-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council adopt a proclamation recognizing the week of October 24 - 28, 2022, as Economic Development Week in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Economic Development Week 2022 Proclamation](#)

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, Denes, Waszczak, Simasek, McClellan, Haba, Peabody, and Sandino

11. Appointments**11.a. Appointment to the Education Advisory Committee** [HCC-106-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council approve the reappointment of Melinda Baldwin (Ward 2) to the Education Advisory Committee for a term of two (2) years ending on October 31, 2024.

Sponsors: Schaible

Attachments: [Melinda Baldwin Oct 2022 redac](#)

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, Denes, Waszczak, Simasek, McClellan, Haba, Peabody, and Sandino

12. Consent Items (8:30 p.m. - 8:35 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 Denes, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

12.a. Consultant Contract with Prince George's County Board of Education[HCC-92-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator upon legal review to approve a contract between the City of Hyattsville and the Board of Education for Prince George's County. The contract will require the County to reimburse the City for HPD officers who support extra-curricular activities, sporting events, and night school at Northwestern High School. The contract will terminate on September 1, 2026.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [PG Board of Ed Consultant Contract](#)

12.b. Memorandum of Understanding: iMind Behavioral Health[HCC-93-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding between the City and iMind Behavioral Health for 24/7 behavioral health crisis support, upon the review and approval by the City Attorney for legal sufficiency.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [MOU iMind 2022.10.12](#)

This item was moved to action.

Mental Health Programs Manager Adrienne Augustus and City Administrator Tracey Douglas gave an overview of the program.

Council Vice-President Schaible proposed clarity in the language that determines when iMind would be requested to respond to a situation.

Ms. Augustus clarified the intent and agreed that the wording could be altered to be clearer.

Council Vice-President Schaible provided his preferred change to the language.

Councilmember Waszczak asked if there is a requirement that mental health responders need to live near the City of Hyattsville to improve response time.

Ms. Augustus replied that there is no requirement, and reiterated that iMind is a county-wide program which means response time will vary depending on where personnel have been previously deployed.

Council President Solomon asked if the motion needs to wait because there are questions regarding the language of the MOU.

Ms. Douglas clarified that the motion authorizes entering into an MOU and the language of the MOU may change, based on legal review and staff recommendations.

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

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

12.c Acceptance of the Certified Results for the 2022 Special Ward 2 Election [HCC-96-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council accept the certified election results from the Board of Supervisors of Elections for the Special Ward 2 Election held on Tuesday, October 4, 2022. This certification is provided for under Section C4-11 of the Hyattsville City Charter.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Certified Return Sheet 2022](#)

12.d. Third Party Inspection of 5812 40th Ave [HCC-98-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$65,000 to Johnson, Mirmiran, and Thompson (JMT) for the Third Party Inspection of the Teen Center project at 5812 40th Ave under their existing contract with the City.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Task Order 66 CM and 3rd Party Inspection Services \(1\)](#)

12.e. Leaf Collection services [HCC-99-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$35,000 to Professional Lawn Maintenance Service (PLMS) to provide up to 25 days of on-call leaf collection services under their existing contract with the City.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Estimate 1381 from Professional Lawn Maintenance Services](#)

12.f. Big Belly Solar FY23 Expenditure [HCC-100-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$80,000 to Big Belly Solar for the FY23 service agreement.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Connect SX ESP for City of Hyattsville, MD Q38105-1](#)
[Connect SX Renewal ESP for City of Hyattsville MD Q20879-2 \(Combined Co-Term\)](#)

12.g. Disbursement of Ward 3 Discretionary Funds [HCC-103-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the disbursement of \$598.00 of Ward 3 FY22 discretionary funds to Councilmember Ben Simasek as reimbursement for the purchase of catering for the September 30, 2022, Ward 3 Check-in.

Sponsors: Simasek and McClellan

Attachments: [Cocineros Receipt 9-30-22](#)
[JAMMIES Catering Contract- Ward 3 update](#)

12.h. Purchase of replacement furniture for the Finance Department[HCC-104-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to enter into an agreement with Douron for the purchase of office furniture for the Finance Department utilizing the pricing provided in the Mid Atlantic Purchasing Team (MAPT) Contract 2015-42 for an expenditure not to exceed \$20,000.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [JN-15416 CITY OF HYATTSVILLE - PURCHASING OFC-FURN PLAN](#)

12.i. Command Central Community - Motorola Solutions[HCC-110-FY23](#)

I move that Mayor and Council authorize the expenditure of \$40,700.00 for a five-year agreement with Motorola Solutions Command Central Community, upon the review and approval by the City Attorney for legal sufficiency.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [CommandCentral Community Bro-0121-mlw-v6.pdf](#)
[Motorola CC Community Proposal_091222.pdf](#)

13. Action Items (8:35 p.m. - 8:55 p.m.)**13.a. Health Care, Prescription Drug, and Dental Care Rates for CY23**[HCC-108-FY23](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council approve the 2023 calendar year health insurance premium rates which have increased an average of 5% in all plans. To address the increase, the City will increase its flat rate contribution from \$425 to \$439 for individuals; from \$746 to \$770 for individual plus one (1); and from \$967 to \$1,001 for individuals plus two (2) or more. This will result in the City absorbing more than ½ of the increase and the employees responsible for the remaining amount. Employees' contributions per pay on average, is approximately \$1.20 increase for single. \$2.44 for individual plus one (1), and \$3.13 for family. Prescription drug plans increased 9% on average and the City will continue to pay 80% and the employees 20% of this cost. The increase in the Dental PPO and HMO Plans for employees per pay, is less than \$5 depending on their level of elected coverage and will be paid by the employee.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Human Resources Director Vivian Snellman gave an explanation of the rate increases to the City employee health care premiums.

Councilmember Waszczak asked if the rate increases changed based on employee position.

Ms. Snellman replied that the increase was the same for all employees, depending on their level of coverage.

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, Denes, Waszczak, Simasek, McClellan, Haba, Peabody, and Sandino

14. Discussion Items (8:55 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.)**14.a. Church Place Redesign**[HCC-107-FY23](#)

Discussion Only

Sponsors: City AdministratorAttachments: [Memo - Church Place Redesign - October 2022](#)
[Church Place Alley 11x17 Board FINAL \(1\)](#)

Assistant City Administrator Jim Chandler gave an overview of the proposed redesign of Church Place.

Councilmember Waszczak asked for information about the timing and success indicators for the trial period.

Mr. Chandler replied that there is no planned trial period, rather this may be a trial for other similar spaces.

Councilmember Waszczak expressed her support for more signage and asked about safety features that may be implemented in the design. She finished by asking what type of public outreach will be done to seek feedback from the community.

Mr. Chandler replied that CitizenLab would be engaged to get feedback. He added that the signage will be addressed at a later stage in the process. He further clarified the plan for the driving lane that would prohibit vehicles from parking in the alley.

Councilmember Denes requested that painted bumpouts be accompanied with a vertical application to increase effectiveness.

Director of Public Works Lesley Riddle provided examples of vertical elements that could be used.

14.b. Council Discussion: Recommended Ward Maps for Redistricting[HCC-109-FY23](#)

Discussion Only

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [coh_redistricting_commission_summary_report_2022](#)
[Minimal Adjustments Map](#)
[Growth Conscious Map \(version 2\)](#)

Council President Solomon asked if there will be changes to the currently proposed maps.

Redistricting Commission member Carter Ross, responded that the commission would appreciate specific input from the Council to give direction on proposed changes.

Staff Liaison to the Redistricting Commission Cindy Zork reiterated the current timeline for feedback and map changes.

Council President Solomon requested more information on the population of specific area currently located in Ward 2.

Councilmember Haba requested that Ward 4 and Ward 2 remain in the upper end of the allowance to account for the lack of projected growth in those wards. He also asked for the commission to analyze the addition of specified areas to Ward 4 and Ward 5.

Mr. Ross responded that the commission has recently looked at Councilmember Haba's proposed scenario, but did not have enough time to put together a map representing that for the current presentation.

15. Council Dialogue (9:45 p.m. - 9:50 p.m.)**16. Motion to Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 10:22 p.m.

A motion was made by Councilmember Peabody, seconded by Councilmember Denes, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote:

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