

Candace Hollingsworth, Mayor Kevin Ward, W1 (Council President) Carrianna Suiter, W3 (Council Vice President) *(arrived at 7:08 p.m.)* Bart Lawrence, W1 Robert Croslin, W2 Danny Schaible, W2 Ben Simasek, W3 Edouard Haba, W4 Daniel Peabody, W4 *(arrived at 7:37 p.m.)* Joseph A. Solomon, W5 Erica Spell Wolf, W5

Absent: None

Also present were the following City staff members: Tracey E. Douglas, City Administrator Jim Chandler, Assistant City Administrator Ron Brooks, City Treasurer Chief Amal Awad, City of Hyattsville Police Department Lesley Riddle, Director of Public Works Vivian Snellman, Director of Human Resources Laura Reams, City Clerk Sean Corcoran, Deputy City Clerk Cheri Everhart, Recreation, Programs, and Events Manager Hal Metzler, Project Manager, Department of Public Works

# **MEETING NOTICE:**

As we continue to take precautions due to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic, the Hyattsville City Council will hold its meeting on Monday June 1, 2020 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 hyattsville.org/meetings.

# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Public Comment may be made using the e-comment feature at hyattsville.org/meetings or emailing cityclerk@hyattsville.org. All electronic comments must be submitted by 5 PM on June 1, 2020. Comments received will be read by City staff during the public comment portion of the meeting.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Candace Hollingsworth called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag



# 3. Approval of the Agenda

### AMENDMENTS

ADD Resolution 2020-05 to Action:
 HCC-386-FY20
 Lead Sponsor: Hollingsworth
 Co-Sponsor(s): Ward, Suiter, Lawrence, Croslin, Schaible, Simasek, Haba, Solomon, Wolf

I move that the Mayor and Council adopt Hyattsville Resolution 2020-05, a Resolution in defense of black lives and a commitment to enacting policies that unequivocally defend Black life and aim to undo the effects of systemic racism affecting Black people in the City of Hyattsville (INTRODUCTION AND ADOPTION).

2) ADD Authorization of Letter to Licensed Apartment Owners to Consent:
HCC-387-FY20
Lead Sponsor: Solomon
Co-Sponsor(s): Hollingsworth, Haba, Simasek, Spell Wolf, Schaible, Peabody, Suiter, Ward

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the Mayor and City Administrator to send a letter to licensed apartments a owners in the City of Hyattsville requesting a discussion on rental practices related to COVID19 relief as the Hyattsville and Prince George's County prepares to reopen. Discussion points should include, but are not limited to:

- 1. Allow tenants 3 years to pay arrearages
- 2. Discount the months of May and all future months during the state of emergency by a minimum of 25% for all tenants
- 3. Charge no interest or late fees to tenants
- 4. Make payment plans with tenants that allow for even further discounts than the 25%
- 5. Freeze all rent increases through the rest of 2020
- 6. Suspend sending any and all eviction suits to court for the rest of 2020

3) **ADD** Memorandum of Understanding with Doctor's Community Medical Center to support a COVID-19 Testing Site to Consent:

# HCC-389-FY20

Lead Sponsor: At the Request of the City Administrator Co-Sponsor(s): N/A

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to negotiate a Memorandum of Understanding with Doctors Community Medical Center to support a COVID-19 testing site in the City of Hyattsville.



| RESULT:   | APPROVED, AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]   |
|-----------|--|
| MOVER:    | Ward   |
| SECONDER: | Solomon  |
| AYES:     | Hollingsworth, Ward, Suiter, Lawrence, Croslin Schaible, Simasek, Haba, Solomon, |
|           | Spell Wolf   |
| ABSENT:   | Peabody  |

# 4. Approval of the Minutes

4.a) Approval of the Minutes <u>HCC-385-FY20</u> Lead Sponsor: At the Request of the City Administrator Co-Sponsor(s): N/A <u>Minutes Aug 5 2019 CM\_FINAL</u>

I move that the Mayor and Council approve the minutes of the City Council Meeting of August 5, 2019.

| RESULT:   | APPROVED, AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]   |
|-----------|--|
| MOVER:    | Ward   |
| SECONDER: | Croslin  |
| AYES:     | Hollingsworth, Ward, Suiter, Lawrence, Croslin Schaible, Simasek, Haba, Solomon, |
|           | Spell Wolf   |
| ABSENT:   | Peabody  |

# 5. Public Comment (7:10 p.m. – 7:20 p.m.) Limit 2 minutes per speaker

City Clerk Laura Reams read into the record public comments submitted in writing.

Ward 3 resident Chuck Perry addressed the Mayor and Council with comments regarding the surplus inventory of police equipment describing the types of ammunition the police department possessed and their applications. He argued that the categorization of the .223mm ammunition as being safer than 5.56mm was incorrect stating that when the dimensions of both are compared and given the type of weapon being used to project the .223mm the impact levels are equal.

Mr. Perry submitted a second comment regarding the City's renewal of contract with Skyline Technologies stating that the company implemented facial recognition technology and provided links to articles that supported his position.

Mr. Perry submitted a third comment regarding the City's purchase of portable message boards suggesting a sample message for the board that originates from Hyattsville Police personnel informing the Chief of Police that all 5.56mm rounds had been replaced with .223mm rounds.

Tamara McKenney addressed the Mayor and Council in opposition to the reinstatement of Hyattsville police officers involved in the September 2019 shooting incident demanding that police officers be held accountable and endorsing their removal from active duty.



Attorney for McMillian Metro P.C. law firm, Peter E. Ciferri, addressed the Mayor and Council expressing opposition to the Dewey Property Detailed Site Plan (DSP) stating that the redevelopment of the adjacent surface parking lot used by patrons of Metro 3 was in violation of a long-standing right given to the owners of Metro 3 decades earlier. Mr. Ciferri cited legal language and argued that the actions of the developer were illegal.

Ward 2 resident David Marshall submitted a public comment in the Q&A function of the virtual meeting addressing the Mayor and Council in opposition of financing the retrofit of big belly trashcans throughout the City stating that it was a waste of tax payer money to make the receptacles touchless and questioned how many other regularly used fixtures would receive the same adjustments. Mr. Marshall expressed opposition to the installation of a water connection and hand washing station at Emerson Food Forest and to Hyattsville Ordinance 2020-03, Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) Budget. Mr. Marshall expressed support for the name of Prince George's Plaza Metro station to be changed to Hyattsville Crossing. Mr. Marshall shared comments regarding George Floyd expressing his condemnation of the tragic event highlighting the need for peaceful protest.

Daniel Broder addressed the Mayor and Council expressing support for the Black Lives Matter movement and expressed concerns regarding the amount of funding being provided to the Hyattsville Police Department in the FY21 Budget stating that if there was an intent to solve the issues regarding citizen and law enforcement relations, it would have to be meticulous and ensured the Body that he wanted to assist in outreach and further discussion.

# 6. City Administrator Update

City Administrator Tracey Douglas addressed the Mayor and Council with updates regarding activity and events in the City reporting that after 16 years Code Enforcement Official Chris Giunta was leaving Hyattsville and he and his family were moving to California. Ms. Douglas noted the extensive contributions through his work with the City and the volunteer efforts of he and his family over the past several years and wished them well.

Ms. Douglas announced that the COVID-19 relief fund had opened that day and the \$500K allotted for business relief had already received nearly 40 applications in the previous two (2) hours, the Hyattsville Community Development Corporation (CDC) was open and functional, and Casa de Maryland had received almost 300 applications. She provided information for residents who wished to participate.

City Administrator Douglas relayed that many services provided by the Department of Public Works (DPW) would resume that week including solid waste removal, the reactivation of the Clean and Safe Team, street sweeping and maintenance, and bulk trash removal. She directed residents to further information on the City's website and announced the installation of stainless-steel wash stations at several area parks.

Ms. Douglas stated that many of the services and events provided by the City would continue to be suspended or delayed due to the COVID-19 health crisis and that Camp Magruder would be held virtually.



She noted that Census 2020 participation was slightly increased to 54.7% and expressed the importance of further participation stating that staff would continue outreach and advertisement efforts.

Ms. Douglas communicated that Committee and workgroup meetings would take place through virtual means and provided information on training opportunities and the requirements and standards for conducting and participating in said meetings. She added that there would be Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) training provided by the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC) that would be offered to several of the City's departments as well as neighboring areas to educate about environmental design that would deter crime and change behaviors.

Ms. Douglas announced that the City was establishing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to set up a COVID-19 testing site in the City and expected to be functional in the next two weeks with a capacity to administer 200 tests a day.

She reminded the Body that there was a food distribution event the following day to provide 600 boxes of food to residents in need and recalled the success of previous food distribution events stating that volunteers were plentiful and expressed her appreciation for the continuing charitable events made possible by the community and City staff.

City Administrator Douglas acknowledged multiple celebrations that would take place in the month of June including Caribbean American recognition, LGBTQ+ recognition that would be reflected by a rainbow lighting at the City Municipal building and Heurich Park, National Ask Day which protects children from firearm accidents through communication and awareness, and National Gun Violence Awareness Day.

Ms. Douglas stated that she stood with the Hyattsville City Council in condemning the killing of George Floyd opining that there were good, brave, committed police officers in our Country, but also that the United States had a longtime culture of racism and supported education, discussion, and working toward inclusion and unity within all communities. She relayed that Chief Amal Awad spoke to her officers and challenged them to examine their values and remember the oath to which each of them swore.

Ms. Douglas recognized graduation week and congratulated the 2020 graduates of every academic level. She announced that, to celebrate their achievements, City staff and officials would be caravanning through the City in their honor the following Friday morning and detailed the associated activities and outreach. Ms. Douglas introduced a video honoring and sending best wishes to all the graduates during the challenging, unprecedented time.

# 7. City Treasurer Update

City Treasurer Ron Brooks addressed the Mayor and Council with a report regarding the City's financial position stating that the current audit had been progressing soundly and that staff had been reviewing alternative auditing firms to replace on of the firms being used at that time to improve upon attentiveness and collaboration with the City. Mr. Brooks stated that if a change



were to be made, he would confer with the City Administrator and bring the issue back before the Body.

Treasurer Brooks reported on the five (5) year forecast regarding the Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) budget stating that he intended to conduct a further investigation in the following 60 days to assess costs and revenues and provide a more accurate projection. He stated that the FY19 audit was nearly completed.

# 8. Presentations (7:35 p.m. - 8:05 p.m.)

# 8.a) Dewey Property Detailed Site Plan (DSP-19050-01) Presentation <u>HCC-382-FY20</u> Lead Sponsor: At the Request of the City Administrator Co-Sponsor(s): N/A Planning CommissionPresentation DSP 19050 01 (1)

Assistant City Administrator Jim Chandler addressed the Mayor and Council with a summary and background of the Dewey Project and announced representatives for the developer and applicant were present. Mr. Chandler recalled that Council had been presented with the Detailed Site Plan (DSP) of Dewey east and tonight would be presented with the remainder of the site; four (4) parcels that surround the previously approved parcel. He stated that the property included a stormwater management facility that would be dedicated to and maintained by Prince George's County, a multi-family structure, and two (2) for sale residential units.

Mr. Chandler introduced attorney for the applicant Thomas Haller and reported that the development would be before the Planning Committee the following evening and that a staff report would be provided the next morning at the latest.

Thomas Haller addressed the Mayor and Council reiterating the comments made by Mr. Chandler and describing the five (5) parcels of the development and the intentions for each. Mr. Haller relayed that there would be a required traffic light installed at Belcrest Road and Toledo Terrace and that all roadways we're compliant with the standards of the Transit District Development Plan (TDDP) and would be dedicated to the City. He stated that there was a trail encircling the water management pond and, at the City's request, they had incorporated an American Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant pedestrian path that would offer access at either end of the development.

Mr. Haller reported that parcel 1 was a multi-family rental project that would be constructed by NRP and introduced representative for NRP Josh Woolridge who would provide further detail about the construction intended for the parcel.

Mr. Woolridge addressed the Mayor and Council providing a background and the services provided by NRP adding that the area of the Dewey Property would consist of a five (5) story building in which the parking garage was centrally located and not visible from the outside and noted that the architecture put a great deal of focus on the amenities. He cited a courtyard, swimming pool, club house, offices, and other available options stating that some adjustments were made in response to safety regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

Representative for Stanley Martin Homes Brandon Gerney addressed the Mayor and Council with details regarding parcels 2 and 3 explaining that the intended structure for the portion of the development was to be a condominium style project similar to many others in the area and provided its size and layout specifications. Mr. Gerney relayed that the firm took comments from residents into account when designing the aesthetics and stated that each unit would have a standard deck and a driveway with a garage and described the type of siding, placement of windows, and an option for a rooftop deck.

Thomas Haller addressed the Mayor and Council stating that they would provide the DSP for parcel 5 and opined that the project was a great opportunity to turn a parking lot into a tax revenue generator that would provide demand for retailers as well as a stormwater management facility and expressed his gratitude for the opportunity.

**Mayor Hollingsworth** relayed a question asked in the Q&A function of the virtual meeting which questioned whether any of the land in question had ever been owned by University Town Center (UTC) to which Mr. Haller replied that the property was part of a conceptual plan several years prior and that part of the property has been used for parking in conjunction with construction on the south side of Toledo Road.

**Council Vice President Carrianna Suiter** requested details regarding the legal challenge associated with the parking lot to which Mr. Haller replied that at the property's inception it was comprised of three (3) federal buildings surrounded completely by asphalt and under the original mortgage, it allowed for the relocation of parking upon redevelopment. He stated that in 1998 an agreement was made between the then owner of the property and the owner of Metro 3 to relocate the parking and included specific regulations with which the current owner refused to comply.

**Ward 2 Councilmember Danny Schaible** inquired as to the type and pricing of units that would be included in parcels 2 and 3 to which Mr. Haller responded that the units would be condominiums for sale and Mr. Gerney responded that the units would be approximately \$300K to \$400K depending on the options.

**Mayor Hollingsworth** requested a summary of the next steps to move forward with the item to which Assistant City Administrator Jim Chandler replied that City Planner Kate Powers would be providing a report to the Council before the next day's Planning Committee meeting and would provide staff comments to Council the following Thursday for their review.

# 9. Proclamations

9.a) Proclamation Declaring June 5, 2020 as National Gun Violence Awareness Day
 <u>HCC-359-FY20</u>
 Lead Sponsor: At the Request of the City Administrator
 Co-Sponsor(s): N/A
 2020 Gun Violence Awareness Day Proclamation



I move that the Mayor and Council declare June 5, 2020 as National Gun Violence Awareness Day in the City of Hyattsville.

# 9.b) Proclamation Designating June 20th as National Ask Day <u>HCC-360-FY20</u> Lead Sponsor: At the Request of the City Administrator Co-Sponsor(s): N/A National Ask Day Proclamation 2020

I move that the Mayor and Council designate June 20, 2020 as National Ask Day in Hyattsville.

9.c) LGBTQ+ Pride Month Proclamation <u>HCC-372-FY20</u> Lead Sponsor: At the Request of the City Administrator Co-Sponsor(s): N/A LGBTQ Pride Month 2020

I move that the Mayor and Council declare June 2020, LGBTQ+ Pride Month in the City of Hyattsville.

# 9.d) Caribbean-American Heritage Month Proclamation HCC-373-FY20

Lead Sponsor: At the Request of the City Administrator Co-Sponsor(s): N/A Caribean-American Heritage Month 2020

I move that the Mayor and Council declare June 2020, as Caribbean-American Heritage Month in Hyattsville.

| RESULT:   | APPROVED, AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]   |
|-----------|--|
| MOVER:    | Ward   |
| SECONDER: | Croslin  |
| AYES:     | Hollingsworth, Ward, Suiter, Lawrence, Croslin Schaible, Simasek, Haba, Peabody, |
|           | Solomon, Spell Wolf  |
| ABSENT:   | None   |

# 10. Consent Items (8:10 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.)

10.a) Surplus of Police Department Equipment- Weapons and Ammunition <u>HCC-368-FY20</u> Lead Sponsor: At the Request of the City Administrator Co-Sponsor(s): N/A <u>Police Equipment Surplus</u>



I move that the Mayor and Council approve the Police Department to surplus 7 H&K UMP weapons, along with 40,000 rounds of .40 Caliber Ammunition, to Phoenix Distributers in exchange for \$11,530.00 in store credit.

# 10.b) One Year Renewal of the Maintenance Contract for Skyline Technology HCC-369-FY20

Lead Sponsor: At the Request of the City Administrator Co-Sponsor(s): N/A Skyline

I move that the Mayor and Council approve a one-year renewal of the maintenance contract for Skyline Technology, LLC for the City's CCTV camera system at a cost not to exceed \$30,000, upon the review and approval of the City Attorney for legal sufficiency.

# 10.c) Purchase of Portable Message Boards

HCC-377-FY20 Lead Sponsor: At the Request of the City Administrator Co-Sponsor(s): N/A <u>City of Hyattsville - Public Works - All Traffic Solutions Quote</u> InstAlert24 Portable Post and Hitch x6 3 Years TraffiCloud (1)

Sole source TraffiCloud Updated

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$60,000 to All Traffic Solutions for the purchase of portable electric message boards.

# 10.d) Hyatt Park Placemaking: Landscaping

<u>HCC-378-FY20</u> Lead Sponsor: At the Request of the City Administrator Co-Sponsor(s): N/A

> 2020 05 11 SMC Task Order 7 - Hyatt Park Landscaping Phase 2 (1) 2020 03 17 Hyatt Park Topographic Survey Landscape Plan SMC 2008.01&.02

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$85,000 to SMC for the installation of landscaping to complete the Hyatt Park Placemaking Project.

10.e) Retrofit of Big Belly Trash and Recycling Cans: Touchless Operation <u>HCC-379-FY20</u> Lead Sponsor: At the Request of the City Administrator Co-Sponsor(s): N/A <u>big belly touchless retrofit</u>

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$55,000 to Big Belly Solar LLC to retrofit existing solar trash and recycling compacting cans to touchless operation in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.



10.f) Emerson Food Forest Water Station <u>HCC-380-FY20</u> Lead Sponsor: At the Request of the City Administrator Co-Sponsor(s): N/A <u>mid atlantic emerson food forest</u> <u>Wash Stations (1)</u>

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to enter into agreements with Mid-Atlantic Utilities for an amount not to exceed \$35,000 and Charm County Home Improvement for an amount not to exceed \$15,000 for a WSSC water connection and installation of a hand washing station at Emerson Food Forest, pending review of the City Attorney.

10.g) Authorization of Letter to Licensed Apartment Owners HCC-387-FY20 Lead Sponsor: Solomon Co-Sponsor(s): Hollingsworth, Haba, Simasek, Spell Wolf, Schaible, Peabody, Suiter, Ward

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the Mayor and City Administrator to send a letter to licensed apartments a owners in the City of Hyattsville requesting a discussion on rental practices related to COVID19 relief as the Hyattsville and Prince George's County prepares to reopen. Discussion points should include, but are not limited to:

- 1. Allow tenants 3 years to pay arrearages
- Discount the months of May and all future months during the state of emergency by a minimum of 25% for all tenants
- 3. Charge no interest or late fees to tenants
- 4. Make payment plans with tenants that allow for even further discounts than the 25%
- 5. Freeze all rent increases through the rest of 2020
- 6. Suspend sending any and all eviction suits to court for the rest of 2020

# 10.h) Memorandum of Understanding with Doctor's Community Medical Center to support a COVID-19 Testing Site

HCC-389-FY20

Lead Sponsor: At the Request of the City Administrator Co-Sponsor(s): N/A

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to negotiate a Memorandum of Understanding with Doctors Community Medical Center to support a COVID-19 testing site in the City of Hyattsville.

| RESULT:   | APPROVED, AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]   |
|-----------|--|
| MOVER:    | Ward   |
| SECONDER: | Croslin  |
| AYES:     | Hollingsworth, Ward, Suiter, Lawrence, Croslin Schaible, Simasek, Haba, Peabody, |
|           | Solomon, Spell Wolf  |
| ABSENT:   | None   |



# 11. Action Items (8:15 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.)

# 11.a) Hyattsville Ordinance 2020-03: Fiscal Year 2021 Budget (ADOPTION HCC-376-FY20 Lead Sponsor: At the Request of the City Administrator Co-Sponsor(s): N/A Revised Budget Memo, May 15 2020 Hyattsville Ordinance 2020-03 FY 2021 Budget (1) Revised 5 13 20 University Town Center Special Tax Report (2020) (1) 5 14 2020 RB Final Copy of Excel FTE FY 2021 5 27 20 RB Five Year Forecast 5 28 20

I move that the Mayor and Council approve Hyattsville Ordinance 2020-03, adopting an annual budget for fiscal Year 2021 beginning July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, for the General Purpose; fixing the tax rates for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2020; authorizing collection of taxes herein levied; and appropriating funds for the Fiscal Year (SECOND READING & ADOPTION).

| RESULT:   | APPROVED, AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]   |
|-----------|--|
| MOVER:    | Ward   |
| SECONDER: | Haba   |
| AYES:     | Hollingsworth, Ward, Suiter, Lawrence, Croslin Schaible, Simasek, Haba, Peabody, |
|           | Solomon, Spell Wolf  |
| ABSENT:   | None   |

11.b) Hyattsville Crossing WMATA Metro Station <u>HCC-383-FY20</u> Lead Sponsor: At the Request of the City Administrator Co-Sponsor(s): N/A <u>Memo - Hyattsville Crossing WMATA Metro Station Naming</u> <u>HVX Summary Document</u>

I move the City Council authorize the Mayor to send correspondence to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Board of Directors requesting approval to replace the existing metro station name 'Prince George's Plaza' with the name 'Hyattsville Crossing' and to be included with WMATA's map and signage replacement project in advance of the opening of the Silver Line Phase II, scheduled for calendar year 2021.

Assistant City Administrator Jim Chandler addressed the Mayor and Council providing a summary of the item stating that staff wanted to have clarification from the County Executive's office but they committed to providing a letter of support and reported that staff will continue to collaborate with them.

**Ward 4 Councilmember Daniel Peabody** stated that the City had put a lot of effort in the branding of "HVL" and was surprised by the offering of "HVX" noting that he would have preferred the incorporation of "HVL" to keep the City under a consistent brand to which Mr. Chandler responded that both naming conventions were evident around the same time and the City



advocated for "Hyattsville" to somehow be included as the current name of the metro station refers to something that is no longer in existence. He stated that "HVL" and "HVX" were not contradictory and that Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) only allows a small timeframe to submit an application for a name change and that there was some urgency in making a decision on the item.

**Mayor Hollingsworth** supplemented that "HVL" came into being in 2014 and it had always been preferred to incorporate "Hyattsville" into the name and she described designs that were submitted that would have included "HVL" and "HVX" together.

**Councilmember Peabody** reiterated that he had no issue with "Hyattsville Crossing" but he was surprised that there was a defection from "HVL" and he supported motion.

| RESULT:   | APPROVED, AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]   |
|-----------|--|
| MOVER:    | Ward   |
| SECONDER: | Нара   |
| AYES:     | Hollingsworth, Ward, Suiter, Lawrence, Croslin Schaible, Simasek, Haba, Peabody, |
|           | Solomon, Spell Wolf  |
| ABSENT:   | None   |

11.c) Resolution 2020-05: A Resolution in Defense of Black Lives
 HCC-386-FY20
 Lead Sponsor: Hollingsworth
 Co-Sponsor(s): Ward, Suiter, Lawrence, Croslin, Schaible, Simasek, Haba, Solomon, Wolf

I move that the Mayor and Council adopt Hyattsville Resolution 2020-05, a Resolution in defense of black lives and a commitment to enacting policies that unequivocally defend Black life and aim to undo the effects of systemic racism affecting Black people in the City of Hyattsville (INTRODUCTION AND ADOPTION).

| RESULT:   | APPROVED, AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]   |
|-----------|--|
| MOVER:    | Ward   |
| SECONDER: | Croslin  |
| AYES:     | Hollingsworth, Ward, Suiter, Lawrence, Croslin Schaible, Simasek, Haba, Peabody, |
|           | Solomon, Spell Wolf  |
| ABSENT:   | None   |

# 12. Council Dialogue (9:15 p.m. – 9:25 p.m.)

**Ward 5 Councilmember Erica Spell Wolf** expressed her appreciation for the moment of silence held at the beginning of the meeting for the senseless violence that had taken place stating that it was a difficult time for the Country. She said that she would continue to pray for the victims and their families, and she hoped that communities would provide a platform for discussion on these issues.



**Ward 5 Councilmember Edouard Haba** echoed the comments of his colleague and expressed his support for the unity of citizens and the value and sanctity of human life. He stated that it was a time where true leadership would become apparent and unite people to condemn divisive behavior and protect life.

**Vice President Suiter** expressed that it was a time of reckoning for all communities and stressed the importance for officials and residents alike to ensure safety to all , respect for life, and hoped to find a way to unify and support one another.

**Ward 1 Councilmember Bart Lawrence** agreed with his fellow Councilmembers and expressed concern for protestors requesting that all be diligent regarding personal safety amid the regular dangers, but also during a global health crisis.

**Ward 2 Councilmember Robert Croslin** concurred with the previous comments and expressed sadness for the recent events. He stated that it was a time for reflection and a time to reach out to understand one another's culture, self-educate, and reach out and help others. He congratulated the graduating class of 2020.

Ward 3 Councilmember Ben Simasek echoed the sentiments of his colleagues in mourning the murder of George Floyd stating that human life is always more valuable than property and recognized that institutional racism still existed. He stated that the white population could never truly relate but it was an obligation to educate ourselves and that officers should not be reluctant to report their own.

**Ward 5 Councilmember Joseph Solomon** expressed his sadness and offered his sincerest condolences to those who have lost loved ones from unjust police murders adding that he was encouraged by the protests and that people were taking up their right to protest, but that police response was appalling. He thanked those who were allies to African Americans.

**Councilmember Peabody** expressed his appreciation for the Resolution in Defense of Black Lives and confirmed his support for the motion. He acknowledged and congratulated the graduating class of 2020 and noted the prevalence of white supremacy and its evidence throughout history stressing the need for change.

**Councilmember Schaible** agreed with his colleagues' sentiments and declared that George Floyd was in police custody and was murdered recalling the police brutality involving Rodney King and stating that crimes committed by police still took place in the present day and that everyone needed to learn lessons from the tragic events.

**Council President Kevin Ward** expressed his sentiments regarding the political and societal climate and referenced the strength of the words contained in the Resolution in Defense of Black Lives noting that the oppression of Black people had been evident for 401 years and that he was glad to witness the allies of the black community and the movements that were taking place throughout the world. He sent his best wishes to the students graduating in 2020.



**Mayor Hollingsworth** stated that she was captivated by the comments of the Council and noted that movements were started with young people and that she looked forward to seeing what literature, documentation, and historical writings would bring forth about the current experiences.

# 13. Community Notices and Meetings

13.a) Main City Calendar: June 1 - June 21 , 2020 <u>HCC-384-FY20</u> Lead Sponsor: At the Request of the City Administrator Co-Sponsor(s): N/A <u>Main City Calendar Jun 2-Jun 21</u>

#### 14. Motion to Adjourn

| RESULT:   | APPROVED, AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]   |
|-----------|--|
| MOVER:    | Croslin  |
| SECONDER: | Ward   |
| AYES:     | Hollingsworth, Ward, Suiter, Lawrence, Croslin Schaible, Simasek, Haba, Peabody, |
|           | Solomon, Spell Wolf  |
| ABSENT:   | None   |

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

ATTEST: August 24, 2020

Laura Reams, City Clerk

Ru

Sean Corcoran, Deputy City Clerk