

City of Hyattsville

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



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 18, 2022

6:30 PM

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_mvOe_dxKQja2bxjTYAuXpw

Virtual

City Council

Kevin Ward, Mayor

Robert Croslin, Council President, Ward 2

Danny Schaible, Council Vice President, Ward 2

Sam Denes, Ward 1

Joanne Waszczak, 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, January 18, 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:

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.

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_mvOe_dxKQja2bxjTYAuXpw

1. Call to Order and Council Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:36 p.m.

Also present:

City Administrator-Tracey Douglas
Assistant City Administrator-Jim Chandler
City Treasurer-Ron Brooks
Director of Public Works-Lesley Riddle
City Clerk-Laura Reams
Deputy Director of Public Works-Hal Metzler

Present:	Mayor Kevin Ward
	Council President 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 Rommel Sandino
	Councilmember Joseph Solomon

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Council President Croslin, seconded by Council Member Solomon. The motion to approve the agenda was carried by the following vote:

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

4. Motion to Close (6:40 p.m. - 7:20 p.m.) The meeting will return to open session at approximately 7:30 p.m.**4.a) Motion to Close**[HCC-211-FY22](#)

I move the Mayor and Council close the Council Meeting of January 18, 2022, in order to consult with the City Attorney and staff to discuss contract negotiations related to the acquisition or sale of real property and receive legal advice.

This session will be closed under the authority of the Annotated Code of Maryland State Government General Provisions Article Section 3-305 (b) (3) to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto”.

Sponsors: City Administrator

A motion was made by Council President Croslin, seconded by Council Member Solomon, that this agenda item be Approved.

I move the Mayor and Council close the Council Meeting of January 18, 2022, in order to consult with the City Attorney and staff to discuss contract negotiations related to the acquisition or sale of real property and receive legal advice.

This session will be closed under the authority of the Annotated Code of Maryland State Government General Provisions Article Section 3-305 (b) (3) to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.

The motion to close carried by the following vote.

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

The Council entered closed session at 6:39 p.m. and returned to open session at 7:41 p.m. No action was taken in the closed session.

5. Public Comment (7:30 p.m. – 7:40 p.m.) Complete Speaker Card, Limit 2 minutes per speaker

Elizabeth Herscbach wrote in opposition to the Adelphi Road sector plan.

Rachel Kroner wrote in opposition to the Adelphi Road sector plan.

Melissa Schweisguth wrote with concerns about the West Hyattsville Rd. design and reconstruction, test kit distribution, premium pay for City essential workers, the Adelphi Road sector plan.

Marc Neal Simon's 9 page document was summarized by City Clerk Laura Reams, addressing his concerns about the Adelphi Road sector plan.

Greg Smith asked the City to support State of Maryland bills related to public school participation in green programs.

Laurel Imlay's father spoke in support of Guilford Woods and local green spaces.

6. Community Notices and Meetings**6.a) Main City Calendar: January 19 - February 7, 2022**[HCC-227-FY22](#)

N/A

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [City Cal Jan 19 - Feb 7](#)

7. City Administrator Update (7:40 p.m. - 7:55 p.m.)

City Administrator Tracey Douglas provided updates on City-related news and events, including ARPA funding for premium pay and lower-paid frontline employees.

8. City Treasurer Update (7:55 p.m. - 8:05 p.m.)

City Treasurer Ron Brooks provided updates on Revenue and Expenditures.

9. Presentations (8:05 p.m. - 8:50 p.m.)

9.a) West Hyattsville Road Reconstruction Design and Construction[HCC-197-FY22](#)

Presentation only.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [DPW WestHVL RoadsProject 2](#)

Public Works Director Lesley Riddle and Deputy Director Hal Metzler reviewed the West Hyattsville plan.

Councilmember Haba asked about dates for Phase 2 construction. Mr. Metzler responded that DPW will be requesting funding from the FY23 budget in July. Director Riddle added that Phase 2 won't begin until after community outreach.

Councilmember Denes asked for estimates on the entire project length, and about storm water management. Mr. Metzler said that Phases 4-6 will require extensive storm water management with county input. Director Riddle added that project completion should be 3-5 years.

Councilmember Waszczak expressed safety concerns about intersections. Mr. Metzler assured her that WMATA and other partners will be included to ensure improvements.

9.b) CSP-20004 (ETOD) - 5402 Jamestown Road, Hyattsville[HCC-216-FY22](#)

Presentation Only

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Presentation Memo - CSP-20004 - 5402 Jamestown Road project summary Jamestown Jamestown Rd 20210413- revised 170-200units SWM Concept Plan](#)

Arthur Horn, attorney for the property owner, introduced architect Jeff Goin and developer Zak Elyasi who presented on the project.

Councilmember Sandino asked if affordable housing would be designated and accessible for residents. The developer's response was that the project foundation is affordability.

Councilmember Simasek addressed the project being in the flood plain. Mr. Goins said their design will mitigate the expected flow of water. The Civil Engineer will address those concerns at a future meeting.

Councilmember Haba asked if more retail space would be included. Mr. Elyasi said they're planning a coffee shop and a bike shop; with affordable housing there are limits on what can be included.

Councilmember Schaible asked if on-site parking would be available for retail customers.

Councilmember McClellan brought up electric car charging stations and whether the project placement in the flood plain would impact their effectiveness. Mr. Goins and Mr. Elyasi said they would address this as it is a good question.

Councilmember Solomon asked if buried power lines would be implemented. Mr. Goins said the desire is to bury power lines. Councilmember Solomon also expressed his concern about traffic in the area. Mr. Horn said that concerns about traffic would be addressed through the traffic study the developer will have to complete. Councilmember Solomon asked if the developer had considered building up to address density issues. Mr. Elyasi responded that the cost increases substantially the higher you build due to the different materials required.

10. Consent Items (8:50 p.m. - 8:55 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 Croslin, seconded by Councilmember Peabody, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

- 10.a)** FY22 Budget Amendment: FY22 Special Revenues Fund Budget and Appropriation of the FY20 Smart Energy Communities Grant Award for Solar Panels. [HCC-222-FY22](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council amend the FY22 Special Revenues Fund Budget and appropriate the Maryland Smart Energy Communities Grant balance of \$50,000 that was previously approved in Council motion HCC-352-FY20 for the purpose of installing a roof top solar photovoltaic system on the new Public Works building.

Sponsors: City Administrator

A motion was made by Council President Croslin, seconded by Council Member Peabody, that this agenda item be Approved as follows.

I move that the Mayor and Council amend the FY22 Special Revenues Fund Budget and appropriate the Maryland Smart Energy Communities Grant balance of \$50,000 that was previously approved in Council motion HCC-352-FY20 for the purpose of installing a roof top solar photovoltaic system on the new Public Works building.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

- 10.b)** Schedule Public Hearing for American Rescue Plan [HCC-226-FY22](#)

I move that the City Council schedule a Public Hearing for Tuesday, February 22 at 6:00 PM, to consider public testimony regarding the establishment of emergency relief programs to assist Hyattsville residents, business, and nonprofits with recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic utilizing American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding.

Sponsors: City Administrator

A motion was made by Council President Croslin, seconded by Council Member Peabody, that this agenda item be Approved as follows.

I move that the City Council schedule a Public Hearing for Tuesday, February 22 at 6:00 PM, to consider public testimony regarding the establishment of emergency relief programs to assist Hyattsville residents, business, and nonprofits with recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic utilizing American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

10.c) Purchase of At Home COVID-19 Test Kits[HCC-224-FY22](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$120,582 for the purchase of 7,560 At Home COVID-19 Test Kits that are FDA approved from Modern Suppliers, LLC.

Sponsors: City Administrator

A motion was made by Council President Croslin, seconded by Council Member Peabody, that this agenda item be Approved as follows.

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$120,582 for the purchase of 7,560 At Home COVID-19 Test Kits that are FDA approved from Modern Suppliers, LLC.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

10.d) Authorization to Sign Joint Letter to Support Funding for Sustainable Maryland Program[HCC-217-FY22](#)

I move the Council authorize the Mayor to sign a joint letter from Maryland municipalities to the Maryland House Appropriations Committee, on behalf of the Hyattsville City Council to support funding for the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund to expand and enhance Sustainable Maryland's promotion and support of communities' ability to realize environmental, economic, and social sustainability.

Sponsors: Waszczak, Schaible, Denes and Simasek

Attachments: [SM-HB0100-SB0014 Joint Muni LoS 01.11.2022](#)

A motion was made by Council President Croslin, seconded by Council Member Peabody, that this agenda item be Approved as follows.

I move the Council authorize the Mayor to sign a joint letter from Maryland municipalities to the Maryland House Appropriations Committee, on behalf of the Hyattsville City Council to support funding for the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund to expand and enhance Sustainable Maryland's promotion and support of communities' ability to realize environmental, economic, and social sustainability.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

10.e) Premium Pay for City essential workers whose income is under \$28.22/hr[HCC-210-FY22](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize a temporary Premium Pay program to provide additional pay to the City's frontline essential employees whose income or hourly rate falls below 65% of the Area Medium Income for Prince George's County. Costs not to exceed \$175,000 paid for using American Rescue Plan funds.

Sponsors: City Administrator

A motion was made by Council President Croslin, seconded by Council Member Peabody, that this agenda item be Approved as follows.

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize a temporary Premium Pay program to provide additional pay to the City's frontline essential employees whose income or hourly rate falls below 65% of the Area Medium Income for Prince George's County. Costs not to exceed \$175,000 paid for using American Rescue Plan funds.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

11. Action Items (8:55 p.m. - 9:55 p.m.)

11.b) Preliminary Adelphi Road Sector Plan[HCC-225-FY22](#)

I move the City Council authorize the Mayor to provide correspondence the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission in support of the preliminary Adelphi Road Sector Plan, subject to the conditions detailed in Table 1 of the attached staff memorandum. The correspondence shall include language encouraging M-NCPPC to expand the methods of community stakeholder input.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Staff Memo - Preliminary Adelphi Road Sector Plan FINAL](#)
[ARSP Boundary Map](#)
[Adelphi Road Sector Plan Briefing to Hyattsville City Council \(3\)](#)

Councilmember Waszczak suggested that the correspondence include reference to protecting Guilford Woods and the natural environment.

Councilmember Waszczak also encouraged community engagement.

Councilmember Schaible responded in support of Councilmember Waszczak's suggestion. He does not support the Adelphi Road sector plan.

Councilmember Simasek supports Councilmember Waszczak's recommendation.

Councilmember Denes asked Councilmember Waszczak to clarify "community engagement."
Councilmember Waszczak explained that she would like more inclusive public engagement, not just electronic submissions.

Mr. Chandler suggested realistic recommendations.

Councilmember Solomon supports Councilmember Waszczak's request.

Councilmember Haba suggested the City try to influence M-NCPPC decision-making rather than opposing outright. He supports Councilmember Waszczak's language.

Councilmember Denes reminded all that public comment closes very soon. Mr. Chandler stated that the City does not want to miss having the opportunity to comment.

Mayor Ward suggested that the proposed changes to the motion be voted on as a single amendment. There were no objections. Councilmember Simasek made the motion to amend, it was seconded by Councilmember Solomon and approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Council President Croslin, seconded by Council Member Denes, that this agenda item be Approved as Amended. The amended motion reads:

I move the City Council authorize the Mayor to provide correspondence the MNCPPC in support of the preliminary Adelphi Road Sector Plan, conditional upon the recommendations in Table 1 (to be enclosed with the letter). Additionally, correspondence should include language encouraging MNCPPC to reopen the public comment period for 60-90 days and expand the methods of community stakeholder input so as not to restrict input to digital format

and allow for submission of oral and written comment.

Table 1 as referenced in the motion was amended as follows:

- Natural Environment LU 2.1, NE 1, NE 4, PF 2 The City supports the plan's stated goal to preserve green space and requests that the Commission evaluate opportunities for expansion of the Parks and Open Space land use designation within the Sector Plan, including the preservation of all of Guilford Woods that is publicly owned.
- TM 4.7 amendment: However, Stanford, Purdue, and Rutgers streets and their intersection with Adelphi Road should be reevaluated to determine cyclist safety, vehicular egress and visibility, and crosswalk adequacy and if additional striping or pedestrian signalization is warranted.
- The City recognizes that an intensification in land-use "in non-wooded areas" is necessary...

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

12. Council Dialogue (9:55 p.m. - 10:05 p.m.)

13. Motion to Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

A motion was made by Council President Croslin, seconded by Council Member Sandino to adjourn the meeting.

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