

City of Hyattsville

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



Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 20, 2023

7:00 PM

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_4AVXG-A8SOeX3b3pUrdUOg

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

~~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. 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.

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:

The Hyattsville City Council will hold its meeting on Monday, November 20, 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.

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_4AVXG-A8SOeX3b3pUrdUOg

1. Call to Order and Council Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Also present:

City Administrator-Tracey Douglas

Acting Director of Community and Economic Development-Holly Simmons

Chief of Police-Jarod Towers

Director of Human Resources-Jay Joyner

City Clerk-Laura Reams

ARPA Funds Manager-Patrick Paschall

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

Absent: Councilmember Jimmy McClellan

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

3. Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was held to recognize the passing of City employee Orlando Bostic and for the deaths of two children in Riverdale Park.

4. Approval of Agenda

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

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

Absent: Waszczak, and McClellan

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

Ethan Sweep from U.S. Representative Glenn Ivy's office provided an update on upcoming grant programs.

Daniel Broder provided comment regarding funding for crossing guards, a wrongful death suit filed against the City, and his support for a cease-fire in Israel.

Mellissa Schweisguth commented that the legislative priorities should include infrastructure on state and roads and improvements on Queens Chapel Road.

Ryan Washington spoke about his concern with the rent stabilization ordinance.

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. - 8:00 p.m.)

7.a. Ager Road Townhomes Preliminary Plan of Subdivision 2023-030[HCC-133-FY24](#)

Presentation only.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Presentation Memo - Ager Road Townhomes - PPS 2022-030](#)
[Preliminary Plan of Subdivision 2023-030](#)
[Statement of Justification](#)
[Stormwater Management Concept Plan 46389-2022-01](#)
[Concept Erosion and Sediment Control Plan 88-2023](#)

Asko Miljkovic of Elite Engineering presented the plan for the Ager Road Townhomes project.

Council President Solomon asked about the driveway width and access. Mr. Miljkovic stated that the access is at the alley toward the rear of the development, and the driveway will be 18 feet wide.

Councilmember Denes asked how the trash would be collected. Mr. Miljkovic stated the homeowners association would have the responsibility of taking care of the collection. Councilmember Denes strongly encouraged that the alley be turned over to the City so the trash can be collected by the City.

Councilmember Haba asked how many levels the townhomes would be. Mr. Miljkovic stated that there will be three levels.

Councilmember Sandino asked what the timeline for the project is and if a traffic study is being considered. Mr. Miljkovic stated no traffic study was required due to the size of the project, and the project is expected to be completed in early spring.

8. Proclamations**8.a. Proclamation Recognizing December 1, 2023 as World AIDS Day in the City of Hyattsville**[HCC-136-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council recognize December 1, 2023 as World AIDS Day in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [CM 1120 World AIDS Day Proclamation](#)

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

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

Absent: Waszczak, and McClellan

9. Appointments**9.a. Appointments to the Police and Public Safety Citizens' Advisory Committee [HCC-130-FY24](#)**

I move that the Mayor and Council approve the appointments of Bob Kantor (Ward 2) and Julia Dezeliski (Ward 1) to the Police and Public Safety Citizen's Advisory Committee for a term of two (2) years to expire on November 30, 2025.

Sponsors: Strab

Attachments: [Julia Dezeiski, W1 Nov 2023 redac](#)
[Bob Kantor, W2 Nov 2023 redac](#)

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

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

Absent: Waszczak, and McClellan

10. Consent Items (8:00 p.m. - 8:05 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, Denes, Schaible, Strab, Redmond, Lee, Haba, and Sandino

Absent: Waszczak, and McClellan

10.a. Variance Request V-84-23 - 6414 Burlington Road, Hyattsville [HCC-131-FY24](#)

I move the City Council authorize the Mayor to provide correspondence to the Prince George's County Board of Zoning Appeals in support of zoning variance application V-84-23, a request to permit a 200 square foot net lot area and 10-foot front building line width, a variance request of 1.3 feet left side yard width and 1.3 feet right side yard width, 15.9% net lot coverage and support for the applicant's use of pervious materials for the driveway structure for the subject property located at 4614 Burlington Road, Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Staff Memo - V-84-23](#)
[Staff Memo - V-82-19](#)
[V-84-23 Application](#)

10.b. Special Exception request SPE-2023-01 7207 - Hitching Post Lane, Hyattsville [HCC-134-FY24](#)
(Espirales Montessori Bilingual Childcare Center)

I move the City Council authorize the Mayor to provide correspondence to the Prince George's County Planning Director in support special exception application SPE-2023-001, a request to allow a day care center for children in the RSF-95 zone at 7207 Hitching Post Lane, Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Memo - SPE-2023-001](#)
[Statement of Justification](#)
[SPE-2023-001 Site Plan](#)

10.c. Procurement of OSC360 Camera [HCC-138-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$15,865.00 for the purchase of an OSC360 Camera from L-Tron Corporation.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [OSCR](#)

10.d. Procurement of Cellebrite [HCC-139-FY24](#)

I move that Mayor and Council authorize the purchase of Cellbrite not to exceed the amount of \$15,745.00.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Cellebrite](#)

10.e. HPD Contract with Community Advocates for Family and Youth (CAFY) [HCC-140-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to enter into a contract with Community Advocates for Family and Youth (CAFY), upon the review and approval by the City Attorney for legal sufficiency.

Sponsors: City Administrator

10.f. Installation of Pedestrian Safety Improvements on Nicholson Street [HCC-141-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$110,000 to NZI Construction for the construction and installation of pedestrian safety improvements on Nicholson Street from Ager Road to 31st Avenue, under their existing contract with the City. This project will be funded with CIP funds as approved in the FY24 budget.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Proposal_Nicholson Street Improvement-Ager to 31st Ave](#)

11. Action Items (8:05 p.m. - 8:20 p.m.)**11.a. Adoption of FY24 Legislative Agenda**[HCC-146-FY24](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council adopt the following legislative and bond bill priorities to be presented at a Joint District 22 Legislative Dinner on November 28, 2023.

Legislative Priorities:

- Affordable Housing
- Environmental Sustainability
- Grants/Programs for Recruitment & Retention of Police Officers
- Infrastructure & State Rd Improvements
- Juvenile Justice Reform
- Mental Health & Addiction Support
- Regional Economic Development & Growth

Bond Bill Priorities:

Communications & Technology for Public Safety Headquarters: Funding Request - \$2.0M

Stormwater Mitigation & Repairs at City Municipal Building: Funding Request - \$550K

Environmental Depot: Funding Request - \$650K

Sponsors: City Administrator

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

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

Absent: McClellan

12. Discussion Items (8:20 p.m. - 9:05 p.m.)

12.a. ARPA Spending Plan Discussion**HCC-144-FY24**

For discussion.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: Category Restricted Proposals November 2023
ARPA Spending Plan Update Discussion #2 November 2023
ARPA Projects Status Report Category Restricted Projects November 2023
ARPA Projects Status Report Revenue Replacement Projects November 2023
ARPA Projects Status Report All Projects November 2023
Revenue Replacement Proposals November 2023
Category Restricted Proposals November 2023

ARPA Fund Manager Patrick Paschall gave an overview of the ARPA Spending Plan.

Councilmember Redmond asked about the ability to purchase an ambulance given the current wait time. City Treasurer Ron Brooks stated if Council approves the purchase, the manufacturer would accept a purchase order, and it could be delivered when it is built.

Councilmember Haba stated his reservations on the purchase of the ambulance and asked if the purchase would replace the \$50,000 a year the City currently gives the fire department. Councilmember Haba also stated his support to move forward with rent stabilization.

Councilmember Denes stated he was uncomfortable, despite being supportive of the rent stabilization, without a value attached to it.

Councilmember Redmond stated he would also like to see a value associated to the rent stabilization and also supports the continued funding of \$50,000 annually to the fire department.

Councilmember Strab stated her support for the ambulance purchase without taking away the annual funding.

Councilmember Haba asked if there is a need to decide on these items tonight. Council President Solomon referenced past Council discussions on the items and the already large December agenda as reasoning to move forward.

Council President Solomon made the following motion: I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the allocation and expenditure of \$15,000 for SMB Certification Support \$132,066.00 for Rain Garden and Bio Retention Restoration Projects, and \$576,000.00 for the Oliver Alley Stormwater Project using American Rescue Plan Act funds.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Strab. The motion passed: Yes(10)/No(0)/Abstain (1:Haba)

Council President Solomon made the following motion: I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the allocation and expenditures of \$600,000.00 for King Park Construction and \$390,000 to purchase

and EMS vehicle for the Hyattsville Volunteer Fire Department using American Rescue Plan Act Funds. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Strab. The motion passed: Yes(10)/No(0)/Abstain (1:Haba)

Solomon/Strab

Abstain: Haba; passed

13. Council Dialogue (9:05 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.)

14. Motion to Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

A motion was made by Council President Solomon, seconded by Councilmember Redmond, that the meeting be Adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Absent: McClellan