

City of Rockville

City Hall
111 Maryland Ave
Rockville, MD 20850

Approved: 
Attest: 
Approved Meeting No. 15-25
June 2, 2025



Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 12, 2025

5:30 PM

Meeting No. 13-25

WebEx

Mayor and Council

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Monique Ashton	Mayor	Present
Kate Fulton	Councilmember	Present
Barry Jackson	Councilmember	Present
David Myles	Councilmember	Present
Izola Shaw	Councilmember	Present
Marissa Valeri	Councilmember	Present
Adam Van Grack	Councilmember	Present

1. **Convene**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Proclamation and Recognition**

- A. Proclamation Declaring May 4-10, 2025, as National Public Service Recognition Week

Councilmember David Myles moved the Proclamation Declaring May 4-10, 2025, as National Public Service Recognition Week in Rockville, Maryland.

	RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	David Myles, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Kate Fulton, Councilmember
IN FAVOR:	Mayor Ashton, Councilmember Fulton, Councilmember Jackson, Councilmember Shaw, Councilmember Valeri, Councilmember Van Grack

- B. Proclamation Declaring May 11-17, 2025, as National Police Week in Rockville, Maryland

Councilmember Barry Jackson moved the Proclamation Declaring May 11-17, 2025, as National Police Week in Rockville, Maryland

	RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Barry Jackson, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Izola Shaw, Councilmember
IN FAVOR:	Mayor Ashton, Councilmember Fulton, Councilmember Jackson, Councilmember Shaw, Councilmember Valeri, Councilmember Van Grack

- C. Proclamation Declaring May 11-17, 2025, as Women’s Health Week in Rockville, Maryland

Councilmember Izola Shaw moved the Proclamation Declaring May 11-17, 2025, as Women’s Health Week in Rockville, Maryland

	RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Izola Shaw, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Marissa Valeri, Councilmember
IN FAVOR:	Mayor Ashton, Councilmember Fulton, Councilmember Jackson, Councilmember Shaw, Councilmember Valeri, Councilmember Van Grack

D. Proclamation Declaring May 11-18, 2025, as Taiwanese American Heritage Week

Councilmember Marissa Valeri moved the Proclamation Declaring May 11-18, 2025, as Taiwanese American Heritage Week in Rockville, Maryland

	RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Marissa Valeri, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Adam Van Grack, Councilmember
IN FAVOR:	Mayor Ashton, Councilmember Fulton, Councilmember Jackson, Councilmember Shaw, Councilmember Valeri, Councilmember Van Grack

E. Proclamation Declaring May 19-23, 2025, as National Public Works Week

Councilmember Adam Van Grack moved the Proclamation Declaring May 19-23, 2025, as National Public Works Week in Rockville, Maryland

	RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Adam Van Grack, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Izola Shaw, Councilmember
IN FAVOR:	Mayor Ashton, Councilmember Fulton, Councilmember Jackson, Councilmember Shaw, Councilmember Valeri, Councilmember Van Grack

F. Proclamation Declaring May 17, 2025, as National Kids to Parks Day in Rockville, Maryland

Councilmember David Myles moved the Proclamation Declaring May 17, 2025, as National Kids to Parks Day in Rockville, Maryland

	RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	David Myles, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Barry Jackson, Councilmember
IN FAVOR:	Mayor Ashton, Councilmember Fulton, Councilmember Jackson, Councilmember Shaw, Councilmember Valeri, Councilmember Van Grack

G. Proclamation Declaring May 19, 2025, as Greek Genocide Remembrance Day in Rockville, Maryland

Councilmember Marissa Valeri moved the Proclamation Declaring May 19, 2025, as Greek Genocide Remembrance Day in Rockville, Maryland

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Marissa Valeri, Councilmember
SECONDER: Kate Fulton, Councilmember
IN FAVOR: Mayor Ashton, Councilmember Fulton, Councilmember Jackson, Councilmember Shaw, Councilmember Valeri, Councilmember Van Grack

H. Proclamation Declaring May 2024, as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Awareness Month in Rockville, Maryland

Councilmember Adam Van Grack moved the Proclamation Declaring May 2024, as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Awareness Month in Rockville, Maryland

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Adam Van Grack, Councilmember
SECONDER: Marissa Valeri, Councilmember
IN FAVOR: Mayor Ashton, Councilmember Fulton, Councilmember Jackson, Councilmember Shaw, Councilmember Valeri, Councilmember Van Grack

I. Proclamation Declaring May 2025, as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Councilmember Kate Fulton moved the Proclamation Declaring May 2025, as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in Rockville, Maryland

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Kate Fulton, Councilmember
SECONDER: Barry Jackson, Councilmember
IN FAVOR: Mayor Ashton, Councilmember Fulton, Councilmember Jackson, Councilmember Shaw, Councilmember Valeri, Councilmember Van Grack

J. Proclamation Declaring May 2025, as Building Safety Month in Rockville, Maryland

Councilmember Kate Fulton moved the Proclamation Declaring May 2025, as Building Safety Month in Rockville, Maryland

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Kate Fulton, Councilmember
SECONDER: Izola Shaw, Councilmember
IN FAVOR: Mayor Ashton, Councilmember Fulton, Councilmember Jackson, Councilmember Shaw, Councilmember Valeri, Councilmember Van Grack

- K.** Proclamation Declaring May 2025, as National Bicycle Awareness Month in Rockville, Maryland

Councilmember Adam Van Grack moved the Proclamation Declaring May 2025, as National Bicycle Awareness Month in Rockville, Maryland

	RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Adam Van Grack , Councilmember
SECONDER:	Marissa Valeri, Councilmember
IN FAVOR:	Mayor Ashton, Councilmember Fulton, Councilmember Jackson, Councilmember Shaw, Councilmember Valeri, Councilmember Van Grack

- L.** Proclamation Declaring May 2025, as Jewish American Heritage Month

Councilmember Adam Van Grack moved the Proclamation Declaring May 2025, as Jewish American Heritage Month in Rockville, Maryland

	RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Adam Van Grack , Councilmember
SECONDER:	Barry Jackson, Councilmember
IN FAVOR:	Mayor Ashton, Councilmember Fulton, Councilmember Jackson, Councilmember Shaw, Councilmember Valeri, Councilmember Van Grack

- M.** Proclamation Declaring May 2025, as Lyme Disease Awareness Month in Rockville, Maryland

Councilmember Kate Fulton moved the Proclamation Declaring May 2025, as Lyme Disease Awareness Month in Rockville, Maryland

	RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kate Fulton , Councilmember
SECONDER:	Marissa Valeri, Councilmember
IN FAVOR:	Mayor Ashton, Councilmember Fulton, Councilmember Jackson, Councilmember Shaw, Councilmember Valeri, Councilmember Van Grack

- N.** Proclamation Declaring May 2025, as Mental Health Awareness Month in Rockville, Maryland

Councilmember Adam Van Grack moved the Proclamation Declaring May 2025, as Mental Health Awareness Month in Rockville, Maryland

	RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Adam Van Grack, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Marissa Valeri, Councilmember
IN FAVOR:	Mayor Ashton, Councilmember Fulton, Councilmember Jackson, Councilmember Shaw, Councilmember Valeri, Councilmember Van Grack

- O. Proclamation Declaring May 2025, as Older Americans Month in Rockville, Maryland

Councilmember Barry Jackson moved the Proclamation Declaring May 2025, as Older Americans Month in Rockville, Maryland

	RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Barry Jackson, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Izola Shaw, Councilmember
IN FAVOR:	Mayor Ashton, Councilmember Fulton, Councilmember Jackson, Councilmember Shaw, Councilmember Valeri, Councilmember Van Grack

- P. Proclamation Declaring May 2025 as National Preservation Month in Rockville, Maryland

Councilmember Kate Fulton moved the Proclamation Declaring May 2025 as National Preservation Month in Rockville, Maryland

	RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kate Fulton, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Barry Jackson, Councilmember
IN FAVOR:	Mayor Ashton, Councilmember Fulton, Councilmember Jackson, Councilmember Shaw, Councilmember Valeri, Councilmember Van Grack

- Q. Proclamation Declaring May 2025, as Stroke Awareness Month in Rockville, Maryland

Councilmember Barry Jackson moved the Proclamation Declaring May 2025, as Stroke Awareness Month in Rockville, Maryland

	RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Barry Jackson, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Kate Fulton, Councilmember
IN FAVOR:	Mayor Ashton, Councilmember Fulton, Councilmember Jackson, Councilmember Shaw, Councilmember Valeri, Councilmember Van Grack

THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL WENT INTO A BRIEF RECESS AT 6:32 PM. THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL RECONVENED AT 6:46 P.M.

4. Agenda Review

City Clerk/Director of Council Operations Sara Taylor-Ferrell reported no changes to agenda.

5. City Manager's Report

City Manager Jeff Mihelich reported the City received a grant the Maryland Department of Natural Resources for \$225,000 which will be used to replace playground equipment at Falls Grove Park. The City received a grant from the Maryland Energy Administration for \$160,000 for the purchase an electric bus to transport Seniors. Agenda item 9B details the agreement with WMATA that allows for wayfinding signs that lead from the pedestrian bring into Town Center. There are also beatifications projects in and around Town Center.

6. Boards and Commissions Appointments and Reappointments - NONE

7. Community Forum

**Community Forum
In-Person/Virtual Speaker List
(April 7, 2025)**

	NAME	TOPIC
1.	Sergio Obodia	Building Green, net zero house, solar panels, water recovery
2.	John Becker	Thanked District 17 Delegation for safe roads and support for Condo Ownership communities

8. Special Presentations

A. District 17 2025 State Legislative Session Wrap-Up Presentation

The Maryland District 17 State Delegation, including Representatives Julie Palakovich-Carr, Ryan Spiegel, Joe Vogel, and Senator Cheryl Kagan presented a summary of the 2025 State of Maryland legislative sessions.

Questions from the Mayor and Council were addressed by the District 17 delegation. The Mayor and

Council provided their thoughts and comments.

FURTHER DISCUSSION

May 12, 2025, Agenda item 8A.

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Timestamp 1:06:04

THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL WENT INTO A BRIEF RECESS AT 8:16 PM. THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL RECONVENED AT 8:27 P.M.

9. Consent Agenda

- A.** Award and Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Professional Services Agreement with Mead & Hunt, Inc., a Wisconsin corporation, in the Amount Not to Exceed \$686,972.02 for an initial term through December 31, 2026, with the option to renew for two additional years, subject to approval as to legal form by the City Attorney.

- B.** Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Real Estate Permit with Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) to Install Window Decals on the Pedestrian Bridge Over MD-355

- C.** Award and Authorize the City Manager to Execute, a Rider Contract with Motorola Solutions, Inc., of Chicago, IL, in substantially the form attached, as approved by the City Attorney, in the Amount Not to Exceed \$1,129,061.80, for the Purchase and Delivery of Replacement Portable and Mobile Radios in accordance with the Pricing Structure, Terms, and Conditions of Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MCOG) Contract #21-069.

Councilmember David Myles pulled consent agenda item A for discussion.

Councilmember Izola Shaw moved to approve consent agenda item B, and C.

MOVER:	RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] Izola Shaw, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Marissa Valeri, Councilmember
IN FAVOR:	Mayor Ashton, Councilmember Fulton, Councilmember Jackson, Councilmember Myles, Councilmember Shaw, Councilmember Valeri, Councilmember Van Grack

Councilmember Barry Jackson moved to approve consent agenda item A.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Barry Jackson, Councilmember
SECONDER: Adam Van Grack, Councilmember
IN FAVOR: Mayor Ashton, Councilmember Fulton, Councilmember Jackson, Councilmember Myles, Councilmember Shaw, Councilmember Valeri, Councilmember Van Grack

FURTHER DISCUSSION

May 12, 2025, Agenda item 9.

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Timestamp 2:30:07

10. Public Hearing - NONE

11. Action Items - NONE

12. Worksession

- A. Annexation Petition ANX2023-00147 - Conduct a work session on the Planning Commission-approved preliminary annexation plan and receive a presentation on the fiscal impacts of annexation of the Shady Grove Metro Station and CSX Transportation Properties into the City.

Research and Planning Manager, Manisha Tewari provided Mayor and Council with an overview of the on the Planning Commission-approved preliminary annexation plan and receive a presentation on the fiscal impacts of annexation of the Shady Grove Metro Station and CSX transportation properties into the City.

Summary:

Staff recommends Mayor and Council Review the Planning Commission-approved preliminary annexation plan; conduct a worksession; and provide direction on proposed annexation options.

Background:

Rockville 2040 Comprehensive Plan

Rockville’s 2040 Comprehensive Plan was adopted in Aug 2021. The Municipal Growth Element (MGE) is an individual element of the comprehensive plan. Per State law, the MGE should identify future growth areas outside the existing corporate limits and define the limits of municipal growth, also called the Maximum Expansion Limits (MEL).

Annexation is defined as the legal process by which land is added to the corporate city limits. Under State Law, Rockville may annex contiguous and adjoining unincorporated properties that are within the City’s Maximum Expansion Limits (MEL), as adopted through the Municipal Growth Element of the Comprehensive Plan. Maryland law does not allow cities to annex property without some of the property owners consenting to do so.

Annexation Plan

The Land Use Article also requires that the municipality prepare and adopt an annexation plan for the area to be annexed. In accordance with the provisions of City Code § 25.02.04, the Planning Commission is required to study the area proposed for annexation and prepare an annexation plan.

The purpose of the annexation plan is for the municipality that is proposing to annex an area to affirm that the annexation is consistent with the municipal growth element of the municipality's comprehensive plan.

Outreach with WMATA (property owner)

Staff communicated the City's interest in annexing the Shady Grove WMATA property with the Director of Real Estate and Station Area Planning at WMATA several times in the past specifically at a staff meeting on April 5, 2023. Staff also notified WMATA of the date when the Mayor and Council will be introducing the annexation. WMATA was aware of the City's intent regarding the annexation. Per its government relations policy, WMATA would not provide testimony on the annexation either way. The former Director of Real Estate and Station Area Planning at WMATA is no longer with WMATA, and staff has since been communicating on the topic with the Vice President of the Office of Real Estate and Development and WMATA.

Staff will continue to coordinate with WMATA staff as this proposed annexation process moves forward.

Options for Consideration

The Mayor and Council have three options available regarding this annexation petition:

1. Annex the entire annexation area, both the east and the west side, as originally proposed.
2. Annex only the west side of the proposed annexation area.
3. Delay annexation for some time in the future.

Next Steps

After a lengthy discussion Mayor and Council provided direction to staff to engage with RockEast and Medical Drive for partnerships and collaboration with REDI to help with introductions and engagement.

FURTHER DISCUSSION

May 12, 2025, Agenda item 12A.

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Timestamp 2:34:54

13. Mock Agenda

A. Mock Agenda

Staff will be update the briefbook with the Election Updates worksession.

14. Old / New Business

Mayor and Council commented that this is a difficult budget cycle for the County. Tax Duplication is under attack. Mayor and Council recommends staff drafting a letter in support of and collaboration with the County's current budget process.

15. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:07 p.m.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Marissa Valeri, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Barry Jackson, Councilmember
IN FAVOR:	Mayor Ashton, Councilmember Fulton, Councilmember Jackson, Councilmember Myles, Councilmember Shaw, Councilmember Valeri, Councilmember Van Grack