

City of Hyattsville

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



Meeting Minutes

Saturday, April 5, 2025

10:30 AM

City Building - 2nd Floor

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
Kareem Redmond, Ward 3
Edouard Haba, Ward 4
Michelle Lee, Ward 4
Rommel Sandino, Ward 5

ADMINISTRATION

Tracey E. Douglas, City Administrator
Nate Groenendyk, City Clerk, 301-985-5001, cityclerk@hyattsville.org

WELCOME TO THE CITY OF HYATTSVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING!
Your participation at this public meeting is valued and appreciated.

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 Rommel Sandino

Absent: Councilmember Edouard Haba

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.

Meeting Notice:

The Hyattsville City Council will hold its meeting on Saturday, April 5, 2025 on the second floor of the City Municipal Building.

1. Call to Order and Council Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 10:35 PM.

Also Present:

City Administrator Tracey Douglas

Deputy City Administrator Laura Reams

Director of Community Business and Economic Development Jeff Ulysse

City Treasurer Ron Brooks

Chief of Police Jarod Towers

Deputy Chief Laura Lanham

Director of Public Works Lesley Riddle

Deputy Director of Public Works Hal Metzler

Deputy Director of Public Works Priyanka Joshi

Executive Administrator of Public Works Dealon LaCroix

Director of Community Services Sandra Shephard

Deputy Director of Community Services Cheri Everhart

Director of Human Resources Jay Joyner

Human Resources Generalist Brenda Cruz

City Clerk Nate Groenendyk

Deputy City Clerk Quianna Taylor

Emergency Resources Manager Reginald Bagley

Race and Equity Officer Shakira Louimarre

Communications Manager Cindy Zork

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

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

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

Absent: Haba

5. Public Comment (10:35 a.m. – 10:44 a.m.) Complete Speaker Card, Limit 2 minutes per speaker

Tatjana Hrubik-Vulanovic asked for more transparency in the budget regarding the debt services, bond sales, and liabilities.

Gopi Dhokai (Ward 3) urged the Council to leave funding for mental health programming for teens and the police department in the budget. She urged them to utilize utilization information before altering the programs.

8. Presentations

FY26 Departmental Budget Work Session[HCC-291-FY25](#)

For discussion

Sponsors: City Administrator

City Administrator Douglas gave an overview and welcomed the public to the meeting. Councilmembers and members of the community went to staff tables to speak with directors and staff about budget priorities and proposed budget cuts. Additional details are listed below by department.

Community Services:

Staff and Council discussed the mental health program, grants, senior programming, the case manager position, tutoring, data collections, and the volunteer coordinator position.

Communications:

Staff and Council discussed the organizational chart, proposed reductions to the budget primarily focused on the advertising budget for the Hyattsville Life and Times and delaying the ADA compliance software.

Community, Business, and Economic Development:

Staff and Council discussed rent stabilization, housing affordability, and economic development activities and incentives.

City Clerk:

Staff and Council discussed committees, the stipend program, professional development, and the cost of elections.

Finance/Admin:

Staff and Council discussed the audits, property tax revenues, expenditures, fund balances, City debt, investment policy and bond proceeds.

Police:

Staff and Council discussed staffing levels, the potential drone program, and anticipated expenditures for FY26.

Department of Public Works:

Staff and Council discussed potential cuts to the operating budget, impact of cuts on services, the ability of the department to take on new developments, staffing levels, and capital projects.

A motion was made by Council President and seconded by CM Redmond to take a 30 minute recess for lunch and resume at 13:20.

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

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

Absent: Haba

Mayor Robert Croslin called for the resumption of the meeting at 12:34 PM.

12. Council Dialogue

14. Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made by Councilmember Denes, seconded by Councilmember Lee, that this item was Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Absent: Haba

The meeting adjourned at 2:03 PM.