

City of Hyattsville

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



Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 15, 2024

7:00 PM

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_R2byPIIhRcWlxsuSq0lg_g

Virtual

City Council

Robert S. Croslin, Mayor
Joseph Solomon, Council President, Ward 5
Joanne Waszczak, Council Vice President, Ward 1
Sam Denes, Ward 1
Danny Schaible, Ward 2
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

Nate Groenendyk, City Clerk, 301-985-5001, 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. Submitted electronic statements will be sent to Councilmembers prior to the meeting and will not be read aloud. 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.

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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 15, 2024 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:

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. Submitted electronic statements will be sent to Councilmembers prior to the meeting and included in the official meeting record. Electronically submitted statements will not be read aloud. All participants shall remain respectful in their contributions and associated functions of the virtual meeting interface are not intended for public dialogue or discussion.

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_R2byPIIhRcWlxsuSq0lg_g

1. Call to Order and Council Roll Call

Call to order at 7:00 PM.

Also Present:

City Administrator Tracey Douglas
Deputy City Administrator Suzanne Ludlow
City Treasurer Ron Brooks
Director of Public Works Lesley Riddle
Director of Community Services Sandra Shephard
Director of Human Resources
City Clerk Laura Reams
Deputy City Clerk Nate Groenendyk
Deputy of Public Works Priyanka Joshi
City Planner Jeff Ulysse
Housing Manager David Cristeal
American Rescue Plan Program Manager Patrick Paschall

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

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

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

Absent: Haba

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

Sally Ethelston speaking on behalf of St. Matthews Episcopal Church requested financial support for the renovation of their bathrooms. The facility is used to support the immigrant community.

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

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

6. Proclamations

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

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

Absent: Haba

6.a. Arbor Day Proclamation

[HCC-271-FY24](#)

I move the Mayor and Council proclaim April 26, 2024 as Arbor Day in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [CM 0415 Arbor Day 2024](#)

6.b. Proclamation in Honor of National Volunteer Week

[HCC-280-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council proclaim April 14 - 20, 2024 as National Volunteer Week in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [CM 0415 National Volunteer Week 2024](#)

7. Appointments

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

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

Absent: Haba

7.a. Appointment to the Shade Tree Board [HCC-279-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor, with Council approval, appoint Kyla Gallagher (Ward 2) to the Shade Tree Board for a term of 3 years to expire on April 30, 2027.

Sponsors: Croslin

Attachments: [Kyla Gallagher, W2 Nov 21, 2023 redac](#)

8. Consent Items (7:40 p.m. - 7:45 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 Strab, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Absent: Haba

8.a. Nicholson Street Pedestrian Safety Improvements Change Order [HCC-254-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$60,000 to NZI Construction for additional street art as part of the Nicholson Street Pedestrian Safety Improvement project under their existing contract with the City.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Proposal_Nicholson Street_Street Art](#)

8.b. MOU with MDOT SHA for maintenance of MD500 and MD410 [HCC-260-FY24](#)

I move the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to enter into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Maryland Department of Transportation - State Highway Administration (MDOT-SHA) for the maintenance of grass medians on MD500 Queen's Chapel Road and MD410 - East-West Highway. The City will provide mowing services and be reimbursed by MDOT-SHA an amount not to exceed \$63,138 over the 3-year life of the agreement, pending legal review.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [MD 500 and MD 410 Median Maintenance MOU#5](#)

8.c. Lancer Drive and Longfellow Street Traffic Calming [HCC-263-FY24](#)

I move the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$45,000 to Toole Design to create a traffic calming concept design for Lancer Drive and Longfellow Street under their existing contract with the City.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [2024-03-27_50707.16_Lancer_and_Longfellow_Traffic_Calming_Scope_Corrected](#)

8.d. MOU with the U.S. Attorney's Office, Metropolitan Police Department and City of Hyattsville - Presidential Inauguration Task Force (PITF) [HCC-264-FY24](#)

I move that Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to enter into an MOU with the U.S. Attorney's Office, Metropolitan Police Department, and the City regarding the Presidential Inauguration on January 17, 2025, pending legal approval.

Sponsors: City Administrator

8.e. ARPA: Purchase of Ambulance for Hyattsville Volunteer Fire Department [HCC-273-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to enter into a contract for the purchase of an ambulance from Atlantic Emergency Solutions for an amount not to exceed \$390,000, utilizing ARPA funds, pending legal review. This purchase was authorized by the Council in December 2023.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [HVFD Ambulance Procurement](#)
[Attachment F - Executed Contract-Siddons Martin Emergency Group LLC](#)
[Attachment G - Limited Assignment-Atlantic Emergency Solutions, Inc.](#)
[Attachment H - Hyattsville Proposal Binder WC F550 11.24.24](#)

8.f. Disbursement of Ward 1 Discretionary Funds [HCC-278-FY24](#)

I move the Mayor and Council approve the disbursement of \$252 from the Ward 1 discretionary funds to Arrow Bicycles for the purchase of children and youth bicycle helmets.

Sponsors: Denes and Waszczak

Attachments: [OrderFormHelmets](#)

8.g. Donation of Two Police Vehicles for Non-Emergency Administrative Purposes [HCC-284-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council to authorize the donation of two (2) Police Department out-of-service 2009 Chevrolet Impalas to the Hyattsville Volunteer Fire department, to be used for non-emergency administrative purposes.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [4693_001](#)

9. Action Items (7:45 p.m. - 8:05 p.m.)**9.a. Hyattsville Charter Amendment Resolution: 2024-01: Modernizing the City's Procurement Provisions** [HCC-287-FY24](#)

I move the Mayor and Council adopt Hyattsville Charter Amendment Resolution 2024-01, a Resolution amending the Charter to modernize the City's procurement provisions by placing the requirements for Council oversight in the City's Code and by placing aspects of the procurement process in the City's Code and inserting language requiring the City Administrator to sign all contracts in accordance with the City Code (INTRODUCTION & ADOPTION).

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [2024-01 Charter Resolution Procurement 2.14.24 Procurement_FINAL Hyattsville PPT Procurement Charter and Code April 2024](#)

Interim Deputy City Administrator Suzanne Ludlow gave an overview of the Charter Amendment.

Council President Solomon stated that his concerns from the previous meeting have been resolved.

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

Absent: Haba

9.b. Hyattsville Ordinance 2024-01: Procurement & Contracting Procedures: First Reading[HCC-288-FY24](#)

I move the Mayor and Council introduce Hyattsville Ordinance 2024-01, an ordinance whereby the City Council amends the City Code in order to modernize and codify the City's contracting and procurement policies (FIRST READING).

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Hyattsville Ordinance 2024-01 Chapter 6 Procurement FINAL](#)
[Hyattsville PPT Procurement Charter and Code April 2024](#)

Interim Deputy City Administrator Suzanne Ludlow gave an overview of the proposed revisions to the City Code.

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 Sandino

Absent: Haba

10. Discussion Items (8:05 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.)

10.a. FY25 Budget Discussion: Overview[HCC-283-FY24](#)

City Administrator Tracey Douglas and City Treasurer Ron Brooks will open the FY25 Budget discussions with an overview of the budget and information from departmental office hours.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Council President Solomon asked the Council to consider moving appropriate motions to action from discussion due to the tight timeline to approve the budget. The Homeless Action Plan (Discussion Item 10.I.) will come back at a later meeting.

City Administrator Douglas provided information about possible changes to the FY25 budget and schedule for approving the budget. Council Vice President Waszczak asked if the proposed budget overview reflected potential impact of grant funding, corporate partnerships, and congressional earmarks. She asked for clarity on the process of putting the Rent Stabilization initiative on hold until the impact of the Prince George's County bill are clearer. CA Douglas and Treasurer Brooks replied that potential sources of funding are not reflected in the budget as it is impossible to account for the funds before they are awarded. Historically items have been removed from the budget and added in later as a budget amendment. Council President Solomon explained that to remove funding for Rent Stabilization and then add it as a budget amendment would require 8 votes.

CM Schaible stated his support of the Rent Stabilization Ordinance citing that it has a built in funding source. He also asked about the anticipated FY25 budget deficit and when the City will know how much was overspent in FY24. Treasurer Brooks stated that the City does not run on a deficit as there are reserve funds that can be used to cover gaps in revenue. He also stated that a year end analysis will be done within 90 days of the end of the fiscal year at which point the Council will be updated. He explained that salary adjustments and benefits are expected to outpace revenues. CM Schaible also asked if the City Administrator has looked at staffing adjustments to see where savings could be captured. City Administrator Douglas replied that staffing levels have been adjusted and are reflected in the FY25 budget. The City is also looking to consolidate departments and increase outer agency partnerships to reduce the need for new hires in the police department.

CM Redmond asked how the resident satisfaction survey differs from the sustainability plan and if ineffective services and programs will be eliminated to create and implement new ones. Clerk Reams explained that the survey is a city-wide survey about the services and programs provided by the City whereas the Sustainability Plan is a part of the City's Strategic Plan. City Administrator Douglas stated that the City looks for ways to streamline programming to minimize redundancies and impact on staff. CM Redmond also stated that he is in favor of waiting to take action on the Rent Stabilization Ordinance until the effects of the County bill are realized.

CM Denes asked for clarification from Council President Solomon on his recommendation not to remove rent stabilization from the budget and bring it back as a budget ordinance at a later date. He also asked if the City began charging the increased rental fees and expressed concern about passing a budget with the funding for rent stabilization allocated, with no definitive course to spend it down as it may send mixed signals to the residents. City Administrator Douglas advised that the increased rental fees have not gone into effect.

CM Strab stated that many council members were uncomfortable passing a budget with a revenue shortfall and thinks this is untenable long term. CM Strab also stated that staff cuts will be problematic and streamlining programs will be the most effective course of action to reduce the budget and

potentially reduce spending.

Council President Solomon outlined how the City has built up a financial surplus over time and these funds are used to cover any budgetary gaps. He also urged against discussing eliminating staff positions, as there is funding available to maintain the current staffing levels. He is opposed to removing funding for rent stabilization because there is no guarantee that any newly elected Council members will support bringing forth such an ordinance at a later date.

Mayor Croslin stated that as the City continues to grow, the need for staff will grow as well. He also stated that the City has done a good job building up a surplus that can be utilized to operate and provide City services when revenues or property taxes are low.

Council Vice President Waszczak asked if the Council can freeze spending on specific line items in a budget for a defined time. Treasurer Brooks replied that the best way to do that would be to remove the proposed initiative from the budget and bring it back as a budget ordinance at a later date.

10.b. FY25 Council Budget Amendment: FY25 Budget Reductions

[HCC-270-FY24](#)

For discussion: I move the Mayor and Council cut from the FY25 budget or delay to FY26 the following items/programs:

- Multi-Family Green grant program
- Language program
- Hiring of housing support staff and consultant
- Rent stabilization software
- Resident satisfaction survey (\$35,000)
- Police cadet program
- Compensation study
- Business and economic development strategic plan
- Hiring of a lobbyist

Sponsors: Strab

Councilmember Strab presented items to cut from the FY25 budget. CA Douglas responded that the Multi Family Green grant, language program, hiring housing support staff and consultant, rent stabilization software, police cadet, compensation study, lobbyist and are supported cuts.

The following motion was made by Councilmember Strab:

I move the Mayor and Council cut from the FY25 budget the following items and programs: The Multi-Family Green grant program, the language program, the police cadet program, the compensation study, and the hiring of the lobbyist.

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

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

Absent: Haba

10.c. FY25 Council Budget Amendment: Pet Waste Stations

[HCC-266-FY24](#)

For discussion: I move the Mayor and Council include \$3,000 in the FY25 budget for the purchase of 10 additional pet waste stations to be installed in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: Lee

Attachments: [Pet Waste Stations](#)

CM Lee gave an overview of the motion. CM McClellan asked about the maintenance costs. Public Works Director Riddle stated that this would not be a heavy lift for the Public Works staff. CM Lee stated that the waste stations are needed in Ward 4 but can be placed around the City as needed. Council Vice President Waszczak asked if ten stations is enough and Director Riddle stated that ten is a good start.

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

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

Absent: Haba

10.d. FY25 Council Budget Amendment: Develop a Hyattsville Climate Action Plan [HCC-267-FY24](#)

For discussion: I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the procurement of a Climate Action Plan (CAP), to establish a comprehensive decarbonization strategy for the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: Schaible

Attachments: [Draft Climate Action Plan 01-15-2022](#)
[Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan - Final - Dec 28 2023](#)

CM Schaible provided an overview of the initiative.

City Administrator Douglas stated that she reached out to other municipalities in the corridor to assess if there are partnership opportunities to reduce the financial and staff load. She was not able to identify potential partners in the along the Rhode Island Avenue corridor for this. She recommended following the Prince George's County Climate Action Plan. Currently the City does not have the staff capacity for this.

Council President Solomon asked for clarity on the intent of the motion. He also asked if the committee considered the work done in the Prince George's County Climate Action Plan. CM Schaible expressed that the motion is to bring a consultant on board to prepare the plan. The financial contribution would need to be approximately \$100,000.

10.e. FY25 Council Budget Amendment: EAC Funding to Host a Principals' Luncheon [HCC-268-FY24](#)

For discussion: I move the Mayor and Council include \$1,000 in the FY25 Budget for the Education Advisory Committee to host a Principals' Luncheon.

Sponsors: Strab

The following motion was made by CM Strab:

I move the Mayor and Council include \$2,000 in the FY25 Budget for the Education Advisory Committee to host a Principals' Luncheon.

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

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

Absent: Haba

10.f. FY25 Council Budget Amendment: Mayor & Ward Discretionary Funds[HCC-281-FY24](#)

For discussion: I move the Mayor and Council increase the funding in the FY25 budget for the Mayor and Ward Discretionary Funds from \$1,700 per Ward to \$2,700 per Ward.

Sponsors: Solomon

CM Denes stated that increasing the discretionary funds for the Mayor and Council seems unnecessary and supports the staff guideline recommendations for spending discretionary funds. CM McClellan is in agreement with CM Denes.

CM Redmond and CM Lee stated their support for the increase. Council President Solomon stated that public engagement events have increased since the COVID-19 has ended and these funds will help bring residents together.

The following motion was made by Council President Solomon:

I move the Mayor and Council increase the funding in the FY25 budget for the Mayor and Ward Discretionary Funds from \$1,700 per Ward to \$2,700 per Ward.

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, Waszczak, Schaible, Strab, McClellan, Redmond, Lee, and Sandino

Nay: Denes

Absent: Haba

10.g. FY25 Council Budget Amendment: Laptops for New Councilmembers[HCC-282-FY24](#)

For discussion: I move the Mayor and Council include funding in the FY25 budget for the purchase of laptops for newly elected Councilmembers to allow non-returning Councilmembers to retain their City issued laptops.

Sponsors: Solomon

Council President Solomon provided an overview of the motion.

CM Denes inquired if City staff keep their laptops when they leave. Treasurer responded that the staff does not keep their laptops when leaving the City. The City assesses the value of old devices and if the laptops are valued at less than \$500 they are deemed obsolete and wiped clean to be sold via public auction. Older devices are usually sold in lots for about \$50 each. CM Denes suggested creation of a policy that would allow these devices to go to members of the community who are in need.

Council President Solomon stated that the devices would be considered a parting gift for those who have served on the Council.

The following motion was made by Council President Solomon:

I move the Mayor and Council include funding in the FY25 budget for the purchase of laptops for newly elected Councilmembers to allow non-returning Councilmembers to retain their City issued laptops.

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: Solomon, Schaible, McClellan, Redmond, Lee, and Sandino

Nay: Waszczak, Denes, and Strab

Absent: Haba

Abstain: Croslin

10.h. FY25 Council Budget Amendment: Healthcare for Councilmembers[HCC-286-FY24](#)

For discussion: I move the Mayor and Council include funding in the FY25 budget to allow Councilmembers to receive healthcare benefits through the City.

Sponsors: Solomon

Council President Solomon provided an overview of the budget amendment that would allow Councilmembers to participate in the City's existing health care coverage.

CM Denes inquired if this matter has been discussed by the compensation committee. City Administrator Douglass advised that part time employees are eligible for health insurance but are required to work 20 per week or 80 per month. CM Denes stated that he would recommend the compensation committee consider factoring this into compensation for Councilmembers for transparency. City Clerk Reams stated that the compensation committee looked at this a few years back, as did the City attorney and it was concluded that this was outside of the scope of the committee, as this is not compensation.

CM Strab asked if the health insurance would only be offered to the Councilmember or if their family members could be provided with coverage as well. She also asked if the Council would receive an additional stipend to cover the cost of the health insurance or if they would pay out of pocket. Director of Human Resources Joyner stated that the health insurance would only be extended to the Councilmember. Council President Solomon stated that he is open to discussion about an additional stipend versus Councilmembers paying for the coverage on their own as well as extending the coverage to the families of Councilmembers.

Council Vice President Waszczak inquired if this is a common practice among other municipalities. Director of Human Resources Joyner stated that the City is working on a compensation study that would include that information. The study includes municipalities in Montgomery and Prince George's County and should be completed by the third week of May.

CM Schaible stated concerns over the financial implications this decision would have.

The Council agreed to bring this back at a later date.

10.i. ARPA Project Status Update[HCC-274-FY24](#)

Staff will present updates on the status of ARPA projects.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [ARPA Exp-Obl Thru 03.31.24 with Status v04.05.2024](#)

American Rescue Plan Program Manager Patrick Paschall gave an overview of ARPA project spending.

CM Redmond asked for clarification on how to manage funds that have not been obligated. ARPA Program Manager Paschall stated that all funds have to be legally obligated by the end of this calendar year. The City has to execute and spend all of the funds by the end of 2026. Any funds not legally obligated and spent by then will have to be returned.

CM Denes asked how quickly reprogrammable funds could be reallocated and spent down due to revenue restrictions. ARPA Manager Paschall stated that the City staff is working to develop the processes that would allow this within the deadlines.

CM Schaible stated that staff generated ideas for ARPA funds appear to have taken priority over Council generated ideas. City Administrator Douglas stated that she will review the ARPA funded initiatives and speak with CM Schaible at a later date.

10.j. FY25 Council ARPA Amendment: Adjustments to ARPA spending for FY25[HCC-269-FY24](#)

For discussion: I move the Mayor and Council discontinue the Mental Health Youth Program and the Vandalism Recovery and Prevention Program at the conclusion of ARPA funding, and discontinue or reallocate the ARPA funding of the following initiatives:

- Rent stabilization implementation (\$250,000)
- Hyattsville Crossing BID (\$150,000)
- Hiring of a grant writer (\$120,000)
- Beautification of Alternate Route One (\$120,000)
- Environmental Depot (\$100,000)
- Small business online directory (\$60,000)
- Public wi-fi study (\$60,000)
- SMART waste management study (\$60,000)
- Circulator study (\$30,000)
- SMBE certification support (\$15,000)
- Mental health youth program (\$100,000)

Sponsors: Strab

CM Strab asked for an updated spending plan to be sent to the Council. She also asked for clarity about which items in the spending plan are restricted funds. Council President Solomon also requested that the spending plan track implementation status to aid in tracking initiative progress. He also feels that this ARPA amendment could come back at a later date. He supports keeping funding for the Business Improvement District (BID) and rent stabilization.

CM Denes agreed with CM Strab's assessment that the Council should discuss legacy funding of ARPA initiatives.

CM Redmond asked for more clarity on the timeline that Council will use to finalize ARPA program funding.

The Council agreed to bring this back at a later date.

10.k. FY25 Council ARPA/Budget Amendment: Alternate Route 1 Holiday Lights[HCC-275-FY24](#)

For discussion: I move the Mayor and Council include funding in the FY25 Budget for the purchase and installation of holiday lights along Alternate Route 1.

Sponsors: Waszczak

CM Waszczak gave an overview of the motion for holiday lights. There is support from both the City Administrator and Deputy of Public Works.

CM Denes stated that he prefers the term seasonal lighting to holiday lighting.

Council President Solomon asked if the City could purchase enough lights to cover City-wide replacements and inquired about locations where there are no lights displayed. Director Riddle expressed that the Public Works Department can only install lights in places where the City owns the lights.

CM Redmond asked for clarity of this item and how it differs from the proposed Alternate Rte 1 Beautification. Council Vice President Waszczak explained that the Route 1 Beautification is a part of an initiative from 2022. The seasonal lights are separate from that initiative. Director Riddle provided insight into the scope of the beautification initiative.

The following motion was made by Council Vice President Waszczak:

I move the Mayor and Council include funding not to exceed \$25,000 in the FY25 Budget in ARPA funding for the purchase and installation of holiday lights along Alternate Route 1.

A motion was made by Council Vice-President Waszczak, 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 Sandino

Absent: Haba

10.l. FY25 Council ARPA/Budget Amendment: Homeless Action Plan[HCC-276-FY24](#)

For discussion: I move the Mayor and Council dedicate \$15,000 (of remaining ARPA funding if possible) to contract with a consulting firm that has proven expertise in both systems mapping and homelessness.

Sponsors: Waszczak

The Council agreed to discuss this item at a later date.

11. Council Dialogue (10:00 p.m. - 10:10 p.m.)

12. Motion to Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 PM.

A motion was made by Councilmember Denes, seconded by Councilmember Strab, that this item was Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Absent: Haba