

City of Hyattsville

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



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 22, 2022

6:00 PM

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_s3a43KaOTc248A8TNsHchw

Virtual

City Council Public Hearing

Robert S. Croslin, Interim Mayor
Danny Schaible, Council Vice President, Ward 2
Sam Denes, Ward 1
Joanne Waszczak, Ward 2
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 Public Hearing on Tuesday, February 22, 2022 remotely via video conference. The Public Hearing 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_s3a43KaOTc248A8TNsHchw

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

Also present:

City Administrator-Tracey Douglas

City Attorney-Skip Cornbrooks

City Clerk-Laura Reams

Present:

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

2. Presentation

2.a) Hyattsville Charter Amendment Resolution 2022-01: Adjusting the Time Requirements for a Special Election due to a Vacancy in Office of Mayor or Councilmember

[HCC-248-FY22](#)

For Discussion and Public Input

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Resolution - Charter Amendment Extending Time to Conduct Special Election 2.16.22](#)
[BOSE Letter to City Council Feb 1 2022](#)
[Notice Public Hearing - Special Mayoral Election 2.1.22](#)
[Resolution - Special Mayoral Vote by Mail Election 1.31.22 signed](#)

City Clerk Reams presented an overview of the proposed Charter Amendment Resolution. Clerk Reams provided background information on the charter change, noting the timeline challenges related to filling a vacancy and the timeline required to conduct a Vote-by-Mail election. The change will extend the timeline for holding a special election from 75 days to 140 days. Board of Supervisors of Elections Chair Zachary Peters addressed the Council on behalf of the Board in support of the proposed Charter Amendment.

3. Public Comment

David Marshall said he was opposed to the Charter Amendment as well as a Vote-by-Mail only election.

Clerk Reams provided clarification on the election structure and noted that a polling location would be available on election day.

David Marshall asked a procedural question regarding the next public hearing. Clerk Reams responded that the next public hearing would begin at 6:30 p.m. and would be a separate zoom link.

Council Vice President Schaible asked about the implications of the proposed timeline on future elections and how vacancies would be handled.

City Attorney Cornbrooks suggested that the question would be better addressed during Council discussion at the 7 p.m. Council meeting. Council Vice President Schaible said he was agreeable with the suggestion.

David Marshall said that although he was opposed to the Charter Amendment he was thankful for everyone who worked on the proposal.

4. Motion to Adjourn

The public hearing was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.