

City of Hyattsville

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



Minutes Regular Meeting

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_pF-avMtJTtsKEGgIKMxyQQ

Monday, February 9, 2026

7:00 PM

Virtual

CITY COUNCIL

Robert S. Croslin, Mayor

Joseph Solomon, Council President, Ward 5

Kareem Redmond, Council Vice President, Ward 3

Joanne Waszczak, Ward 1

Greg Barnes, Ward 1

Danny Schaible, Ward 2

Emily Strab, Ward 2

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

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM.

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

Also Present:

City Administrator Tracey Douglas
City Treasurer Ron Brooks
Chief of Police Jarod Towers
Strategic Advisor Lesley Riddle
Acting Director of the Department of Public Works Hal Metzler
Director of Community, Business, and Economic Development Jeff Ulysse
Strategic Advisor Suzanne Ludlow
Community Development Specialist Daniel Mears
City Planner Chloe Kauffman
Director of Community Services Sandra Shephard
Director of Human Resources Jay Joyner
City Clerk Nate Groenendyk
Deputy City Clerk Quianna Taylor
Emergency Operations Manager Reginald Bagley

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Councilmember Schaible, seconded by Council President

Solomon, to amend the agenda by moving the Tanko contract change order to the action agenda from the consent agenda.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: Mayor Croslin, Council President Solomon, Council Vice President Redmond, Councilmember Waszczak, Councilmember Barnes, Councilmember Schaible, Councilmember Strab, Councilmember Dhokai, Councilmember Haba, Councilmember Lee, Councilmember Nisbett

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT:

A motion was made by Council President Solomon, seconded by Councilmember Barnes, that the amended agenda be approved.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: Mayor Croslin, Council President Solomon, Council Vice President Redmond, Councilmember Waszczak, Councilmember Barnes, Councilmember Schaible, Councilmember Strab, Councilmember Dhokai, Councilmember Haba, Councilmember Lee, Councilmember Nisbett

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT:

4. Public Comment (7:10 PM - 7:20 PM) Limit 2 minutes per speaker

- Brian Banks (Ward 2) asked to increase the FY27 budget for community services to support the immigrant community. The additional funds would help prepare at-risk community members and increase case management support.
- Maggie Spicer (Ward 2) also asked for expanded funding for community services. She stated that she enjoys living in a diverse community but recognizes that many community members are fearful and under threat.
- Brenden Sloan (Ward 2) asked for additional funding for community services.
- Charlotte Francoeur (Ward 2) asked for additional support for residents and asked the City Council to ban ICE from Hyattsville facilities. She also inquired about installing concrete pads at bike share facilities to increase micromobility.
- Melissa Schweisguth (Ward 5) stated that the West Hyattsville Phase 2 would be more ecologically sustainable by requesting that the planning board require planting new trees instead of installing planters. She also noted the need for more pedestrian and cycling protections in the strategic plan. Lastly, she asked that the Department of Public Works be more mindful of pedestrians when clearing snow and not block curbs.
- Daniel Broder (Ward 2) stated his support of ranked choice voting and keeping retiree benefits. He raised concerns about the Flock camera system and asked the council to cancel the contract, as it aids the federal government in furthering

fascism, adding that the database is used illegally to attack anti-ICE dissent.

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

The City Administrator provided updates on winter storm cleanup, the annual Point in Time Report update, which tracks the unhoused in Hyattsville, City programming, ADA improvements on Alt Rt 1, and the Tanko streetlight purchase contract.

Chief Towers also provided more information about the Flock license plate reader program. The Mayor and Council discussed the benefits of the system, information and data security, system audits, and means for the federal government to obtain information. The Council also discussed acquiring information from private entities.

6. Presentations (7:40 PM - 8:10 PM)

6.a. 2026-148 2026-2031 City of Hyattsville Strategic Plan: Stepping Forward

For presentation.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Community, Business, and Economic Development

Attachments: Draft_HVL-StrategicPlan-2026-05

Community and Economic Development Director J. Ulysse, City Planner Chloe Kauffman, and Community Development Specialist Danny Mears gave a presentation of the 2026-2031 City of Hyattsville Strategic Plan.

The Council thanked the staff for their hard work in creating the plan.

7. Proclamations

A motion was made by Council Vice President Redmond, seconded by Council President Solomon, that the City Council adopt the proclamations.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: Mayor Croslin, Council President Solomon, Council Vice President Redmond, Councilmember Waszczak, Councilmember Barnes, Councilmember Schaible, Councilmember Strab, Councilmember Dhokai, Councilmember Haba, Councilmember Lee, Councilmember Nisbett

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT:

7.a. 2026-152 Proclamation for Black History Month

I move the Mayor and Council adopt the proclamation recognizing the month of

February as Black History Month.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Administration

Attachments: CM 0209 Black History Month 2026

8. Consent Items (8:10 p.m. - 8:15 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 Solomon, seconded by Councilmember Haba, that the consent agenda be approved.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: Mayor Croslin, Council President Solomon, Council Vice President Redmond, Councilmember Waszczak, Councilmember Barnes, Councilmember Schaible, Councilmember Strab, Councilmember Dhokai, Councilmember Haba, Councilmember Lee, Councilmember Nisbett

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT:

8.a. Contract Award - On-Call Facilities Maintenance

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to enter into contracts with SFMS, LLC and Unisource Services, LLC for on-call maintenance of the City's facilities. The contracts will each be for one year with four optional renewal years, for an amount not to exceed \$60,000 per year, pending legal review.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Department of Public Works

Attachments: RFP DPW25-009 On-Call Facilities Maint 09-24-2025

8.b. 2026-153 Change Order for Lower Ward 1 Resiliency Projects - Toole, Pennoni, LIDC, SMC

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to execute a change order to the Toole and Pennoni On-Call Transportation Design and Engineering contracts and to the SMC and Low Impact Design Center On-Call Environmental and Stormwater Design and Engineering contracts to extend the

contracts' expiration dates to December 31, 2026.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Department of Public Works

Attachments:

9. Action Items (8:15 p.m. - 8:35 p.m.)

9.a. Change Order - Tanko Contract

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to issue a change order to the contract with Tanko Streetlighting, LLC to extend the term of the contract to December 31, 2026, and modify the scope of the contract to include research, review, and negotiation for the return of overpayments, pending legal review.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Department of Public Works

Attachments: Tanko Contract DPW-24-104 06-03-2024

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to issue a change order to the contract with Tanko Streetlighting, LLC to extend the term of the contract to December 31, 2026, and modify the scope of the contract to include research, review, and negotiation for the return of overpayments, pending legal review.

Motion made by Council President Solomon, seconded by Councilmember Haba.

The Council and staff discussed the termination date of the original contract, tentative repayment of the items in the contract, and resident informed streetlight customization.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: Mayor Croslin, Council President Solomon, Council Vice President Redmond, Councilmember Waszczak, Councilmember Barnes, Councilmember Schaible, Councilmember Strab, Councilmember Dhokai, Councilmember Haba, Councilmember Lee, Councilmember Nisbett

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT:

9.b. 2026-149 West Hyattsville Phase 2 Development: Departure from Design Standards (DPT-2025-0003)

I move that the Council authorize the Mayor to submit formal correspondence to

the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission regarding the Detailed Site Plan titled *West Hyattsville Phase II (DSP-20053-02) and Departure from Design Standards (DPT-2025-0003)*. The correspondence shall convey the City's official position as outlined in the amended staff report dated February 2, 2026.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Community, Business, and Economic Development

Attachments: Council-Memo-DPT-2025-003, Staff_Report_DPT-2025-003_, Staff_Report_DSP-20053-02, City-HVL-Decision_DSP_20053-02, LSLP-PHOP-DPT-2025-0003_v1 (3), A-SOJ-DPT-2025-0003_v1 (3), A-SOJ-Section 4.7-DSP-20053-02, East Property Line Cross Section, A-ACRQ-ACL-DSP-20053-02_v1 (1)

I move that the Council authorize the Mayor to submit formal correspondence to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission regarding the Detailed Site Plan titled *West Hyattsville Phase II (DSP-20053-02) and Departure from Design Standards (DPT-2025-0003)*. The correspondence shall convey the City's official position as outlined in the amended staff report dated February 2, 2026.

City Planner Chloe Kauffman gave an overview of the project, highlighting the new elements to the Council.

The Council and staff discussed changes in the staff memo and the traffic study analysis. The Council also discussed whether the developer could be mandated to use the new Queens Chapel Road sector plan as guidance for the project.

A motion was made by Council President Solomon, seconded by Councilmember Haba, to amend the motion to say that the correspondence shall convey the City's official position as outlined in the amended staff report, dated February 2, 2026, and the slide presentation provided on February 9, 2026.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: Mayor Croslin, Council President Solomon, Council Vice President Redmond, Councilmember Waszczak, Councilmember Barnes, Councilmember Schaible, Councilmember Strab, Councilmember Dhokai, Councilmember Haba, Councilmember Lee, Councilmember Nisbett

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT:

Motion made by Council President Solomon, seconded by Council Vice President Redmond, to approve the amended motion.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: Mayor Croslin, Council President Solomon, Council Vice President Redmond, Councilmember Waszczak, Councilmember Barnes, Councilmember Schaible, Councilmember Strab, Councilmember Dhokai, Councilmember Haba, Councilmember Lee, Councilmember Nisbett

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT:

10. Discussion Items (8:35 p.m. - 9:05 p.m.)

10.a. 2026-154 Retirement Health Benefits

For discussion.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Human Resources

Attachments: Retiree_Health_Benefits_Presentation

Human Resources Director Jay Joyner gave a presentation overviewing potential changes to the retiree health benefits plan.

The Council and staff discussed the necessity of restructuring the benefits plan, the ramifications of a reduction of benefits for retirees and their families, and employee wage sustainability. The Council also discussed implementing a tiered benefit plan for retirees and a timeline for the implementation of changes to the retiree benefits. This agenda item will be presented to the City Council at a future meeting.

11. Council Dialogue (9:05 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.)

12. Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made by Council President Solomon, seconded by Council Vice President Redmond, that the meeting be adjourned at 10:03 PM.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: Mayor Croslin, Council President Solomon, Council Vice President Redmond, Councilmember Waszczak, Councilmember Barnes, Councilmember Schaible, Councilmember Strab, Councilmember Dhokai, Councilmember Haba, Councilmember Lee, Councilmember Nisbett

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: