

# City of Hyattsville

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



## Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 1, 2024

6:00 PM

[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_fOex09j8QX-zJTnkQV94zg](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_fOex09j8QX-zJTnkQV94zg)

Virtual

## City Council Public Hearing

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](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. 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](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 a Public Hearing on Monday, April 1, 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](http://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](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. 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 Hearing must register in advance using the link below.

[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_fOex09j8QX-zJTnkQV94zg](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_fOex09j8QX-zJTnkQV94zg)

**1. Call to Order**

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

**Also Present:**

Acting Deputy City Administrator-Suzanne Ludlow

Acting Director of Community and Economic Development-Debi Sandlin

Director of Public Works-Lesley Riddle

Director of Human Resources-Jay Joyner

City Clerk-Laura Reams

Deputy City Clerk-Nate Groenendyk

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

**2. Presentations (6:10 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.)**

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**2.a. Hyattsville Charter Amendment Resolution: 2024-01: Modernizing the City's Procurement Provisions** [HCC-241-FY24](#)

Presentation

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [2024-01 Charter Resolution Procurement Hyattsville PPT Procurement Charter April 2024 Public Hearing](#)

Acting Deputy City Administrator Suzanne Ludlow presented the proposed changes to the Charter regarding the City's procurement procedure.

Council President Solomon asked if a separate public hearing would need to be held if the Council decided to alter the proposed changes. Deputy Ludlow replied that a new hearing would be needed if Council made significant modifications to the proposed Charter amendment.

**2.b. Hyattsville Charter Amendment Resolution: 2024-02: Amending the Charter to Utilize Gender Neutral Language and Modernize the Charter's Gender Equality Provision** [HCC-255-FY24](#)

Presentation

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [2024-02 Charter Amendment Resolution Gender Neutral Language and Equal Protection for All Genders Hyattsville Gender Neutral Language Charter April 2024](#)

City Clerk Laura Reams presented details about the proposed change to the Charter to use gender neutral language and expand the gender equality provision.

Councilmember Strab expressed her support for the City to use the suggestions that were outlined in the written public comment submitted in regards to these changes.

**2.c. Hyattsville Charter Amendment Resolution: 2024-03: Removing the Requirement that Council Meetings Start at 8 PM** [HCC-244-FY24](#)

Presentation

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [2024-03 Charter Amendment Resolution Meeting Time](#)  
[Hyattsville Meeting Time Charter April 2024](#)

City Clerk Laura Reams presented the proposed Charter Amendment to remove the requirement of the City Council to begin its meetings at 8:00 p.m.

Council President Solomon asked if there was a reason that the City did not consider the opportunity to allow a recess. Clerk Reams replied that the City did retain the six week recesses in the summer. Council President Solomon expressed his desire to have an entire month with no meetings. Clerk Reams responded that recesses create a run up of items to be addressed at the conclusion of the recess.

Mayor Croslin expressed his concern that a longer recess would result in an agenda with too many items upon the Council's return.

Councilmember Sandino asked if it is important to mention the method that the meeting should take place, whether in person or remote. Clerk Reams advised that keeping the Charter simple and flexible allows the City to better respond to future situations that cannot be foreseen, and suggested that more specific details would be best addressed in the Council Rules and Procedures.

**3. Public Comment (6:30 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.) Complete Speaker Card, Limit 2 minutes per speaker**

Mike Bonds submitted a written comment asking the City to eliminate all usage of the singular "they" in regards to Hyattsville Charter Amendment Resolution: 2024-02.

**4. Motion to Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

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

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

**Absent:** Haba, Lee, and Schaible