

City of Hyattsville

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



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 22, 2022

7:00 PM

The Council meeting will follow the 6/6:30 PM Public Hearings. To view hearing agendas, sort by "City Council Public Hearing".

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_YJDmo3u9Qr-9CZO5Cu9aPQ

Virtual

City Council

Robert S. Croslin, Interim Mayor
Danny Schaible, Council Vice President, Ward 1
Joanne Waszczak, Ward 1
Sam Denes, Ward 1
Ben Simasek, Ward 3
Jimmy McClellan, Ward 3
Daniel Peabody, Ward 4
Edouard Haba, Ward 4
Joseph Solomon, Ward 5
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. 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:

As we continue to take precautions due to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic, the Hyattsville City Council will hold its meeting on Tuesday, February 22, 2022 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:

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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_YJDmo3u9Qr-9CZO5Cu9aPQ

1. Call to Order and Council Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Also present:

City Administrator-Tracey Douglas

Assistant City Administrator & Director of Community and Economic Development-Jim Chandler

City Treasurer-Ron Brooks

Director of Public Works-Lesley Riddle

Director of Community Services-Sandra Shephard

Emergency Operations Manager-Reggie Bagley

City Clerk- Laura Reams

Present: Interim Mayor Robert Croslin
Council Vice-President Danny Schaible
Councilmember Sam Denes
Councilmember Joanne Waszczak
Councilmember Ben Simasek
Councilmember Jimmy McClellan
Councilmember Edouard Haba
Councilmember Daniel Peabody
Councilmember Joseph Solomon
Councilmember Rommel Sandino

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

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

Aye: Croslin, Schaible, Denes, Waszczak, Simasek, McClellan, Haba, Peabody, Solomon, and Sandino

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

Claire Panak submitted comments regarding the impact of the pandemic on children and encouraged the Council to consider access for children when reviewing proposals and policies. She also commented on the proposal for "pay as you throw" indicating concern that the system may negatively impact low income residents.

Dan Broder addressed the Council in support of establishing a zero waste program and allocating American Rescue Plan Act Funds toward environmental programs. Mr. Broder also said he would like to see the City consider creating a memorial in honor of Mayor Kevin Ward.

Greg Smith addressed the Council to express disappointment with the "pay as you throw" study and advocate for a more comprehensive look at zero waste programs.

David Marshall stated opposition to the "pay as you throw" program and automated traffic enforcement ramp up proposal.

5. Community Notices and Meetings

This agenda item was Read into the Record.

5.a) Main City Calendar: February 22 - March 7, 2022

[HCC-259-FY22](#)

N/A

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [City Calendar Feb 23- Mar 7 2022](#)

6. City Administrator Update (7:20 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.)

City Administrator Douglas provided updates on programs and events.

7. Presentations (7:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.)

7.a) FY22 Thrive Grant Presentation[HCC-247-FY22](#)

Presentation - the grant approvals are on the consent agenda.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Health and Wellness Advisory Committee Chair Don Burger presented the committees recommendations for the 2022 Thrive Grant Awards. He noted a reduction in applications this year and said the committee recommended that the unspent funds allocated to the grant awards be utilized to support additional mental health and wellness speaker series and workshops.

After a brief discussion, the Council decided to pull Item HCC-246-FY22 from the consent agenda to the action agenda to reallocate funding. Councilmember Haba moved to pull the item to the action agenda. Councilmember Solomon seconded, and the motion to move the item to action was approved, unanimously.

7.b) Presentation of Draft Trash Study[HCC-230-FY22](#)

Presentation Only

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [SCS Hyattsville Presentation 24JAN2022](#)
[Trash Study Draft Final Report City of Hyattsville](#)

Director of Public Works Riddle introduced the presentation of the draft trash study. She noted that the study was impacted by COVID related delays. Stacey Demers, Project Manager from SCS Engineers reviewed the study parameters and initial findings, she highlighted other municipal programs and provided a brief overview of the "pay as you throw". Ms. Demers also noted specific challenges with trash collection which arose during the pandemic including an increase in household trash due to more time at home.

Council discussion included questions on potential fee structures and possible negative impact on low income families related to a pay as you throw structure.

8. 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 Vice-President Schaible, seconded by Councilmember Sandino, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Croslin, Solomon, Schaible, Denes, Waszczak, Simasek, McClellan, Haba, Peabody, and Sandino

8.b) FY22 Budget Amendment: Special Election 2022[HCC-249-FY22](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an FY22 budget amendment in the amount of \$108,000 for the Board of Supervisors of Elections budget to be appropriated as follows: \$3,000 Ads & Notices, \$63,000 Equipment Rental, \$17,000 Postage, \$10,500 Contracted Services and \$1,500 for office supplies and miscellaneous expenses.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Memo for Special Mayoral Election 2022 Budget Amendment](#)

8.c) Approval of Election Equipment Vendor for Special Mayoral Election 2022[HCC-256-FY22](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to execute a contract with Election Systems and Software (ES&S) in an amount not to exceed \$13,000 to be the City's election equipment vendor for the Special Election to be held on Tuesday, June 7, 2022, upon the review and approval by the City Attorney for legal sufficiency.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [City of Hyattsville rental quote - 2-22](#)

8.d) Award of Contract for Mail Vendor - Special Mayoral Election 2022[HCC-257-FY22](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to enter into an agreement with Fort Orange Press for the printing and mailing of ballot packets and ballots for 2022 Special Mayoral City Election at a cost not to exceed \$32,000. The agreement will be effective upon the review and approval by the City Attorney.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Hyattsville MD Election Pricing 2-18-2022](#)

9. Action Items (8:05 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.)

8.a) Disbursement of FY22 Thrive Grant Funds[HCC-246-FY22](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the expenditure of \$2,500 to support the grant proposals recommended from the Health, Wellness and Recreation Advisory Committee and listed in the attached memo for the dissemination of the FY22 Thrive Grants and reallocate the remaining \$6,500 to the Committee for conducting mental health awareness training and additional programming through the Health, Wellness and Recreation Advisory Committee speaker series.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [2021 - Thrive Grant Letter.docx](#)
[Thrive Grants 2021 chart.docx](#)
[2021 Thrive Grant Applications Received](#)

The motion was amended as follows:

Amended Motion: HCC-246-FY22 Disbursement of FY22 Thrive Grant Funds

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the expenditure of \$3,200 to support the grant proposals recommended from the Health, Wellness and Recreation Advisory Committee and listed in the attached memo for the dissemination of the FY22 Thrive Grants and reallocate the remaining \$5,800 to the Committee for conducting mental health awareness training and additional programming through the Health, Wellness and Recreation Advisory Committee speaker series.

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

Aye: Croslin, Solomon, Schaible, Denes, Waszczak, Simasek, McClellan, Haba, Peabody, and Sandino

9.a) Hyattsville Charter Amendment Resolution 2022-01: Adjusting the Time Requirements for a Special Election due to a Vacancy in Office of Mayor or Councilmember (INTRODUCTION & ADOPTION)[HCC-250-FY22](#)

I move the Mayor and Council introduce and adopt Hyattsville Charter Amendment Resolution 2022-01, a resolution amending Article II of the City of Hyattsville's Charter to adjust the time requirements by which a Special Election arising out of a vacancy in the Office of the Mayor or any Councilmember must be held (INTRODUCTION & ADOPTION).

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Resolution - Charter Amendment Extending Time to Conduct Special Election 2.16.22](#)
[BOSE Letter to City Council Feb 1 2022](#)
[Notice Public Hearing - Special Mayoral Election 2.1.22](#)
[Resolution - Special Mayoral Vote by Mail Election 1.31.22 signed](#)

There was no council discussion on this item.

This agenda item was Approved.

9.b) Sale of Jefferson Street Parking Lot Property[HCC-255-FY22](#)

I move the City Council authorize the City Administrator to execute a contract of sale for the Jefferson Street parking lot, a 0.34 acre parcel, property to Urban Investment Partners (doing business as Hyattsville Town One, LLC) for \$1,300,000, upon the review by the City Attorney for legal sufficiency.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Memo - Public Hearing - Jefferson Street Parking Lot](#)
[Exhibit A - Jefferson Street Parking Lot Property](#)
[Exhibit B - Charter Chapter C Article IX - City Property](#)
[Exhibit C - SDAT Data - Unit 2](#)

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

Aye: Croslin, Solomon, Schaible, Denes, Waszczak, Simasek, McClellan, Haba, Peabody, and Sandino

10. Discussion Items (8:30 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.)**10.a) Automated Traffic Enforcement Ramp-up**[HCC-251-FY22](#)

I move the Mayor and Council allocate an amount to be determined upon discussion with staff for the administrative costs, purchase, and deployment of additional automated traffic enforcement (ATE) systems to focus on intersections and corridors in which speeding and red-light violations have contributed to an increase in traffic collisions, near misses, and dangerous interactions.

Sponsors: Denes

Councilmember Denes presented the benefits of automated traffic enforcement.

Council discussed the placement of the cameras, road ownership issues, and the funds collected from violations.

10.b) Hire of Full Time Behavioral/Mental Health Case Manager[HCC-252-FY22](#)

I move that the city include, as part of its FY23 municipal budget, the hire of a full-time social services case manager. This person would be responsible for following up with residents, after initial contact with police or residents known to be struggling with mental health, homelessness, domestic abuse, or other social or emotional emergency. The case manager would connect the resident with services and provide ongoing case management in the days, weeks and months following initial contact.

Sponsors: Peabody

Councilmember Peabody provided background on the motion and the need in the community for follow-up services for residents that have experienced crisis.

10.c) Study of Hyattsville City Property Tax Relief Programs for Low and Fixed-Income Homeowners [HCC-253-FY22](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council include, in the FY23 municipal budget, funding not to exceed \$30,000 for an independent consultant to study Hyattsville's property tax relief programs for low and fixed-income homeowners. The purpose of this study would be to determine the most effective method to provide relief from rising property tax liabilities for residents with limited ability to absorb those increases.

Sponsors: Peabody

Attachments: [Hyattsville Ordinance 2008-07](#)

Councilmember Peabody presented the motion and noted that although a similar motion was made in a previous year, this version will allow for quicker completion of the study and implementation of recommendations.

11. Council Dialogue (9:15 p.m. - 9:25 p.m.)

12. Motion to Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:38 p.m.

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

Aye: Croslin, Solomon, Schaible, Denes, Waszczak, Simasek, McClellan, Haba, Peabody, and Sandino