

City of Hyattsville

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



Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 2, 2025

7:00 PM

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_g-Qqhq_hTOCJkZWe5KgkqA

Virtual

City Council

Robert S. Croslin, Mayor
Joseph Solomon, Council President, Ward 5
Joanne Waszczak, Council Vice President, Ward 1
Greg Barnes, Ward 1
Danny Schaible, Ward 2
Emily Strab, Ward 2
Kareem Redmond, Ward 3
Gopi Dhokai, Ward 3
Edouard Haba, Ward 4
Michelle Lee, Ward 4
Kelson Nisbett, 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 Danny Schaible
Councilmember Kareem Redmond
Councilmember Michelle Lee
Councilmember Edouard Haba
Councilmember Michelle Lee
Councilmember Gopi Dhokai
Councilmember Greg Barnes
Councilmember Kelson Nisbett

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) 985-5001. 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 via email to 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

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:

The Hyattsville City Council will hold its meeting on Monday, June 2, 2025 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.

LANGUAGE TRANSLATION AND CLOSED CAPTIONING: The City of Hyattsville offers translation and closed captioning in over 50 languages for City Council Meetings via the Wordly platform.

Follow the directions below to access the service:

-Go to: <https://attend.wordly.ai/join/RAVY-6886>

-Ensure the Session ID RAVY-6886 is displayed.

-Select Your Choice of Language and click on the "Attend" button.

-You can now read the captions on your device and/or listen to the translation of the City Council meeting.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact info@hyattsville.org.

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 via email to 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 Council meeting must register in advance using the link below.

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_g-Qqhq_hTOCJkZWe5KgkqA

1. Call to Order and Council Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM.

Also Present:

City Administrator Tracey Douglas

Deputy City Administrator Laura Reams

City Treasurer Ron Brooks

Chief of Police Jarod Towers

Deputy Chief of Police Laura Lanham

Director of Public Works Lesley Riddle

Deputy Director of Public Works Hal Metzler

Director of Public Works Executive Administrator Dealon LaCroix

Director of Community Services Sandra Shephard

Director of Human Resources Jay Joyner

City Clerk Nate Groenendyk

Deputy City Clerk Quianna Taylor

Emergency Services Manager Reginald Bagley

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

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

Aye: Croslin, Solomon, Waszczak, Barnes, Schaible, Strab, Redmond, Dhokai, Haba, Lee, and Nisbett

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

Melissa Schweisguth (Ward 5) wanted the Council to take note of the zoning changes in the revised sector plan and asked what the impact to the community will be. She also stated her support for the conversion to LED Streetlights and asked that the City get a competitive bid for dark sky compliant lighting.

Mr. Marshall (Ward 4) welcomed new Councilmembers and described the impacts redistricting has had on the voting patterns of his household.

Kurt Britzenhofe echoed comments made by Melissa Schweisguth about the streetlight conversion. He also shared concerns about the rising costs of housing in Hyattsville.

Pat Padua lives in an unincorporated area of Ward 3 and expressed concerns about the proposed rezoning in the sector plan advising that it would annex his Avondale Grove into Hyattsville. He advised that as a resident of Avondale Grove, he is opposed to this and asked why their residents were not consulted.

Rocelle Durant, a resident of Avondale Terrace/North Woodridge, echoed the sentiments of Pat Padua, advising that their community does not want to be annexed into the City of Hyattsville.

Council President Solomon informed Mr. Padua and Ms. Durant that the City of Hyattsville does not oversee the development of the sector plan and recommended that they contact Councilmember Wanika Fisher.

5. City Administrator Update (7:20 p.m - 7:40 p.m.)

The City Administrator provided updates on City events and programming.

Chief Towers gave an update about victims services provided by CAFY (Community Advocates for Family & Youth) and provided stats from the past year.

The Council and staff also discussed upcoming traffic safety community meetings.

6. Presentations (7:40 p.m. - 8:20 p.m.)

6.a. Briefing: Staff Draft III West Hyattsville-Queens Chapel Sector Plan and SMA[HCC-336-FY25](#)

For Presentation.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [WHQC City of Hyattsville City Council Staff PowerPoint 2025.06.02](#)

Director of Community Business and Economic Development Jeff Ulysse introduced Thomas Lester, Justin Thornton, and Tony Felts from the Prince George's County Planning Office who provided an overview of the updates made to the sector plan.

The Council and staff discussed the new policy for accessory dwelling units (ADU's), removal of bike lanes, the conversion of arterial roads to the current multimodal standards, anti-displacement measures, the reclassification of the Washington Gas Light Co. property, and impacts of e-bikes and motorized scooters on traffic.

6.b. Streetlight Ownership Conversion Update[HCC-360-FY25](#)

Presentation

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [Presentation_StreetLightConversin.pdf](#)

Director of Public Works Lesley Riddle and Deputy Director Hal Metzler introduced Jason Tanko who gave an overview of the streetlight rate update project, which allows municipalities to acquire streetlights from their local utility PEPCO.

The Council and staff discussed operating costs, lights maintenance, potential increases in PEPCO bills, funding sources, and project management.

7. Proclamations

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

Aye: Croslin, Solomon, Waszczak, Barnes, Schaible, Strab, Redmond, Dhokai, Haba, Lee, and Nisbett

7.a. Proclamation in Celebration of June 2025 as LGBTQIA+ Pride Month[HCC-361-FY25](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council adopt a proclamation recognizing and honoring June, 2025 as LGBTQIA+ Pride Month.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [CM 0602 LGBTQIA+ Pride Month 2025](#)

7.b. Proclamation in Celebration of June 2025 as Caribbean-American Heritage Month [HCC-363-FY25](#)

I move the Mayor and Council adopt a proclamation recognizing and honoring June as Caribbean-American Heritage Month.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [CM 0602 Caribbean-American Heritage Month 2025](#)

7.c. Proclamation in Celebration of June 2025 as Immigrant Heritage Month [HCC-364-FY25](#)

I move the Mayor and Council adopt a proclamation recognizing and celebrating June as Immigrant Heritage Month in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [CM 0602 Immigrant Heritage Month 2025](#)

7.d. Proclamation Declaring June 6, 2025, as National Gun Violence Awareness Day [HCC-365-FY25](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council declare June 6, 2025, as National Gun Violence Awareness Day in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [CM 0602 National Gun Violence Awareness Day 2025](#)

7.e. Proclamation in Celebration of Juneteenth [HCC-366-FY25](#)

I move the Mayor and Council adopt a Proclamation Observing and Celebrating June 19, 2025, as Juneteenth in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [CM 0602 Juneteenth 2025](#)

7.f. Proclamation Honoring Riverdale Park Mayor Alan K. Thompson [HCC-369-FY25](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council adopt a proclamation honoring Mayor Alan K. Thompson for his 16 years of service and dedication as an elected official to the Town of Riverdale Park.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Attachments: [CM 0602 Honoring Mayor Thompson.pdf](#)

8. Action Items (8:20 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.)

8.a. Streetlight Purchase Authorization[HCC-359-FY25](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to negotiate and enter into an agreement with PEPCO for the purchase of streetlights within the incorporated City boundary, pending legal review.

Sponsors: City Administrator

CM Nisbett inquired how Tanko was chosen. He was advised by Director Riddle that they were chosen because they were the only company that responded to the Request for Proposal (RFP).

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

Aye: Croslin, Solomon, Waszczak, Barnes, Schaible, Strab, Redmond, Dhokai, Haba, Lee, and Nisbett

9. Council Dialogue (8:45 p.m. - 8:55 p.m.)**10. Motion to Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

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

Aye: Croslin, Solomon, Waszczak, Barnes, Schaible, Strab, Redmond, Dhokai, Haba, Lee, and Nisbett