

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_tgg-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