

City of Hyattsville

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



Agenda Regular Meeting

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_sW6lpH4uT3ejKMVn2KMYag

Monday, April 27, 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

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 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 <https://hyattsvillemd.portal.civicclerk.com>.

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, April 27, 2026 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_sW6lpH4uT3ejKMVn2KMYag

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**
- 3. Approval of Agenda**
- 4. Approval of Minutes**
 - 4.a. 2026-227 Approval of Minutes**

I move the mayor and Council approve the minutes of the following meetings:

- March 9, 2026

- March 18, 2026
- March 23, 2026
- April 8, 2026
- April 13, 2026

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: Minutes_March 23 2026, Minutes_March 18 2026, Minutes_March 9 2026, Minutes_April 13 2026, Minutes_April 8 2026

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

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

7. Proclamations

7.a. 2026-223 Arbor Day Proclamation

I move the Mayor and Council adopt the proclamation designating April 24, 2026 as Arbor Day in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: CM 0427 Arbor Day 2026

7.b. 2026-224 Citizenship Celebration Day Proclamation

I move the Mayor and Council adopt the proclamation recognizing May 2, 2026 as Hyattsville Citizenship Celebration Day

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Administration

Attachments: CM 0427 Citizen Celebration Day 2026

7.c. 2026-226 Municipal Clerks Week Proclamation

I move the Mayor and Council adopt the proclamation recognizing May 3 through May 9, 2026, as Municipal Clerks Week in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Administration

Attachments: CM 04.27 Municipal Clerks Week 2026

7.d. 2026-229 Children's Mental Health Awareness Week

I move the Mayor and Council adopt the proclamation recognizing May 3 through May 9, 2026, as Children's Mental Health Awareness Week in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Administration

Attachments: CM 0427 Childrens Mental Health Matters Week 2026 (1)

7.e. 2026-228 Proclamation Honoring Lieutenant Chris Evans and K9 Officer NOLA for Their Years of Service to the City of Hyattsville

I move the Mayor and Council adopt the proclamation honoring Lieutenant Chris Evans and K9 Officer NOLA for their years of service to the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: CM 0427 Proclamation Honoring Chris Evans

8. Consent Items (7:40 p.m. - 7:45 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.

8.a. 2026-220 Ward 5 Discretionary Funds

I move the Mayor and Council approve the disbursement of \$250 from FY26 Ward 5 discretionary funds to Melange Wellness LLC to support the Pond to Pond event held on April 18, 2026.

Sponsors: Joseph Solomon, Council President, Kelson Nisbett, Councilmember

Department: City Clerk

Attachments:

8.b. 2026-221 Ward 5 Discretionary Funds

I move the Mayor and Council approve the disbursement of \$350 from FY26 Ward 5 discretionary funds to support the Riverfront at West Hyattsville's Cinco on the 2nd event on May 2, 2026.

Sponsors: Joseph Solomon, Council President, Kelson Nisbett, Councilmember

Department: City Clerk

Attachments:

9. Action Items (7:45 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.)

9.a. 2026-215 Establishing a Day of Youth Leadership and Empowerment in the City of Hyattsville.

I move the Mayor and Council include \$700 in the FY27 Budget to establish a day of youth leadership and empowerment by creating an annual process whereby students in grades 6-12 can apply to and be selected to serve in the ceremonial capacities of “Mayor”, “Council President”, or “Council Vice-President” of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: Greg Barnes, Councilmember

Department: Legislative

Attachments: YAC Feedback 3.12.2026

9.b. 2026-216 Volunteer Shoveling Program

I move the Mayor and Council include \$2,500 in the FY27 Budget to support a standing volunteer program to assist residents with snow removal needs.

Sponsors: Gopi Dhokai, Councilmember

Department: Legislative

Attachments:

9.c. 2026-214 Enhancing Council and Staff Access to Information and Reporting

I move the Mayor and Council include \$30,000 in the FY27 Budget to purchase and implement technology that streamlines access to City data for Councilmembers and City staff.

Sponsors: Kareem Redmond, Council Vice President

Department: Legislative

Attachments:

9.d. 2026-217 Relief Funds for Impacted Immigrant Families

I move the Mayor and Council include \$100,000 in the FY27 Budget to establish a relief fund to support the City of Hyattsville’s impacted immigrant families. These funds shall be administered to provide direct financial assistance to resident families whose primary breadwinners have been arrested or deported, or are unable to work as a direct result of the ongoing federal immigration enforcement actions. I further move that the City sign a

Memorandum of Understanding with one or two local non-profit partners, serving the immigrant community, for the administration of the funds.

Sponsors: Edouard Haba, Councilmember, Joseph Solomon, Council President, Danny Schaible, Councilmember

Department: Legislative

Attachments: Immigrant Relief Fund RETF Comments

10. Discussion Items (9:00 p.m. - 9:20 p.m.)

10.a. 2026-219 Funding for Community Services Caseworker to Support Resident Stability

For discussion.

Sponsors: Kareem Redmond, Council Vice President, Gopi Dhokai, Councilmember, Joseph Solomon, Council President, Michelle Lee, Councilmember

Department: City Clerk

Attachments:

11. Council Dialogue (9:20 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.)

12. Motion to Adjourn

City of Hyattsville

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Minutes Regular Meeting

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_SRPFASBiRQymH7EBXB8pDQ

Monday, March 23, 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
Deputy City Administrator Debi Sandlin
City Treasurer Ron Brooks
Deputy Budget Director Ben Bosch
Chief of Police Jarod Towers
Deputy Chief of Police Laura Lanham
Acting Director of the Department of Public Works Hal Metzler
Director of Community, Business, and Economic Development Jeff Ulysse
City Planner Chloe Kauffman
Community Development Specialist Danny Mears
Strategic Advisor Suzanne Ludlow
Deputy Director of Community Services Cheri Everhart
Director of Human Resources Jay Joyner
City Clerk Nate Groenendyk
Deputy City Clerk Quianna Taylor
Emergency Operations Manager Reginald Bagley
Race and Equity Officer Shakira Louimarre

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Councilmember Lee, seconded by Councilmember Schaible, that the 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. Approval of Minutes

4.a. 2026-195 Approval of Minutes

I move the Mayor and Council approve the minutes of the following meeting:

- February 18, 2026

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: Budget Work Session Minutes_February 18 2026

I move the Mayor and Council approve the minutes of the following meeting:

- February 18, 2026

Motion made by Councilmember Barnes, seconded by Councilmember Schaible.

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:

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

- Robert Oerter (Ward 1) spoke in favor of the emergency relief fund for immigrant families.

- Stephanie DeLorenzo (Ward 1) spoke in favor of the emergency relief fund for immigrant families.
- Ninfa Amador Hernandez spoke in favor of the emergency relief fund for immigrant families.
- Bette Dickerson (Ward 2) spoke in favor of support for expanding senior programming.
- Eleanor Banks spoke in favor of the emergency relief fund for immigrant families.
- Mr. Marshall (Ward 4) opposes the emergency relief fund for immigrant families, adding that if the City allocates funding, it should be distributed by an organization that is neutral on the issue of immigration.

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

The City Administrator and staff provided updates on City events, programming, and construction projects.

The Council and staff discussed the lower Ward 1 stormwater project, the fitness park on 38th Street, and the status of the signalization project on Baltimore Avenue.

7. Presentations (7:40 PM - 8:05 PM)

7.a. 2026-187 Dewberry: Hyattsville Data Analytics Project

For Presentation.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Administration

Attachments: Dewberry Council Presentation, FinalRecommendationsReport

City Administrator Douglas introduced Amanda Byrd and Claire Kolman from Dewberry to provide a presentation.

The Council and staff discussed reports previously prepared by Dewberry and ways to prioritize the recommendations for City staff.

8. 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:

8.a. 2026-190 Autism Awareness Day

I move that the Mayor and Council adopt a proclamation celebrating April 2, 2026, as World Autism Awareness Day and April as Autism Acceptance Month in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: CM 0323 National Autism Acceptance Month

8.b. 2026-191 National Public Health Week

I move the Mayor and Council adopt the proclamation designating April 6-12, 2026, as National Public Health Week in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: CM 0323 Public Health Week 2026

9. Appointments

A motion was made by Council Vice President Redmond, seconded by Council President Solomon, that the appointments 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:

9.a. 2026-188 Appointment to the Education Advisory Committee

I move the Mayor and Council appoint Danielle Sykes (Ward 5) to the Education Advisory Committee for a term of two (2) years ending March 23, 2028.

Sponsors: Edouard Haba, Councilmember

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: Sykes Redac Application (1)

10. Consent Items (8:05 p.m. - 8:10 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 Barnes, 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:

10.a. 2026-184 Lower Ward 1 Resiliency Projects Support

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure to the Low Impact Development Center (LIDC) in an amount not to exceed \$103,100 for continuing coordination and project management for the Lower Ward 1 Resiliency Projects under their existing contract with the City.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Department of Public Works

Attachments: LIDC DPW19-011A Lower Ward 1 Resiliency Proposal 02-19-2026

10.b. 2026-194 FY26 Budget Amendment: Special Revenues Funds Appropriation of National Opioid Settlement Funds

I move that the Mayor and Council amend the FY26 Special Revenues Funds Budget to appropriate \$33,975.64 in National Opioid Settlement Funds. These funds can only be used to serve the purpose of Opioid Remediation as set forth in the National Opioid Settlement Agreement and the State of Maryland Opioid Subdivision agreement with local jurisdictions.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Finance

Attachments:

11. Action Items (8:10 p.m. - 9:10 p.m.)

11.a. 2026-183 2026-2031 City of Hyattsville Strategic Plan: Stepping Forward

I move the Mayor and City Council adopt the 2026-2031 Hyattsville Strategic Plan titled "Stepping Forward" as presented, which establishes the City's priorities, goals, and strategies to guide policy decisions and departmental work plans.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Community, Business, and Economic Development

Attachments: HVL-StrategicPlan-2026

I move the Mayor and City Council adopt the 2026-2031 Hyattsville Strategic Plan titled "Stepping Forward" as presented, which establishes the City's priorities, goals, and strategies to guide policy decisions and departmental work plans.

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

The Council and staff thanked the staff for their hard work and asked how community feedback was incorporated into the strategic plan. They also discussed the timeline for updating the strategic plan and the implementation schedule.

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:

11.b. 2026-192 Creation of Hyattsville Common Ownership Community Advisory Committee

I move the Mayor and Council approve the creation of Hyattsville Common Ownership Community Advisory Committee and the associated committee worksheet.

Sponsors: Kareem Redmond, Council Vice President, Joseph Solomon, Council President, Greg Barnes, Councilmember, Kelson Nisbett, Councilmember, Danny Schaible, Councilmember, Edouard Haba, Councilmember

Department: Legislative

Attachments: Hyattsville Common Ownership Community Advisory Committee_Final

I move the Mayor and Council approve the creation of the Hyattsville Common Ownership Community Advisory Committee in accordance with the associated committee worksheet.

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

The Council discussed the efficacy of this committee if converted into a task force. Councilmember Waszczak raised concerns about forming a committee based on a housing type and the necessity of this as a long-standing committee.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Councilmember Joanne Waszczak

ABSENT:

11.c. 2026-193 Creation of the CERT Committee

I move the Mayor and Council approve the creation of the Hyattsville Community Emergency Response Team Committee and the associated committee worksheet.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Administration

Attachments: CERT Committee Worksheet_Draft

I move the Mayor and Council approve the creation of the Hyattsville Community Emergency Response Team Committee in accordance with the associated committee worksheet.

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

The Council discussed future funding needs for the committee and thanked the CERT

team for their hard work.

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:

12. Discussion Items (9:10 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.)

12.a. 2026-189 FY27 Budget Discussion

For Discussion.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: City Clerk

Attachments:

Ron Brooks and Ben Brosch opened up the budget discussion.

The Council and staff discussed tax classifications and proposed tax increases for residential dwellings, as well as the timeline to implement revenue-generating measures. The Council requested a five-year review of the financials and budget predictions that account for annual increases in personnel, contracts, debt services, and financing.

13. Council Dialogue (9:45 p.m. - 9:55 p.m.)

14. Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made by Council President Solomon, seconded by Councilmember Nisbett, that the meeting be adjourned at 9:34 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:

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Minutes Regular Meeting

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_tcnoYIEQR6a0jQetPGjUbg

Wednesday, March 18, 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 7:04 PM.

PRESENT:

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:

Mayor Robert S. Croslin

Also Present:

City Administrator Tracey Douglas
Deputy City Administrator Debi Sandlin
City Treasurer Ron Brooks
Deputy Budget Director Ben Bosch
Director of Community, Business, and Economic Development Jeff Ulysse
City Clerk Nate Groenendyk

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Councilmember Lee, seconded by Councilmember Barnes, that the agenda be approved.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: 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: Mayor Croslin

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

- Anita Williams (Ward 4) expressed concerns about tax rates and the lack of affordable housing. She also expressed concern about the increase in utility bills and inquired if the City could install a solar farm.
- Melissa Schweisguth (Ward 5) asked the Council to consider implementing a special tax rate on vacant properties and apartments. She also asked that the Council not raise the tax rate for residential properties.

5. Discussion Items (7:20 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.)

5.a. 2026-186 Tax Classification Discussion

For Discussion.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Finance

Attachments: Fiscal 2027 Budget Work Session - Property Tax Rate Discussion__CA Copy(Final)

Treasurer Ron Brooks and Deputy Budget Director Ben Brosch gave an overview of projected revenues and expenditures for the Fiscal Year 2027, noting the current projections show a \$4.07M gap between revenues and expenditures. Additionally, a proposal to add classifications of property and changes to their associated tax rates to raise revenues was presented. Deputy Brosch explained several options for raising taxes on certain property types and the effect of each option on the City's projected revenue.

Council asked about the history of the percentages of different classifications of properties over the past 5 years, the potential of increased taxes being passed on to renters, the value of taxing different classifications at different rates, insights into what is driving the year after year gap in revenues and expenditures, the impact of vacant property classification, other municipalities that have enacted similar changes to tax structures, the different categories which vacancy rates could be applied to, the possibility of a small business rate, the possibility of expenditure reductions, differentiating between short-term and long-term rental properties, tax rate differentials based on length of time a property has been vacant, the impact of town homes in an HOA versus not in an HOA, and the issue of under-assessed properties for tax purposes.

6. Council Dialogue (8:30 p.m. - 8:40 p.m.)

7. Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made by Councilmember Haba, seconded by Councilmember Schaible, that the meeting be adjourned at 8:56 PM.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: 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: Mayor Croslin

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Minutes Regular Meeting

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Monday, March 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 7:02 PM.

PRESENT:

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:

Mayor Robert S. Croslin

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
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 Haba, seconded by Councilmember Barnes, that the agenda be approved.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: 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: Mayor Croslin

4. Approval of Minutes

4.a. 2026-179 Approval of Minutes

I move the Mayor and Council approve minutes of the following meeting:

- February 9, 2026

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: Minutes_February 9, 2026

I move the Mayor and Council approve the minutes of the following meeting:

- February 9, 2026

Motion made by Councilmember Haba, seconded by Councilmember Waszczak.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: 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: Mayor Croslin

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

- Miranda Carter (Ward 2) asked the Council to prioritize emergency community relief funds for families affected by immigration enforcement.
- Charlotte Francoeur (Ward 2) asked the Council to prioritize emergency community relief funds for families affected by immigration enforcement. She asked that the process be accessible and that funds become available within a few days of approval. She also asked the Council to be mindful of the collection of demographic information.

- Sarah Harper (Ward 2) also asked the Council to prioritize emergency community relief funds for families affected by immigration enforcement. She asked for additional support for community members, such as providing "Know Your Rights" cards in multiple languages.
- Ben Simasek spoke in favor of the emergency relief fund and asked that the City prioritize families with children.
- Leia Dickerson (Ward 1) spoke in favor of creating an HOA Committee.
- Tatjana Hrubik-Vulanovic stated her support for the community emergency relief fund and expressed concerns about City spending. She expressed concern about the past due audits and suggested forming a committee to monitor and review the finance department.
- Lisbeth Melendez-Rivera (Ward 2) spoke in favor of the community emergency relief fund.
- Chris Gagnon (Ward 3) spoke in favor of funding for the drone show in the FY27 budget, but has concerns about how much it will cost. He stated that he is opposed to the Jenoptik contract, citing concerns that it is minimally effective and removes agency from officers. He asked for a second hearing with community members.
- Melissa Schweisguth (Ward 5) asked that the Council request lights and security cameras on the bridge to Chillum Park in the letter to M-NCPPC. She also expressed concerns about the Jenoptik contract and stated that she is not in favor of the drone show, citing costs. Lastly, she noted that the HOA committee should include residents who live in condominiums and asked if they could be more effective as a temporary task force.
- Edna Little (Ward 4) asked for continued funding for the age-friendly programming, citing that Hyattsville has a growing senior community that needs support.
- Michelle Smith (Ward 1) asked for support for the senior community and assistance to aid in housing affordability, smart energy, and small businesses.
- Michelle Lee (Ward 4) spoke on behalf of increased funding for senior activities and programming.
- Bette Dickerson spoke in favor of increased funding and the expansion of senior programming and activities.

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

The City Administrator shared updates on City events and programming.

The staff and Council discussed an upcoming pet adoption event, invasive vine removal, animal control complaints, the Standby Guardianship training, and the raincheck rebate program.

7. Proclamations

A motion was made by Council Vice President Redmond, seconded by Councilmember

Haba, that the City Council adopt the proclamations.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: 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: Mayor Croslin

7.a. 2026-173 Women in Public Office Day

I move the Mayor and Council adopt the proclamation designating March 19, 2026, as Women in Public Office Day in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: CM 0309 Women in Public Office Day 2026

7.b. 2026-174 Transgender Day of Visibility

I move the Mayor and Council adopt the proclamation designating March 31, 2026, as Transgender Day of Visibility in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: CM 0309 Transgender Day of Visibility Proclamation

7.c. 2026-175 Women's History Month

I move that the Mayor and Council adopt the proclamation designating March 2026 as Women's History Month in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: CM 0309 Women's History Month 2026

8. Appointments

A motion was made by Council Vice President Redmond, seconded by Councilmember Haba, that the appointments be approved.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: 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: Mayor Croslin

8.a. 2026-176 Assignment of Council Liaison to Committee

I move the Mayor and Council appoint Councilmember Kelson Nisbett as liaison to the Race and Equity Task Force.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: City Clerk

Attachments:

9. Consent Items (7:40 p.m. - 7:45 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 Councilmember Strab, seconded by Councilmember Haba, that the consent agenda be approved.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: 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: Mayor Croslin

9.a. 2026-157 Disbursement of FY26 Education Enrichment Grants Awards

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the expenditure of \$9,500 to support the grant recommendations from the Education Advisory Committee listed in the attached memo for the dissemination of the FY26 Education Enrichment Grants.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Community Services

Attachments: Letter to Council 2025-2026 Enrichment Grants, 2025-2026 EAC Grant Council Spreadsheet, _FY26 Education Enrichment Grant Program (Responses) - Form Responses 1

9.b. 2026-167 FY26 Budget Appropriation: M-NCPPC Project Grant for Recreation Activities

I move that the Mayor and Council amend the FY26 Special Revenue Funds Budget to accept and appropriate the grant award in the amount of \$50,000 from the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and authorize the City Administrator to sign the contract, upon the review and approval of the City Attorney for legal sufficiency.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Community Services

Attachments: City of Hyattsville Recreation FY26 Project Charge Contract 2.23.26

9.c. 2026-169 PGC Historic Preservation Non-Capital Grant Program Contract - 2025-004

I move that the Mayor and City Council authorize the City Administrator to enter into the *Non-Capital Grant Program Contract (2025-004)*, to provide funding of \$6,850 for an architectural schematic design package, as described in the Non-Capital Grant Program staff memo dated January 13, 2026, and Historic Preservation Commission approval letter dated January 23, 2006.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Community, Business, and Economic Development

Attachments: 2025-004 NCGP Contract, Cover Sheet (3)

9.d. 2026-180 Disbursement of Ward 1 Discretionary Funds

I move the Mayor and Council approve the disbursement of \$250 of FY26 Ward 1 discretionary funds to support programming for seniors at Friendship Arms Apartments.

Sponsors: Greg Barnes, Councilmember, Joanne Waszczak, Councilmember

Department: City Clerk

Attachments:

9.e. 2026-181 Disbursement of Ward 5 Discretionary Funds

I move the Mayor and Council approve the disbursement of \$250 of Ward 5 FY26 discretionary funds to support senior activities at Friendship Arms Apartments.

Sponsors: Joseph Solomon, Council President, Kelson Nisbett,
Councilmember

Department: City Clerk

Attachments:

10. Action Items (7:45 p.m. - 8:25 p.m.)

10.a. 2026-168 Letter to Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission Regarding Trail Safety and Maintenance

I move that the City Council authorize the Mayor to send correspondence to the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission regarding the prioritization of maintenance and safety for the City's Northwest Branch and Sligo Creek trail systems.

Sponsors: Joseph Solomon, Council President, Kareem Redmond, Council Vice President, Edouard Haba, Councilmember

Department: Community, Business, and Economic Development

Attachments: 2026-02-17_MNCPPC_Letter_Trails_Safety_.ju

I move that the City Council authorize the Mayor to send correspondence to the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission regarding the prioritization of maintenance and safety for the City's Northwest Branch and Sligo Creek trail systems. Motion made by Council Vice President Redmond, seconded by Councilmember Haba.

The Staff and Council discussed the letter of support for trail safety and maintenance efforts sent last year and ways to build upon requests moving forward. They also discussed collaborating with WMATA and surrounding municipalities, and using City funds to aid in trail maintenance.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: 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: Mayor Croslin

10.b. 2026-170 Contract with Jenoptik Smart Mobility Solutions

I move Mayor and Council to authorize the City Administrator to enter into a contract with Jenoptik Smart Mobility Solutions, LLC for the City's Automated Stop Sign Enforcement Program, for a period of three (3) years.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Police

Attachments: Jenoptik Draft_11.12.2025_Allison Weikel (5) (eic 2026.2.20) .1 (3)
(eic 2026.3.04 .2

I move Mayor and Council to authorize the City Administrator to enter into a contract with Jenoptik Smart Mobility Solutions, LLC for the City's Automated Stop Sign Enforcement Program, for a period of three (3) years. Motion made by Council Vice President Redmond, seconded by Councilmember Strab.

Chief Towers provided a presentation on the Jenoptik Smart Mobility Solutions automated camera program and contract.

The Council and staff discussed the efficacy of the camera program, the number of cameras that will be operational in the City, the process to contest a ticket, and receiving payments for tickets in collections. They also discussed data collection, the speed threshold for issuing tickets, contract renewal, and camera maintenance.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: 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: Mayor Croslin

11. Discussion Items (8:25 p.m. - 9:35 p.m.)

11.a. 2026-171 Anniversary Festival Drone Show

For Discussion.

Sponsors: Joanne Waszczak, Councilmember

Department: Legislative

Attachments:

Councilmember Waszczak made a motion, seconded by CM Strab, that the Mayor and Council include an amount not to exceed \$30,000 in the FY27 budget to fund a drone show in place of a fireworks show for the City of Hyattsville's 141st Anniversary festival in April 2027, and that the City task its grant writer to apply for sensory-friendly funding, or some other type of grant.

Councilmember Waszczak gave an overview of this budget initiative.

The Council and staff discussed the timeline for securing the drone display for the anniversary, potential cost-sharing options, and concerns about pricing. They also discussed applying for grants to offset costs.

The motion Failed by the following vote:

AYE: Council President Solomon, Councilmember Waszczak, Councilmember Strab, Councilmember Haba

NAY: Councilmember Nisbett

ABSTAIN: Council Vice President Kareem Redmond, Councilmember Greg Barnes, Councilmember Danny Schaible, Councilmember Gopi Dhokai, Councilmember Michelle Lee

ABSENT: Mayor Croslin

11.b. 2026-177 Environmental Committee's Outreach Initiatives

For Discussion.

Sponsors: Edouard Haba, Councilmember, Joseph Solomon, Council President, Kareem Redmond, Council Vice President, Danny Schaible, Councilmember, Emily Strab, Councilmember

Department: Legislative

Attachments:

Councilmember Haba made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Strab, that the Mayor and Council appropriate \$4,000 in the FY27 budget to be used by the Hyattsville Environment Committee to support its outreach initiatives. These funds will facilitate the committee's community engagement efforts with the production of educational and promotional materials, as well as community events.

Councilmember Haba gave an overview of this budget initiative.

The Council and staff discussed uses for the requested funding.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: 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: Mayor Croslin

11.c. 2026-178 Relief Funds for Impacted Immigrant Families

For Discussion.

Sponsors: Edouard Haba, Councilmember, Joseph Solomon, Council President, Danny Schaible, Councilmember

Department: Legislative

Attachments:

Councilmember Haba gave an overview of the budget initiative.

The Council and staff discussed the vetting process for applicants, the criteria to participate in the program, and continuation of existing community services. They also discussed getting feedback from the Race and Equity Task Force, widening the distribution of funding, program management, and hiring a case manager. The Council agreed to discuss this at a future meeting.

11.d. 2026-182 Creation of HOA Advisory Committee

For Discussion.

Sponsors: Kareem Redmond, Council Vice President, Joseph Solomon, Council President, Greg Barnes, Councilmember, Kelson Nisbett, Councilmember, Danny Schaible, Councilmember, Edouard Haba, Councilmember

Department: Legislative

Attachments: Hyattsville Homeowners Association Advisory Committee_Worksheet Draft

Council Vice President Redmond gave an overview of this initiative.

The Council and staff discussed the vetting process for members, term limits, and whether this committee would be better served as a task force. They also discussed the inclusion of residents who live in condominiums. The Council agreed to address this at a future meeting.

11.e. 2026-172 Creation of the CERT Committee

For Discussion.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Administration

Attachments: CERT Committee Worksheet_Draft

Emergency Services Manager Bagley gave an overview of this initiative.

The Council and staff discussed future funding for the committee, training opportunities, and regular committee reporting. They also discussed services that could be provided by the CERT team. The Council agreed to address this at a future meeting.

12. Council Dialogue (9:35 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.)

13. Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made by Councilmember Lee, seconded by Councilmember Nisbett, that the meeting be adjourned at 11:08 PM.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYE: 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: Mayor Croslin

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_1Yk0I-PVRN6_tqg-vKdfuw

Monday, April 13, 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 7:04 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 Michelle Lee

ABSENT:

Councilmember Edouard Haba
Councilmember Kelson Nisbett

Also Present:

City Administrator Tracey Douglas
Deputy City Administrator Debi Sandlin
City Treasurer Ron Brooks
Deputy Budget Director Ben Bosch
Chief of Police Jarod Towers
Strategic Advisor Lesley Riddle
Acting Director of the Department of Public Works Hal Metzler
Deputy Director of the Department of Public Works Priyanka Joshi
Director of Community, Business, and Economic Development Jeff Ulysse
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 Lee, seconded by Councilmember Barnes, that the 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 Lee

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Councilmember Haba, Councilmember Nisbett

4. Approval of Minutes

4.a. 2026-210 Approval of Minutes

I move the Mayor and Council approve the minutes of the following meeting:

- February 23, 2026

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: Minutes_February 23 2026

I move the Mayor and Council approve the minutes of the following meeting:

- February 23, 2026

Motion made by Councilmember Barnes, seconded by Councilmember Strab.

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 Lee

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Councilmember Haba, Councilmember Nisbett

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

- Zack Dorner (Ward 2) expressed that he is opposed to merging the Shade Tree Board with the Hyattsville Environment Committee. He also advised that he would like the City to implement additional support measures for residents who are immigrants.
- Sara Bendoraitis (Ward 2) discussed concerns about Code Compliance enforcement on her property, where she is storing items for HySwap.
- Michael Angeloni (Ward 5) asked for City staff to be more intentional about access for disabled residents and community members and shared a story about

City vehicles blocking accessible parking at Franklin's.

- Melissa Schweisguth (Ward 5) expressed concerns about the climate action plan and urged the City to make evidence-based decisions. She added that she opposes merging the Share Tree Board with the Hyattsville Environment Committee.
- Greg Smith stated that he disagrees with merging the Shade Tree Board with the Hyattsville Environment Committee and urged the Council to continue negotiating a lower price for the purchase of the Werrlein lower parcel.
- Dan Broder (Ward 2) spoke in favor of ranked choice voting and urged the Council to continue negotiating a lower price for the purchase of the Werrlein lower parcel. He expressed concerns about the vehicle replacement memo and asked that the City acquire electric vehicles moving forward. Lastly, he asked the City to remain vigilant against ICE raids.
- Mr. Marshall (Ward 4) expressed that he is not in favor of ranked choice voting and expressed concerns about the motion to create a \$100K fund for immigrant resident relief.
- Anita Williams (Ward 4) spoke in favor of expanding programming and staffing for senior residents.

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

The City Administrator provided updates on City programming, staffing changes, and observances. She also discussed construction projects and road renovations.

The Council and staff discussed the potential merging of committees, as referenced by residents during public comment.

7. Presentations (7:40 PM - 8:25 PM)

7.a. 2026-199 Climate Action Plan Presentation

For presentation.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Department of Public Works

Attachments: FINAL Hyattsville CAP Council Presentation

Environmental Programs Manager Dawn Taft introduced the Hyattsville Climate Action Plan. She introduced Anu Nair, Josephine Selvakumar, and Nadia Voght, who gave the presentation.

Councilmembers discussed increasing the number of electric vehicles in the City's fleet.

7.b. 2026-213 Vehicle Replacement Plan

For presentation.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: DRAFT_Vehicle_Replacement Policy_v.0

Deputy City Administrator Debi Sandlin, Acting Director of the Department of Public Works Hal Metzler, and Chief Jarod Towers gave the Vehicle Replacement Plan presentation.

The Council and staff discussed the metrics for vehicle replacement, the take-home policy for City vehicles, preventative maintenance, and the asset management system. They also discussed the installation of electric vehicle charging stations, a solar canopy, and fleet management options.

8. Proclamations

A motion was made by Council Vice President Redmond, seconded by Councilmember Waszczak, 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 Lee

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Councilmember Haba, Councilmember Nisbett

8.a. 2026-205 Arab American Heritage Month Proclamation

I move the Mayor and Council adopt the proclamation designating April as Arab American Heritage Month in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: CM 0413 Arab American Heritage Month 2026

9. Appointments

A motion was made by Council Vice President Redmond, seconded by Council President Solomon, that the appointments 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 Lee

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Councilmember Haba, Councilmember Nisbett

9.a. 2026-208 Appointment to the Race and Equity Task Force

I move the Mayor and Council approve the re-appointment of Nykia Clemonts (Ward 3) to the Race and Equity Task Force for a term of two (2) years to end on April 13, 2028.

Sponsors: Michelle Lee, Councilmember

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: Clemonts Redac Application

9.b. 2026-209 Appointment to the Education Advisory Committee

I move the Mayor and Council approve the re-appointment of Vallorie Watson (Ward 1) to the Education Advisory Committee for a term of two (2) years to end on April 13, 2028.

Sponsors: Edouard Haba, Councilmember

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: Watson Redac Application

9.c. 2026-211 Appointment to the Health, Wellness, and Recreation Advisory Committee

I move the Mayor and Council approve the re-appointment of Peter Stockus (Ward 4) to the Health, Wellness, and Recreation Advisory Committee for a term of two (2) years ending on April 13, 2028.

Sponsors: Gopi Dhokai, Councilmember, Michelle Lee, Councilmember

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: Stockus Redac Application

9.d. 2026-212 Appointment to the Hyattsville Environment Committee

I move the Mayor and Council approve the re-appointment of Melissa Schweisguth (Ward 5) to the Hyattsville Environment Committee for a term of two (2) years

ending on April 13, 2028.

Sponsors: Edouard Haba, Councilmember

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: Schweisguth Redac Application

10. Consent Items (8:25 p.m. - 8:30 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 Waszczak, 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 Lee

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Councilmember Haba, Councilmember Nisbett

10.a. 2026-197 Acceptance of the Maryland DHCD National Capital Strategic Economic Development Program Grant Agreement

I move the Mayor and Council accept the grant award of \$340,000 from the State of Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development to support The Sanctuary 9% Predevelopment project.

Sponsors: Jeff Ulysse, CBED Director

Department: Community, Business, and Economic Development

Attachments: NED-2026-Hyattsville Agreement

10.b. 2026-207 MDOT Bikeways Network Grant Program

I move the Mayor and Council to accept the grant award of \$64,000 from the Maryland Department of Transportation's Kim Lamphier Bikeways Network Program, to support the expansion of bicycle infrastructure.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Community, Business, and Economic Development

Attachments: Memo - MDOT Bikeways Grant, BW26 Hyattsville (Bike Racks) Grant Agreement

10.c. 2026-198 Disbursement of Ward 3 Discretionary Funds

I move the Mayor and Council authorize the disbursement of Ward 3 discretionary funds in the amount of \$169.59 to Council Vice President Kareem Redmond as reimbursement for community outreach materials.

Sponsors: Kareem Redmond, Council Vice President

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: Redmond _ VistaPrint _ Receipt Ward 3 Banner _ Redacted

10.d. 2026-203 Disbursement of Ward 1 Discretionary Funds

I move the Mayor and Council approve the disbursement of \$500 of Ward 1 discretionary funds to the Hyattsville Community Development Corporation (HyCDC) to support Trolley Trail Day engagement activities.

Sponsors: Greg Barnes, Councilmember, Joanne Waszczak, Councilmember

Department: City Clerk

Attachments:

11. Action Items (8:30 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.)

11.a. 2026-200 Installation of Portland Loo at Hyatt Park

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$195,000 to NZI Construction for the installation of a Portland Loo public restroom at Hyatt Park, pending the extension of the contract between NZI Construction and Prince George's County.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Department of Public Works

Attachments: NZI Proposal Portland Loo Hyatt Park 03-16-2026

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$195,000 to NZI Construction for the installation of a Portland Loo public restroom at Hyatt Park, pending the extension of the contract between NZI Construction and Prince George's County. Motion made by Council President Solomon, seconded by Council Vice President Redmond.

The Council and staff discussed the purchase and contract extension required for the installation of the Portland Loo, annual costs and fees, and tree replacement at the installation site. They also discussed the bond that was awarded to cover the costs of the purchase of the first Portland Loo, the remaining balance for the purchase of the second station, and the timeline for completion of the installation.

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 Lee

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Councilmember Haba, Councilmember Nisbett

12. Council Dialogue (8:45p.m. - 8:55 p.m.)

13. Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made by Councilmember Barnes, seconded by Councilmember Schaible, that the meeting be adjourned at 9:23 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 Lee

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Councilmember Haba, Councilmember Nisbett

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_LHXj3w4NSv2rOoEcHwj9Hw

Wednesday, April 8, 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 7:04 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
Deputy City Administrator Debi Sandlin
City Treasurer Ron Brooks
Deputy Budget Director Ben Bosch
Chief of Police Jarod Towers
Acting Director of the Department of Public Works Hal Metzler
Director of Community, Business, and Economic Development Jeff Ulysse
Strategic Analyst Suzanne Ludlow
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
Communications Manager Cindy Zork

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Councilmember Lee, seconded by Councilmember Barnes, that the 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

- Mr. Marshall (Ward 4) advised that he is not in favor of the motion for \$100K for immigrant resident relief, and that, if the motion passes, the program should be facilitated through an organization neutral on immigration issues.
- L. Parikh (Ward 2) expressed concerns about the cost of the benefits package offered to employees.
- Melissa Schweisguth (Ward 5) advised that she supports the \$100K immigrant resident relief fund. She also expressed concerns about drawing down from the general fund in the FY27 budget and tracking PAYGO funds that will go towards offsetting the Capital Improvement Plan, asking for more clarity around that.

5. Presentations (7:20 PM - 9:00 PM)

5.a. 2026-196 Introduction of the FY27 Budget and Department Presentations

For Presentation.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Administration

Attachments: FY27 Proposed Budget Publication_updated

City Administrator Douglas, Treasurer Brooks, and Deputy Budget Director Brosch opened the presentation of the budget. Department presentations included:

- Administration (including Race and Equity, Emergency Operations, and Parking Enforcement)
- Finance (including IT and the Red Light Camera Program)
- City Clerk (including the City Council and the Election Board)
- Human Resources
- Economic Development (including GIS, Code Compliance, and Licensing and Permits)
- Grants

The Council and staff discussed the camera enforcement program, hours for parking

enforcement, and the stipend for the Hyattsville Life & Times. They also discussed capital expense items, staffing positions, the proposed hiring freeze for non-essential positions, expanding tax classifications, and the cost of living adjustment for the staff in the FY27 budget.

6. Council Dialogue (9:00 p.m. - 9:10 p.m.)

7. Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made by Council Vice President Redmond, seconded by Councilmember Barnes, that the meeting be adjourned at 9:40 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:

City Council
April 27, 2026

Submitted by: Shakira Louimarre
Submitting Department: City Clerk
Agenda Section: Proclamations

Item Title:
Arbor Day Proclamation

Suggested Action:
I move the Mayor and Council adopt the proclamation designating April 24, 2026 as Arbor Day in the City of Hyattsville.

Legal Review Required?
N/A

Summary Background:
Arbor Day is an annual holiday, typically celebrated the last Friday in April. This day is dedicated to planting, nurturing, and appreciating trees. Established in 1872, Arbor Day's purpose is to encourage environmental stewardship. It promotes benefits like cleaner air, reduced energy costs, and improved mental health. Individuals can participate by planting native trees, volunteering, or visiting parks.

Next Steps:
Adopt the proclamation

Fiscal Impact:
N/A

City Administrator Comments:
Recommend support

Community Engagement:
Recognition throughout the City

Strategic Goals:
Goal 5 – Strengthen the City's Identity as a Diverse, Creative, and Welcoming Community

CITY OF HYATTSVILLE

PROCLAMATION

DECLARING APRIL 24, 2026 TO BE ARBOR DAY IN THE CITY OF HYATTSVILLE

Arbor Day is an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the important roles that trees play in enhancing community health and keeping the City of Hyattsville beautiful and environmentally sustainable.

WHEREAS, Arbor Day is dedicated to the planting of trees in our community, in order to support our environment and strengthen our community's quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hyattsville has a long-standing commitment to preserving and enhancing our urban forest and has been recognized as a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation for more than 30 years; and

WHEREAS, the City takes pride in being environmentally sustainable in numerous practices and processes with the support of the City Arborist, Department of Public Works and the Hyattsville Shade Tree board; and

WHEREAS, this year the City has celebrated Arbor Day on April 18th, 2026 at the 'Pond-to-Pond Earth Day Walk', by gathering to promote trail safety and cleanliness, support mental health and community connection and encourage accessible fitness for all;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the City of Hyattsville proclaim Friday, April 24, 2026, to be Arbor Day, a day dedicated to celebrating the trees that make our City both beautiful and sustainable.

Robert Croslin

Mayor, City of Hyattsville

April 27, 2026



City Council
April 27, 2026

Submitted by: Shakira Louimarre

Submitting Department: Administration

Agenda Section: Proclamations

Item Title:

Citizenship Celebration Day Proclamation

Suggested Action:

I move the Mayor and Council adopt the proclamation recognizing May 2, 2026 as Hyattsville Citizenship Celebration Day

Legal Review Required?

N/A

Summary Background:

Since 2014, the City of Hyattsville has honored new U.S. citizens by designating the first Saturday of every May as Citizenship Celebration Day. This day recognizes the contributions of immigrants and new citizens who help foster a spirit of inclusion that enriches our community.

Next Steps:

Adopt the proclamation.

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

City Administrator Comments:

Recommend support.

Community Engagement:

N/A

Strategic Goals:

Goal 5 – Strengthen the City’s Identity as a Diverse, Creative, and Welcoming Community

CITY OF HYATTSVILLE

PROCLAMATION

DECLARING MAY 2, 2026 TO BE CITIZENSHIP CELEBRATION DAY IN THE CITY OF HYATTSVILLE

This proclamation recognizes and celebrates the newest citizens of the United States of America who have decided to make their home here in the City of Hyattsville.

WHEREAS, in 2014, Hyattsville's Mayor and City Council designated the first Saturday of each May as Citizenship Celebration Day to honor those residents of the City who have recently become citizens of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hyattsville values the contributions of immigrants and new citizens who help foster a spirit of inclusion that enriches our community and preserves its legacy as a City of freedom and opportunity; and

WHEREAS, Whereas, at a time when anti-immigrant sentiment and xenophobia continue to affect many communities, those who have pursued and attained citizenship remind us of the democratic promise of this Nation and the hope and resilience of our immigrant neighbors, regardless of status; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hyattsville recognizes and celebrates residents who have become citizens of the United States, honoring their commitment to fully participate in the rights and responsibilities of citizenship as we collectively strive toward a more perfect union;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the City of Hyattsville declare May 2, 2026, to be Citizenship Celebration Day in the City of Hyattsville in recognition of our residents who have recently earned the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon every citizen of the United States of America.

Robert S. Croslin

Mayor, City of Hyattsville

April 27, 2026



City Council
April 27, 2026

Submitted by: Shakira Louimarre
Submitting Department: Administration
Agenda Section: Proclamations

Item Title:
Municipal Clerks Week Proclamation

Suggested Action:
I move the Mayor and Council adopt the proclamation recognizing May 3 through May 9, 2026, as Municipal Clerks Week in the City of Hyattsville.

Legal Review Required?
N/A

Summary Background:
May 3 through May 9, 2026 is the 57th Annual Professional Municipal Clerks Week. Initiated in 1969 by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks, it is intended to be a time of celebration and reflection on the importance of the Clerk's office.

Next Steps:
Adopt the proclamation.

Fiscal Impact:
N/A

City Administrator Comments:
Recommend support. The City is very proud to honor our dedicated City Clerk Team.

Community Engagement:
N/A

Strategic Goals:
Goal 5 – Strengthen the City's Identity as a Diverse, Creative, and Welcoming Community

CITY OF HYATTSVILLE

PROCLAMATION

CELEBRATING THE WEEK OF MAY 3 THROUGH MAY 9, 2026 AS MUNICIPAL CLERKS WEEK

This proclamation declares the week of May 3 through May 9, 2026, to be Municipal Clerks Week in the City of Hyattsville, to recognize the vital contributions of the Office of the Clerk to ensuring the accountability, transparency, and good governance in our City.

WHEREAS, This year is the 57th Annual Professional Municipal Clerks Week, initiated in 1969 by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) and endorsed by all of its members throughout the United States, Canada, and 15 other countries, the week is a time of celebration and reflection on the importance of the Clerk's office; and

WHEREAS, The Office of the Clerk is among the oldest public servants that provides a professional link between residents, elected officials, and agencies of government at all levels; and

WHEREAS, The Municipal Clerk serves as the information center on all functions of local government and community, and pledges to be ever mindful of neutrally and impartially rendering equal service to all; and

WHEREAS, the Clerks of the City of Hyattsville, beginning with the inaugural holder of the Office and onward to the present day, have consistently demonstrated a spirit of service and commitment to good governance in the City of Hyattsville.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Hyattsville recognizes the week of May 3 through May 9, 2026, as Municipal Clerks Week, and extends its appreciation to our City's Clerk, Mr. Nate Groenendyk, Deputy to the City Clerk, Ms. Quianna Taylor and our Assistant to the City Clerk, Ms. Lillie Littleford, for their hard work and dedication to our community.

Robert S. Croslin
City of Hyattsville

April 27, 2026



City Council
April 27, 2026

Submitted by: Shakira Louimarre

Submitting Department: Administration

Agenda Section: Proclamations

Item Title:

Children's Mental Health Awareness Week

Suggested Action:

I move the Mayor and Council adopt the proclamation recognizing May 3 through May 9, 2026, as Children's Mental Health Awareness Week in the City of Hyattsville.

Legal Review Required?

N/A

Summary Background:

Children's Mental Health Awareness Week is observed annually during the first full week of May (May 3–9, 2026), with May serving as National Mental Health Awareness Month. The week focuses on reducing stigma, promoting resources, and highlighting that 1 in 5 youth experience mental health conditions.

Next Steps:

Adopt the proclamation.

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

City Administrator Comments:

Recommend support.

Community Engagement:

N/A

Strategic Goals:

Goal 5 – Strengthen the City's Identity as a Diverse, Creative, and Welcoming Community

CITY OF HYATTSVILLE

PROCLAMATION

DECLARING MAY 3-9, 2026 TO BE CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS WEEK IN THE CITY OF HYATTSVILLE

WHEREAS, May is National Mental Health Month and the first week is designated as Children's Mental Health Matters Week to address the complex mental health needs of children, youth, and families, which is fundamental to the future of the City of Hyattsville; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that in the United States, 1 in 5 children and adolescents (20%) may have a mental health condition at any given time and approximately 66% of all young people with mental health conditions are not getting the help they need; and

WHEREAS, without adequate mental health support, children may experience school failure, substance use and family trouble; and

WHEREAS, mental health, mental illness, and substance use disorders can affect any child, regardless of age, gender expression, race, ethnicity, orientation, religion, or economic status; we must effectively share resources and deliver services that meet the social, cultural, and linguistic needs of all in our community to improve health outcomes and overall quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the need to build a robust community is the responsibility of all through cross-agency collaboration and shared resources with government agencies, public, private, and non-profit groups and will result in a stronger and more vibrant City of Hyattsville; and

WHEREAS, a positive example of such an initiative is the 'In Wellness We Thrive' program offered in partnership with the Hope for Center Wellness, which offers free bilingual mental health services for Hyattsville children and families through June 2027.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the City of Hyattsville do hereby proclaim May 3-9, 2026, to be Children's Mental Health Matters week and urge our citizens, agencies, and organizations to unite and join the campaign to inform residents of the City of Hyattsville of the fundamental necessity of meeting every child's mental health needs through year-round resources and inclusive programs for all.

Robert S. Croslin

Mayor, City of Hyattsville

April 27, 2026



City Council
April 27, 2026

Submitted by: Quianna Taylor
Submitting Department: City Clerk
Agenda Section: Proclamations

Item Title:

Proclamation Honoring Lieutenant Chris Evans and K9 Officer NOLA for Their Years of Service to the City of Hyattsville

Suggested Action:

I move the Mayor and Council adopt the proclamation honoring Lieutenant Chris Evans and K9 Officer NOLA for their years of service to the City of Hyattsville.

Legal Review Required?

N/A

Summary Background:

See the attached proclamation.

Next Steps:

Adopt the proclamation.

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

City Administrator Comments:

Recommend support.

Community Engagement:

N/A

Strategic Goals:

Goal 4 – Foster Excellence in all City Operations

CITY OF HYATTSVILLE

PROCLAMATION

HONORING CHRISTOPHER EVANS AND K9 OFFICER NOLA FOR THEIR YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CITY OF HYATTSVILLE

In recognition of Lieutenant Christopher Evans and K9 Officer NOLA's steadfast efforts to improve the quality of life for all residents through their dedicated service to and partnership in law enforcement in the City of Hyattsville.

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Evans has faithfully served in law enforcement for nearly twelve years, demonstrating an unwavering commitment to the protection of life, property, and the preservation of public trust; and

WHEREAS, throughout his tenure, Lieutenant Evans has embodied the highest standards of integrity, professionalism, and courage, earning the respect and admiration of his colleagues, community members, and partner agencies; and

WHEREAS, his sound judgment, exemplary conduct, and unwavering commitment to duty have significantly contributed to the safety, security, and well-being of the Hyattsville community; and

WHEREAS, the partnership between Lieutenant Evans and NOLA, a trained facility dog, has strengthened the department's capacity to serve with compassion by providing comfort and emotional support to victims, witnesses, and individuals experiencing trauma; and

WHEREAS, NOLA has served as a valued resource in fostering community trust, enhancing outreach efforts, and promoting emotional wellness within both the department and the broader community; and

WHEREAS, together, Lieutenant Evans and NOLA exemplify the evolving and holistic approach to modern policing, demonstrating that effective public safety is built upon empathy, professionalism, and meaningful community engagement;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, I, the Mayor of the City of Hyattsville, Maryland, on behalf of the City Council and our residents, do hereby recognize and express sincere appreciation to Lieutenant Christopher Evans for his nearly twelve years of exemplary service in law enforcement, and commend the significant contributions of NOLA in advancing compassionate, community-centered policing.

Robert Croslin

Mayor, City of Hyattsville
May 27, 2026



City Council
April 27, 2026

Submitted by: Nate Groenendyk
Submitting Department: City Clerk
Agenda Section: Consent Items

Item Title:
Ward 5 Discretionary Funds

Suggested Action:
I move the Mayor and Council approve the disbursement of \$250 from FY26 Ward 5 discretionary funds to Melange Wellness LLC to support the Pond to Pond event held on April 18, 2026.

Legal Review Required?
N/A

Summary Background:
The Pond to Pond Early Day event was held on Saturday, April 18, 2026. The funds will reimburse Melange Wellness LLC for goods and supplies purchased to support the event.

Next Steps:
Allocate funds.

Fiscal Impact:
\$250 of Ward 5 Discretionary Funds

City Administrator Comments:
Recommend support.

Community Engagement:
The event was promoted on the City calendar and social media.

Strategic Goals:
Goal 3 – Promote a Safe and Vibrant Community

City Council
April 27, 2026

Submitted by: Nate Groenendyk
Submitting Department: City Clerk
Agenda Section: Consent Items

Item Title:
Ward 5 Discretionary Funds

Suggested Action:
I move the Mayor and Council approve the disbursement of \$350 from FY26 Ward 5 discretionary funds to support the Riverfront at West Hyattsville's Cinco on the 2nd event on May 2, 2026.

Legal Review Required?
N/A

Summary Background:
Riverfront at West Hyattsville community is hosting a community event, “Cinco on the 2nd,” on Saturday, May 2, 2026, from 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM in the rear parking area behind 5670–5684 Little Branch Run. All residents are welcome to attend as this event hopes to bring neighbors together in a welcoming, family-friendly environment to celebrate culture, connection, and community. The funds will be used to support event supplies, food, and activities.

Next Steps:
Allocate funds.

Fiscal Impact:
\$350 of Ward 5 Discretionary Funds

City Administrator Comments:
Recommend support.

Community Engagement:

Strategic Goals:
Goal 3 – Promote a Safe and Vibrant Community

City Council
April 27, 2026

Submitted by: Greg Barnes

Submitting Department: Legislative

Agenda Section: Action Items

Item Title:

Establishing a Day of Youth Leadership and Empowerment in the City of Hyattsville.

Suggested Action:

I move the Mayor and Council include \$700 in the FY27 Budget to establish a day of youth leadership and empowerment by creating an annual process whereby students in grades 6-12 can apply to and be selected to serve in the ceremonial capacities of “Mayor”, “Council President”, or “Council Vice-President” of Hyattsville.

Legal Review Required?

N/A

Summary Background:

Such a program would provide up to three winning candidates per year with a greater understanding of how the city council operates and local decisions are made in Hyattsville. Local municipalities across the country have established similar ‘Mayor for a Day’ programs and found them to be an effective way of teaching civics and spurring increased community engagement. Most of these programs consist of three simple components. Namely, 1) an application process whereby students can express their interest in serving as Mayor; 2) the formation of a selection committee to review such applications; and 3) the creation of a day-long schedule of activities for the winning candidate(s).

ANTICIPATED STAFF RESOURCES REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT:

1. Recruitment and Outreach- (Volunteer Program Coordinator, Youth Center, Clerk’s & Communications team)
2. Establish a Selection Committee - (Volunteer Coordinator)
3. Review Applications and Select Winners- (Volunteer Coordinator and Selection Committee)
4. Coordinate Event logistics in collaboration with other departments and the Council - (Volunteer Program Coordinator, Clerk’s and CS team)

Establish webpage - (Volunteer Program Coordinator & Communications team)

Post -Contest – update webpage and share essay/ videos and pictures - (Volunteer and Communications team). For more information about a potential application process and a list of ceremonial Mayoral activities, please see the two attached documents.

For purposes of reviewing incoming candidate applications, the selection committee could consist of the Mayor, City Administrator, a representative of the Education Advisory Committee, a representative of the Youth Advisory Committee, and anyone else selected by the Mayor of Hyattsville.

This motion was reviewed by Hyattsville's Youth Advisory Council at their March 12, 2026 meeting. Their feedback can be found in the attachments.

Next Steps:**Fiscal Impact:**

\$700

City Administrator Comments:

The staff can support this initiative.

Community Engagement:

The City's communication staff will inform the community about the program and application process.

Strategic Goals:

Goal 1 – Ensure Transparent and Accessible Governance

Youth Advisory Council “Mayor for a Day” Feedback from March 12, 2026 Meeting

1. The YAC are in support for the motion regarding the development of the Mayor for a Day program. Members believe this initiative presents a valuable opportunity for students to gain meaningful insight into local government and civic leadership.
2. In particular, the idea of selecting approximately three students to participate in the program. Providing participants with different roles such as Mayor, President, and Vice President as structure of how the council operates in the City of Hyattsville and allow students to experience multiple aspects of decision making and learn more upon the City.
3. Members believe the program should be open to a broader group of students rather than being limited solely to YAC members. Expanding eligibility to students in grades 6–12 as this would allow students in our community to benefit from the experience and encourage greater engagement among students.
4. As discussed in the YAC meeting, they agree that the application should include a word limit requirement. Establishing a clear word limit would provide helpful guidance for students completing the application while ensuring consistency and fairness in submissions.
5. The YAC members posed the question of if the suggested titles of “Mayor”, “City Council Pres.”, and “City Council VP” that would be assigned to the selected youth would mean different duties/responsibilities for the youth during the day or if all of the youth would be participating in the same activities throughout the day.
6. Finally, they expressed their agreement with the proposed schedule for the program and were very appreciative of the effort to put into organizing a structured timeline for its implementation.

City Council
April 27, 2026

Submitted by: Nate Groenendyk
Submitting Department: Legislative
Agenda Section: Action Items

Item Title:
Volunteer Shoveling Program

Suggested Action:
I move the Mayor and Council include \$2,500 in the FY27 Budget to support a standing volunteer program to assist residents with snow removal needs.

Legal Review Required?
N/A

Summary Background:
The current snowstorm we dealt with in January 2026 took a toll on city and county resources and the safety and patience of residents. Other cities (ex: Rockville and Baltimore) have volunteer programs where a teen/adult who is able-bodied shovels for elderly/disabled neighbors. We can implement a similar program in Hyattsville as a preventive measure for future storms. Our current volunteer services program can grow to accommodate these requests, with a financial need of \$2,500 to buy shovels for neighbors to use. Creating a program that matches neighbors ahead of time of a storm reduces the liability of the city immensely. If a program is created where neighbors are matched prior to a storm, this allows the volunteer neighbor to adjust their workload (knowing they are shoveling two driveways, for example), and it would allow neighbors to begin shoveling at the beginning of snowfall when it is literally a lighter lift and safer. This would allow residents who are in need to more easily plan doctor's appointments, grocery trips, and outings that would contribute to better physical and mental health and a stronger sense of community. Anticipated Staff Resources: Pre-storm matching of neighbors in need with neighbors who can help and shovel starting in October (prior to the snowfall season). Outreach will be done to volunteers prior to each storm to determine availability and coordinate shovel pickup. Neighbors in need will have the ability to reach out directly to the city through a formalized process to sign up for assistance prior to each storm. Legal review of waiver for volunteers and neighbors receiving support to waive liability to the city.

Next Steps:

Fiscal Impact:
\$2,500

City Administrator Comments:
The staff can support this initiative. This will require legal review and approval to ensure the city is protected from risk and liability.

Community Engagement:

Strategic Goals:

Goal 3 – Promote a Safe and Vibrant Community

City Council
April 27, 2026

Submitted by: Nate Groenendyk
Submitting Department: Legislative
Agenda Section: Action Items

Item Title:

Enhancing Council and Staff Access to Information and Reporting

Suggested Action:

I move the Mayor and Council include \$30,000 in the FY27 Budget to purchase and implement technology that streamlines access to City data for Councilmembers and City staff.

Legal Review Required?

N/A

Summary Background:

It is recommended that the City implement a technology solution to streamline access to enterprise data, reduce staff bottlenecks, and support timely, informed policy development with minimal additional resource demands. Councilmembers rely on timely and accurate information from multiple departments and advisory bodies to effectively carry out their legislative and oversight responsibilities. Currently, obtaining specific data or historical context often requires staff time and coordination, creating bottlenecks that can delay research and policy development. In addition, councilmembers must review extensive meeting minutes and materials from numerous boards and committees, which can be time-consuming and make it difficult to quickly identify relevant themes, trends, or prior actions. The ability to easily search across records and generate targeted summaries or reports would significantly support councilmembers in researching issues, developing policy positions, and making informed decisions.

Anticipated Staff Resources: Initial setup would involve coordination by a project lead, such as IT or the City Administrator's designee, to oversee configuration, data access permissions, and vendor onboarding. Departmental participation would primarily consist of identifying relevant data sources, with minimal ongoing staff time required after deployment. Ongoing support would largely align with existing IT and records management functions, rather than requiring new positions.

Since this motion was discussed at the February 23, 2026 Council Meeting, staff and Council have had the opportunity to view sample technology solutions.

Next Steps:

Staff is generally supportive of this initiative and will likely require the issuance of an RFP to evaluate potential vendors.

Fiscal Impact:

\$30,000

City Administrator Comments:

The staff can support this initiative. We are developing a policy for the use of AI technology and

have met with vendors who provide this type of service. If approved, the staff will follow normal procurement policies and practices.

Community Engagement:

Strategic Goals:

Goal 4 – Foster Excellence in all City Operations

City Council
April 27, 2026

Submitted by: Nate Groenendyk
Submitting Department: Legislative
Agenda Section: Action Items

Item Title:
Relief Funds for Impacted Immigrant Families

Suggested Action:

I move the Mayor and Council include \$100,000 in the FY27 Budget to establish a relief fund to support the City of Hyattsville's impacted immigrant families. These funds shall be administered to provide direct financial assistance to resident families whose primary breadwinners have been arrested or deported, or are unable to work as a direct result of the ongoing federal immigration enforcement actions. I further move that the City sign a Memorandum of Understanding with one or two local non-profit partners, serving the immigrant community, for the administration of the funds.

Legal Review Required?

Summary Background:

a.) Background & Motive

The current escalation in federal immigration enforcement has created a local humanitarian and economic crisis. The following evidence highlights the urgent need for this appropriation:

- **Drastic Income Loss:** Removing a breadwinner from a mixed-status household can reduce median household income by nearly 50% to 62.7%, often plunging families into immediate poverty.
- **Housing & Food Insecurity:** Impacted families face sudden, unexpected rent debt. Recent current immigration enforcement surges have led to increases rent debt as families lose the ability to pay for basic necessities.
- **Economic Ripple Effects:** Immigrant households are significant local consumers. The loss of their spending power reduces local demand, which can lead to job losses for native-born workers in sectors like construction and hospitality.

b.) Proposed Allocation & Oversight

To ensure maximum impact and transparency, the funds should be utilized as follows:

1. **Direct Assistance (90%):** At least 90% of funds shall be disbursed directly to impacted families for housing, utilities, food, and/or legal expenses.
2. **Administration (10%):** A contract shall be established with one to two qualified local non-profits, that already have a track record of working on behalf of the immigrant community, to manage the intake and distribution process.
3. **Reporting:** The administering partner(s) will provide a quarterly report to the Council detailing the number of families served and the types of assistance provided, while maintaining the privacy of recipients.

Conclusion

Appropriating these funds is both a moral imperative and an act of economic stabilization for our city. We have the moral responsibility to stand with and to do right by our neighbors who have seen their lives turned upside-down. This is also a matter of equity, as most of the impacted families were tax-paying residents. By establishing these funds, we strengthen the human values that we stand for, and we protect the overall vibrancy of our community.

Next Steps:**Fiscal Impact:**

\$100,000

City Administrator Comments:

1. The staff has not determined if the 10% threshold for a partner to design and administer the program is feasible. In this case, finding one or two non-profits willing to accept a total \$10,000 may be challenging. If approved, the City will continue to benchmark, follow procurement procedures and identify the best overall value partner w/ expertise. We will bring findings back to Council for discussion and approval.

2. The staff will require 1 FTE to manage the process from program design, contract proposals and selection, partner agreements and contracts, develop reporting criteria, application creation and process, referrals etc. Eg., (min and max \$ per family; \$ per household/address; how many times an applicant can apply; qualification criteria; required documentation; method of payment etc)

2. The City Attorney advised that any use of taxpayer dollars is subject to disclosure pursuant to Maryland's Public Information Act. This includes a third party acting as an agent of the city. The expenditure is subject to audit, so the third party is responsible for providing data related to the expenditure of the funds. He states that it is conceivable that ICE could request information related to the transfer of the money and identities of individuals receiving it. He cautions that this effort could be inconstant with the purpose of the motion.

3. The Race and Equity Task Force (RETF) opinion is attached. They are supportive of the proposal as a timely and equity-aligned response to the impacts of federal immigration enforcement on Hyattsville residents. They recommend that the Council clearly define program goals, oversight, and accountability measures. The committee emphasizes the need to partner with trusted, culturally/linguistically competent organizations to support effective implementation. Finally, the RETF encourages Council to acknowledge the proposal's limitations and identify it as one step within broader, ongoing efforts to advance equity and support economic stability/mobility for all residents.

Community Engagement:**Strategic Goals:**

Goal 5 – Strengthen the City's Identity as a Diverse, Creative, and Welcoming Community

Dear Mayor and Council,

At your request, the Race and Equity Task Force (RETF) reviewed the proposal to create a fund to support the families of immigrants impacted by Federal immigration enforcement. **We want to start by saying that the Task Force supports the proposal to provide funds to support families impacted by Federal immigration enforcement. This statement of support is in alignment with the RETF Equity Plan, reviewed and adopted by Hyattsville City Council, which expresses a commitment to providing communities with the support and resources they need.** Immigration enforcement disproportionately impacts racial minorities and can often reinforce existing systemic inequities like access to economic stability, educational attainment and health and wellness. This is a critical time, and many of our neighbors are facing real and immediate hardship. The desire to respond with care and urgency is both appropriate and necessary.

After reviewing the motion and Council discussion from March 9th Council Meeting, the RETF held an ad-hoc meeting on March 19th to consider the equity implications of the proposal. We used a simplified version of the GARE Racial Equity Toolkit—a set of questions that helps us think through who benefits, what the risks are, and how to design programs and policies in a way that truly meets community needs. **While we support the proposal for its merit in trying to address inequitable treatment by the Federal Government, we also provide a series of considerations for Council and Staff to work through to inform ordinance revisions and, ultimately, a vote.**

We offer to Council and Staff the following key considerations:

Acknowledge and plan for capacity shortfalls - the City of Hyattsville is not the best positioned to understand how a proposal of this nature can best be distribute funds to affected populations (e.g. grant disbursement amounts, eligibility criteria, accountability, etc.) and will need to select a partner that is culturally embedded and experienced in working with undocumented migrant populations to help define this implementation specifics.

Be specific about City of Hyattsville oversight and desired outcomes – the proposal should stipulate the terms under which this program will be carried out, how Council or Staff will maintain oversight, reporting requirements, and outline program termination criteria so as to ensure sufficient accountability and transparency for tax payers. Furthermore, council should make clear in the proposal and subsequently in any implementation discussions, what outcomes it seeks to accomplish with the measure - consider outcomes that will enable a broad section of this population to access aid vs limiting to a subset (breadwinners).

Acknowledge limitations of the proposal and plan for systemic change – the proposal will not address every wrong that's been inflicted on this community and Council should acknowledge this to ensure that trust is maintained with the impacted community. Council should acknowledge that this is an effort to do our part in supporting our neighbors in these critical times as best our budget allows and not allowing our immigrant neighbors to hurt without any support. Council should acknowledge that systemic solutions to the harm caused by Federal Immigration Enforcement will require additional work and partnership with the community.

In closing, we commend Council for stepping forward with compassion and a willingness to support families of targeted immigrants. The RETF recognizes the need to act quickly. We encourage Council to

balance urgency with thoughtful design, which begins with clearly defined parameters within the ordinance that acknowledge Hyattsville's capacity and need for partnership to effectively implement an ordinance of this nature.

We are grateful to the Council for the opportunity to provide commentary on this issue and are available to support as this moves forward.

Respectfully,

The City of Hyattsville Race and Equity Task Force

City Council
April 27, 2026

Submitted by: Nate Groenendyk
Submitting Department: City Clerk
Agenda Section: Discussion Items

Item Title:

Funding for Community Services Caseworker to Support Resident Stability

Suggested Action:

For discussion.

Legal Review Required?

N/A

Summary Background:

Proposed motion: I move the Mayor and Council include \$65,000 in the FY27 Budget to fund a full-time caseworker (contract position) in the Department of Community Services.

Residents across the City are experiencing increasing financial instability due to rising housing costs, sudden loss of income, and other extreme economic disruptions. While some households have been uniquely impacted by federal immigration enforcement actions, many residents face similar levels of hardship for a variety of reasons.

A caseworker position would provide a sustainable, long-term solution by helping residents navigate and access existing services, including housing assistance, food resources, and legal support. This approach maximizes the impact of existing regional and nonprofit resources while reducing barriers to access. The caseworker would be focused on supporting all Hyattsville residents.

The caseworker would be responsible for:

- Connecting residents to available County, State, and nonprofit resources
- Assisting with navigation of housing, food, and other support systems
- Responding to urgent or time-sensitive resident needs
- Coordinating with community-based organizations to streamline referrals

This role is intended to improve service delivery while minimizing additional administrative burden on existing staff.

Next Steps:

Fiscal Impact:

\$65,000

City Administrator Comments:

Recommend Support. There has been a huge spike in the number of residents requiring services and/or support. An additional resource is required to handle calls, visitors, and make referrals to appropriate agencies. This will minimize the burden on current staff and provide an important

service to residents in need. The position can be evaluated each year to determine continuation. The staff will attempt to hire a full-time resource on contract to which will provide greater flexibility.

Community Engagement:

Strategic Goals:

Goal 5 – Strengthen the City’s Identity as a Diverse, Creative, and Welcoming Community