

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_IPjqEA-QQnGLAvrbvfIHWQ

Monday, June 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
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
Director of Community Services Sandra Shephard
Director of Human Resources Jay Joyner
Human Resources Generalist Janel Beckett
Human Resources Generalist Brenda Cruz
City Clerk Nate Groenendyk
Deputy City Clerk Quianna Taylor

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Council President Solomon, seconded by Councilmember Schaible, to remove agenda item 10.a. Letter to the Prince George's County Board of Education from the agenda.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Councilmember Haba, Councilmember Strab

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

The motion Passed by the following vote:

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Councilmember Haba, Councilmember Strab,

4. Approval of Minutes

4.a. 2026-295 Approval of Minutes

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

- May 11, 2026 FY27 Budget Public Hearing Minutes
- May 11, 2026 City Council Meeting Minutes
- May 26, 2026 City Council Meeting Minutes

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: FY27 Budget Public Hearing Minutes_May 11 2026, Minutes_May 11 2026, Minutes_May 26 2026

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

- May 11, 2026 FY27 Budget Public Hearing Minutes
- May 11, 2026 City Council Meeting Minutes
- May 26, 2026 City Council Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Council President Solomon, 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 Dhokai, Councilmember Lee, Councilmember Nisbett

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Councilmember Haba, Councilmember Strab

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

- Chuck Perry (Ward 3) expressed concerns about a complaint filed with the Police Department and an investigation in which he is the subject. He also asked for data on complaints issued in 2025.
- Dan Behrend thanked Arrow Bicycle for their support in the annual Bike Rodeo and thanked the Council and staff for recognizing them.
- Chris Militello thanked the Council and staff for recognizing the work he and Chris Davidson provide for the annual Bike Rodeo.
- Mr. Marshall (Ward 4) stated his opposition to funding for The Spot, Throne portable bathrooms, the Hyattsville Volunteer Fire Department, and the immigrant relief fund. He also expressed concern about agenda item 10.b Resolution 2026-02: Issuance of Refunding Bonds for the University Town Center Special Taxing District and the increase in the Constant Yield Tax Rate.
- Mike Bonds (Ward 3) thanked the staff for their hard work in reducing the budget deficit and catching up on meeting minutes. He also thanked the Council for recognizing Arrow Bicycle for their support of the annual Bike Rodeo and asked that the Council consider funding for the event in future budgets.

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

The City Administrator provided updates on new businesses, Ward check-ins, community events and programming, and staffing changes.

The Councilmembers discussed Ward check-ins and thanked residents for the high turnout. Councilmember Lee highlighted the upcoming Ward 4 check-in on June 20th.

7. Proclamations

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

The motion Passed by the following vote:

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

NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT:

7.a. 2026-283 LGBTQIA+ Pride Month Proclamation

I move the Mayor and Council adopt the proclamation recognizing June as Pride Month in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Administration

Attachments: CM 0608 LGBTQIA+ Pride Month 2026

7.b. 2026-284 Caribbean American Heritage Month Proclamation

I move the Mayor and Council adopt the proclamation recognizing June as Caribbean American Heritage Month in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Administration

Attachments: CM 0608 Caribbean-American Heritage Month 2026

7.c. 2026-285 Immigrant Heritage Month Proclamation

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

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Administration

Attachments: CM 0608 Immigrant Heritage Month 2026

7.d. 2026-286 Juneteenth Proclamation

I move the Mayor and Council adopt the proclamation recognizing June 19th as Juneteenth in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Administration

Attachments: CM 0608 Juneteenth 2026

7.e. 2026-289 Arrow Bicycle in Support of Bike to Work Day Proclamation

I move the Mayor and Council adopt the proclamation honoring Arrow Bicycle owners Chris Militello and Chris Davidson for their 19 years of commitment in supporting "Bike to Work Day" in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Administration

Attachments: CM 0608 Honoring Arrow Bicycle in Support of Bike to Work Day

7.f. 2026-291 Proclamation Honoring Lesley Riddle

I move the Mayor and Council adopt the proclamation honoring the distinguished career of Lesley Riddle and her 13 years of service to the City of Hyattsville as Director of Public Works.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Administration

Attachments: CM 06.08 Proclamation Honoring Lesley Riddle

8. 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:

8.a. 2026-281 Appointment to the Hyattsville Environment Committee

I move the Mayor and Council approve the appointment of Jimmy McClellan (Ward 4) to the Hyattsville Environment Committee for a term of two (2) years, to end on June 8, 2028.

Sponsors: Edouard Haba, Councilmember

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: Jimmy McClellan W4 5.16.2026 Redac Application

8.b. 2026-296 Appointments to the Compensation Review Committee

I move the Mayor, with Council approval, appoint Erin Payne (Ward 1), Michael Horlick (Ward 2), Kara Brooks (Ward 3), Thomas Wright (Ward 3), Jimmy McClellan (Ward 4), Rommel Sandino (Ward 5), and Aprill Willis (Ward 5) to the Compensation Review Committee.

Sponsors: Robert S. Croslin, Mayor

Department: Administration

Attachments: Brooks_Compensation Review Committee Application_Redacted, Horlick_Compensation Review Committee Application_Redacted, McClellan_Compensation Review Committee Application_Redacted, Payne_Compensation Review Committee Application_Redacted, Sandino_Compensation Review Committee Application_Redacted, Willis_Compensation Review Committee Application_Redacted, Wright_Compensation Review Committee Application_Redacted

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 Council President Solomon, seconded by Councilmember Haba, that the consent agenda be approved.

The motion Passed by the following vote:

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT:

9.a. 2026-280 FY26 CIP Budget Amendment - Accept FY25 BJA Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program Grant Award

I move the Mayor and Council amend the FY26 Capital Improvements Plan budget to accept and appropriate the FY25 BJA Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Award in the amount of \$23,806.92 for the purchase of body armor vests for HPD officers.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Police

Attachments: fy25-bvp-awards

9.b. 2026-292 Street Sweeper Memorandum of Understanding - City of Mount Rainier

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Mount Rainier for the City of Hyattsville to offer street sweeping services on a requested basis. Daily services will be charged to the City of Mount Rainier at \$850 per day.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Department of Public Works

Attachments: MOU Mt Rainier Street Sweeping 06-2026

9.c. 2026-297 Disbursement of Ward 1 Discretionary Funds

I move the Mayor and Council approve the disbursement of \$190.59 of FY26 Ward 1 discretionary funds to Councilmember Joanne Waszczak as reimbursement for refreshments purchased for the Ward 1 Check-In on Saturday, June 6, 2026.

Sponsors: Joanne Waszczak, Councilmember, Greg Barnes, Councilmember

Department: Legislative

Attachments:

10. Action Items (7:45 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.)

10.a. 2026-293 Letter to Prince George's County Board of Education

I move the Council authorize the Mayor to send correspondence to the Prince George's County Board of Education requesting the Board to protect and strengthen language immersion programs and continuation pathways, including the Cesar Chavez Dual Spanish Immersion Program, as part of the school district's FY27 budget.

Sponsors: Edouard Haba, Councilmember

Department: Legislative

Attachments: Letter to Board of Education_Draft

Removed during approval of the agenda.

10.b. 2026-290 Hyattsville Resolution 2026-02: Issuance of Refunding Bonds for the University Town Center Special Taxing District (UTC)

I move that the Mayor and Council introduce Hyattsville Resolution 2026-02 authorizing and empowering pursuant to notice of a public hearing for the issuance of refunding bonds related to the University Town Center Special Taxing District in the City of Hyattsville in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$12,500,000.00 at an interest rate or rates not to exceed 8.00% per annum and to refund or advance refund, in whole or in part, the outstanding City of Hyattsville Special Obligation Bonds (University Town Center Project), Series 2016 and fund or pay other costs permitted within RESOLUTION 2026-02. Additionally, RESOLUTION 2026-02 provides that such refunding bonds and the interest thereon shall never constitute a general obligation debt of, or a pledge of the City's full faith and credit or taxing powers; such refunding bonds shall be payable solely from special taxes levied on property within the University Town Center Special Taxing Districts in accordance with the existing Rate and Method identified in RESOLUTION 2026-02. RESOLUTION 2026-02 authorizes the Mayor by executive order (as permitted by the Special Taxing District Act) to make certain approvals and determinations relating to any such refunding bonds and the documents relating thereto. The purpose of authorizing the refunding or advance refunding of the 2016 Special Obligation Bonds is to take advantage of lower market rates and lower debt service payments over time on outstanding bonds secured by special taxes levied in the University Town Center Special Taxing District. This will result in a reduction in the amount of special taxes paid by property owners in the District. (FIRST READING).

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Finance

Attachments: Resolution 2026_02-UTC Special Obligation Bonds

I move that the Mayor and Council introduce Hyattsville Resolution 2026-02 authorizing and empowering pursuant to notice of a public hearing for the issuance of refunding bonds related to the University Town Center Special Taxing District in the City of Hyattsville in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$12,500,000.00 at an interest rate or rates not to exceed 8.00% per annum and to refund or advance refund, in whole or in part, the outstanding City of Hyattsville Special Obligation Bonds (University Town Center Project), Series 2016 and fund or pay other costs permitted within RESOLUTION 2026-02. Additionally, RESOLUTION 2026-02 provides that such refunding bonds and the interest thereon shall never constitute a general obligation debt of, or a pledge of the City's full faith and credit or taxing powers; such refunding bonds shall be payable solely from special taxes levied on property within the University Town Center Special Taxing Districts in accordance with the existing Rate and Method

identified in RESOLUTION 2026-02. RESOLUTION 2026-02 authorizes the Mayor by executive order (as permitted by the Special Taxing District Act) to make certain approvals and determinations relating to any such refunding bonds and the documents relating thereto. The purpose of authorizing the refunding or advance refunding of the 2016 Special Obligation Bonds is to take advantage of lower market rates and lower debt service payments over time on outstanding bonds secured by special taxes levied in the University Town Center Special Taxing District. This will result in a reduction in the amount of special taxes paid by property owners in the District. (FIRST READING).

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

City Treasurer Ron Brooks and Deputy Budget Director Ben Brosch gave an overview of the proclamation and provided clarity on the purpose of the bonds, ongoing financial obligations, and the timeline to pass the resolution.

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.c. 2026-288 Hyattsville Ordinance 2026-01: Fiscal Year 2027 Budget (Second Reading and Adoption)

I move the Mayor and Council adopt Hyattsville Ordinance 2026-01, an ordinance adopting an annual budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, for the general purpose, fixing the tax rates for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026; authorizing collection of taxes herein levied, and appropriating funds for the fiscal year (SECOND READING AND ADOPTION).

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Finance

Attachments: HO_2026-01_FY27Budget

I move the Mayor and Council adopt Hyattsville Ordinance 2026-01, an ordinance adopting an annual budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, for the general purpose, fixing the tax rates for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026; authorizing collection of taxes herein levied, and appropriating funds for the fiscal year (SECOND READING AND ADOPTION). Motion made by Council President Solomon, seconded by Councilmember Haba.

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. Discussion Items (8:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.)

11.a. 2026-294 Retirement Health Benefits

For discussion.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Human Resources

Attachments: Retiree_Benefits_Final_Recommendations (6)

Human Resources Director Jay Joyner presented the staff recommendation to grandfather all current retirees and employees under the existing retiree benefit plan and remove the benefit for new hires.

The Council thanked the staff for their work and the presentation.

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

13. Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made by Councilmember Lee, seconded by Councilmember Barnes, that the meeting be adjourned at 7:59 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: