

# 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, July 17, 2023**

**7:00 PM**

**Register in advance for this Webinar:**

**[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_BqpchNbRT3ywgiCFBnXrSA](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BqpchNbRT3ywgiCFBnXrSA)**

**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**  
**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, July 17, 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.

[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_BqpchNbRT3ywgICFBnXrSA](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BqpchNbRT3ywgICFBnXrSA)

**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

City Treasure-Ron Brooks

Chief of Police-Jarod Towers

Director of Public Works-Lesley Riddle

Director of Human Services-Jay Joyner

City Clerk-Laura Reams

Acting Director of Community and Economic Development-Holly Simmons

Deputy Director of Community Services-Cheri Everhart

<b>Present:</b>	Mayor Robert Croslin
	Council President Joseph Solomon
	Council Vice-President Danny Schaible
	Councilmember Sam Denes
	Councilmember Joanne Waszczak
	Councilmember Emily Strab
	Councilmember Jimmy McClellan
	Councilmember Kareem Redmond
	Councilmember Michelle Lee
	Councilmember Edouard Haba
<b>Absent:</b>	Councilmember Rommel Sandino

**2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Councilmember Denes moved to amend item 8.a to add Councilmember Waszczak as a Council Liaison to the Educational Facilities Task Force. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McClellan and was passed unanimously.

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

**Aye:** Croslin, Solomon, Waszczak, Denes, Schaible, Strab, McClellan, Redmond, Lee, and Haba

**Absent:** Sandino

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

Mr. Marshall addressed the Council regarding queens chapel town center and issue with vandalism, loitering and public drunkenness. He asked the Council to put pressure on the County to enforce county regulations.

**5. City Administrator Update (7:20 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.)**

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

**6. Presentations (7:45 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.)****6.a. Update on 21st Century Policing and Cannabis Legislation**[HCC-013-FY24](#)

For Presentation and Discussion

Sponsors: City Administrator

Chief Towers provided a policing update on 21st century policing. He reviewed the pillars of 21st century policing and a status update on the department's progress in meeting the goals. Chief Towers also updated the Council on recruitment and retention efforts in the department.

**7. Proclamations****7.a. Proclamation of National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month**[HCC-023-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council recongize July 2023 as National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [CM 0717 National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month 2023](#)

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

**Aye:** Croslin, Solomon, Waszczak, Denes, Schaible, Strab, McClellan, Redmond, Lee, and Haba

**Absent:** Sandino

**8. Appointments**

All Appointments were approved in a single vote.

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

**Aye:** Croslin, Solomon, Waszczak, Denes, Schaible, Strab, McClellan, Redmond, Lee, and Haba

**Absent:** Sandino

**8.a. Assignment of Committee Liaisons**[HCC-001-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council appoint the following Councilmembers as Council liaisons to City Committees:

Code Compliance Advisory Committee: McClellan, Redmond

Education Advisory Committee: Strab

Educational Facilities Task Force: Sandino, Waszczak

Health, Wellness, and Recreation Advisory Committee: Denes, Lee

Hyattsville Environment Committee: Haba, Schaible

Planning Committee: Denes, Redmond

Police and Public Safety Citizen's Advisory Committee: Strab

Race and Equity Task Force: Haba, Lee

Shade Tree Board: Schaible

Youth Advisory Council: McClellan, Waszczak

Sponsors: City Administrator

**8.b. Appointment to the Education Advisory Committee**[HCC-002-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council approve the reappointment of Cynthia Totten (Ward 4) to the Education Advisory Committee for a term of two (2) years ending on July 31, 2025.

Sponsors: Strab

Attachments: [Cynthia Totten May 22, 23 re-appointment redac](#)

**9. Consent Items (8:15 p.m. - 8:20 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 Council Vice President Schaible, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Croslin, Solomon, Waszczak, Denes, Schaible, Strab, McClellan, Redmond, Lee, and Haba

**Absent:** Sandino

**9.a. Renewal of Annual Service Agreement with Motorola for Radio Communications Dispatch System, Portable and Mobile Radios** [HCC-003-FY24](#)

I move that Mayor and Council authorize the expenditure of \$37,650.24 for the one-year renewal of the Annual Motorola Service Agreement for maintenance on our dispatch console, portable and mobile radios.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Hyattsville SA 23-24](#)

**9.b. Renewal of Police Communications Agreement with the City of Hyattsville and City of Mount Rainier** [HCC-004-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to execute an agreement with the City of Mt. Rainier which allows the Hyattsville Police Department to provide radio dispatching services and incoming call for police services (both emergency and non-emergency). This agreement is for a term of one (1) year.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Communications Agmt Mt. Rainie 062922 - KCK](#)

**9.c. FY24 Northstar Tutoring Contract** [HCC-005-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council approve the FY24 Northstar Tutoring contract for tutoring and mentoring management services in the amount of \$80,000 in support of the City's teen and youth programming for students in grades K through 12, upon the review and approval by the City Attorney for legal sufficiency.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Northstar Contract 2023-2024](#)

**9.d. FY24 - Landscaping Contract Expenditure** [HCC-006-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$75,000 to Professional Lawn Maintenance Services (PLMS) for the FY24 portion of the existing landscaping contract.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [210326 - contract DPW21-002 - PLMS landscape maintenance - plms signed](#)

**9.e. FY24 - Alley Maintenance Contract Expenditure** [HCC-007-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure to Professional Lawn Maintenance Services (PLMS) for an amount not to exceed \$35,000 for the FY24 portion of the Alley Maintenance contract.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [210326 - contract DPW21-003 - PLMS alley maintenance - plms signed](#)

**9.f. Adirondack Tree Experts Contract - Option Year 5** [HCC-008-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to execute option year five (5) of the Urban Tree Care contract with Adirondack Tree Experts and authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$185,000 for continued services.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [2018 adirondack contract](#)

**9.g. FY24 - Building Cleaning Contract Expenditure** [HCC-009-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure to Sentral Services for an amount not the exceed \$100,000 for the FY24 portion of the Building Cleaning Contract.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [210315 - HCC-252-FY21 - building cleaning contract.pdf](#)

**9.h. Approval of Funding for FY24 Lease of 4629 Arundel Place** [HCC-010-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure of \$42,000 to Phu Than Neuyen for the lease of 4629 Arundel Place from July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024 utilizing the existing lease agreement.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [220826 - 4629 Baltimore Ave - lease agreement - signed](#)

**9.i. 2023 Memorandum of Understanding with Capital Area Food Bank for Monthly Mobile Market** [HCC-011-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Capital Area Food Bank for the establishment of a Mobile Market to include the monthly receipt and distribution of fresh produce at First United Methodist Church from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 .

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [FY24 Mobile Market MOU](#)

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**9.j. FY24 Budget Amendment - Acceptance of Donation from Council Member Wanika Fisher** [HCC-012-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council accept and appropriate \$2,000 from Prince George's County Council Member Wanika Fisher in support of the City's initiatives to provide backpacks and school supplies to children and youth in the City.

Sponsors: City Administrator

**9.k. Purchase of Digital Message Boards - ARPA** [HCC-015-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to enter into an agreement with Empire Graphics LLC for the purchase and installation of 1 new digital message board, and the upgrade of 2 existing digital message boards, pending legal review. Additionally, an expenditure or ARPA funds not to exceed \$118,000 is authorized.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [230607 - message board - City of Hyattsville Ager Rd. & Little River Turnpike estimate](#)  
[230601 - message board - City of Hyattsville Centennial Park estimate](#)  
[230601 - message board - City of Hyattsville Driskoll Park estimate](#)

**9.l. Anacostia Watershed Society Stormwater Stewardship Grant Expenditure** [HCC-016-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to enter into an agreement with the Anacostia Watershed Society (AWS) to provide educational programs and outreach for an authorized expenditure of \$10,000. AWS was part of the City's team that applied for and received the Stormwater Stewardship Grant accepted by Council in April 2023. The Treasurer is authorized to make the necessary budget adjustments to facilitate this expenditure.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [AWS proposal](#)

**9.m. Chesapeake Climate Action Network Stormwater Stewardship Grant Expenditure** [HCC-017-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to enter into an agreement with the Chesapeake Climate Action Network (CCAN) to provide invasive species removal programs for an authorized expenditure of \$17,692. CCAN was part of the City's team that applied for and received the Stormwater Stewardship Grant accepted by Council in April 2023. The Treasurer is authorized to make the necessary budget adjustments to facilitate this expenditure.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [ccan proposal](#)



**9.n. Big Belly Solar FY24 Expenditure** [HCC-018-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$80,000 to Big Belly Solar for the FY24 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 \(Combined Co-Term\)](#)

**9.o. Appointment of the City Attorney** [HCC-019-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor, with Council approval, appoint E.I. Cornbrooks IV, Esquire of the firm of Karpinski, Cornbrooks, and Karp, P.A. as the Attorney for the City.

Sponsors: City Administrator

**9.p. Update Hyattsville Environment Committee Worksheet** [HCC-020-FY24](#)

I move the Mayor and Council update the worksheet for the Hyattsville Environment Committee per the Committee's recommendations.

Sponsors: Haba

Attachments: [REVISED\\_HVL Environmental Committee Worksheet](#)  
[Environmental Committee Worksheet Current Version](#)

**10. Action Items (8:20 p.m. - 9:20 p.m.)****10.a. Election of Council Officers** [HCC-022-FY24](#)

I move the Mayor and Council elect Councilmember Joseph Solomon as Council President and Councilmember Joanne Waszczak as Council Vice President for a term of two (2) years to end in July 2025.

Sponsors: Croslin

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, Waszczak, Denes, Schaible, Strab, McClellan, Redmond, Lee, and Haba

**Absent:** Sandino

**10.b. Hyattsville Resolution 2023-03: Authorizing the Issue and Sell of General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes (INTRODUCTION & ADOPTION)**[HCC-021-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council introduce and adopt Hyattsville Resolution 2023-03, authorizing the renewal and modification of the City's General Obligation Public Improvement Bond Anticipation Notes, Series 2022 in the original principal of \$11,000,000, prescribing certain terms and conditions for the renewal and modification thereof and other details incident to the renewal and modification of the 2022 BAN; authorizing the delivery of an amended and restated 2022 BAN; authorizing the Treasurer to determine and fix certain terms and details in connection with the renewal and modification of the 2022 BAN through the delivery of the 2023 BAN; confirming the payment of the principal and interest on the BANs from the proceeds of the bonds in anticipation of which the BANS were issued secured by the full faith and credit and unlimited taxing power of the City; providing that the provisions of this resolution shall be liberally construed; and generally relating to the renewal and modification of the 2022 BAN through the delivery of the 2023 BAN (INTRODUCTION AND ADOPTION).

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Resolution 2023-03 - City of Hyattsville BAN Renewal and Modification Resolution 2023\(176028871.5\)](#)

Councilmember Denes noted that the long term plan was contingent on interest rates being more favorable. He inquired what would happen if rates were not favorable. Treasurer Brooks responded that the City had two options: renew the notes for another year or take refinance the \$11M notes to bonds for a 15-30 year term.

Council Vice President Waszczak asked about the City's bond rating and when the City may reapply for the bond rating. Treasurer Brooks spoke to the history of obtaining the City's first bond rating and suggested that if the City did a bond issue next year that issue would require a bond rating as well as the City's audits to be up to date.

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

**Aye:** Croslin, Solomon, Waszczak, Denes, Schaible, Strab, McClellan, Redmond, Lee, and Haba

**Absent:** Sandino

**10.c. MPS Safety Stick Parking Technology**[HCC-024-FY24](#)

I move the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to enter into a contract with MPS Solutions to install the Safety Stick parking technology at an identified area on Church Place upon legal review and approval.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Emergency Operations Manager Reggie Bagley presented an overview of the requested pilot for MPS Solutions. He briefly described the implementation of safety stick parking technology to be installed on Church Place/Gallatin Street. The installation of 10 safety sticks were included in the pilot program. He asked Director Riddle to provide an update on the plans for Church Place. Director Riddle shared information on traffic calming and pedestrian safety improvements for Church Place.

Mr. Bagley provided information on the functions of the safety stick which takes photos of license plates and can issue a citation to vehicles which are parked illegally. He said the sticks are portable and the City intended to move them around to different places during the pilot period.

Mayor Croslin asked if no parking signs would be installed. Mr. Bagley said signage would be installed as well as outreach to residents and businesses.

Council Vice President Waszczak asked why they were being offered at no charge and at one point, would there be a charge associated. Mr. Bagley said the pilot was offered at no charge but live data would be gathered to bring back to the Council. He clarified that the offer was for up to 10 safety sticks but the City may not use all of the 10 offered.

City Administrator Douglas noted that the City had not yet discussed other locations beyond Church Place.

Councilmember Denes asked for clarification about the use of this to enforce parking violations on private property and asked if this was the intention. Mr. Bagley said it was public property only. Councilmember Denes asked what the scope of the device was, and what stretch of Church Place this would cover. Mr. Bagley said it was part of the larger design of Church Place. Councilmember Denes asked how far the sticks would cover. Mr. Bagley said the City did not know the effective range of the sticks and would have 10 to deploy and report back with data. City Administrator Douglas said staff would follow up with the range of the sticks as provided by the vendor. Councilmember Denes asked how the sticks worked with license plate covers. Mr. Bagley said the stick would say the plate was unable to authenticate.

Councilmember Strab asked if the pilot program will only be located at Church Place or if they will try other locations. Mr. Bagley stated that Church Place is the only location identified at this time.

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

**Aye:** Croslin, Solomon, Waszczak, Denes, Schaible, Strab, McClellan, Redmond, Lee, and Haba

**Absent:** Sandino

**11. Council Dialogue (9:20 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.)**

**12. Motion to Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

A motion was made by Council Vice-President Schaible, seconded by Councilmember Strab, that the meeting be Adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Croslin, Solomon, Waszczak, Denes, Schaible, Strab, McClellan, Redmond, Lee, and Haba

**Absent:** Sandino