
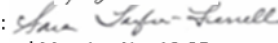


# City of Rockville

City Hall  
111 Maryland Ave  
Rockville, MD 20850

Approved:   
Attest:   
Approved Meeting No. 10-25  
April 28, 2025



## Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 7, 2025

5:30 PM

Meeting No. 10-25

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**

Mayor and Council convened in a Hybrid Open Meeting at 5:32 p.m. on Monday, April 7, 2025, in the Mayor and Council Chambers, City Hall, 111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland, and via Webex.

Staff Present: City Manager Jeff Mihelich, City Attorney Robert E. Dawson, and City Clerk/Director of Council Operations Sara Taylor-Ferrell

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Monique Ashton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Proclamation and Recognition**

**A. Certificate of Recognition - Richard Montgomery Student Htoo Lin - Individual Grand Prize Winner - MCDOT “Heads Up, Phones Down” Teen Video Contest**

Councilmember Marissa Valeri read and presented the certificate of recognition to Htoo Lin, individual grand prize winner of the MCDOT Heads Up, Phones Down Teen Video Contest.

**B. Proclamation Declaring April 2025, as National Arab American Heritage Month in Rockville, Maryland**

Councilmember David Myles moved the Proclamation Declaring April 2025, as National Arab American Heritage Month in Rockville, Maryland.

<b>RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>	
<b>MOVER:</b>	David Myles, Councilmember
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Izola Shaw, Councilmember
<b>IN FAVOR:</b>	Mayor Ashton, Councilmember Fulton, Councilmember Jackson, Councilmember Myles, Councilmember Shaw, Councilmember Valeri, Councilmember Van Grack

**C. Proclamation Declaring April 10, 2025, as Arbor Day in Rockville, Maryland**

Councilmember Izola Shaw moved the Proclamation Declaring April 10, 2025, as Arbor Day in Rockville, Maryland.

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

**D. Proclamation Declaring April 2025, as Autism Acceptance Month in Rockville, Maryland**

Councilmember Marissa Valeri moved the Proclamation Declaring April 2025, as Autism Acceptance Month in Rockville, Maryland.

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

**E. Proclamation Declaring the Month of April as Earth Month; April 22, 2025, as Earth Day; and March 22, 2025, 8:30-9:30 P.M. as Earth Hour in Rockville**

Councilmember Adam Van Grack moved the Proclamation Declaring the Month of April as Earth Month; April 22, 2025, as Earth Day; and March 22, 2025, 8:30-9:30 P.M. as Earth Hour in Rockville.

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

**F. Proclamation Declaring April 2025, as Parkinson's Awareness Month in Rockville, Maryland**

Mayor Monique Ashton read, and Councilmember Marissa Valeri moved the Proclamation Declaring April 2025, as Parkinson's Awareness Month in Rockville, Maryland

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

**G. Proclamation Declaring April 7-13, 2025, as National Public Health Week in Rockville, Maryland**

Councilmember Kate Fulton moved the Proclamation Declaring April 7-13, 2025, as National Public Health Week in Rockville, Maryland.

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

**H. Proclamation Declaring April 13-19, 2025, As National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week in Rockville, Maryland**

Councilmember Barry Jackson moved the Proclamation Declaring April 13-19, 2025, As National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week in Rockville, Maryland.

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

**I. Proclamation Declaring April 27, 2025, as the 34th Annual Rockville Science Day**

Councilmember David Myles moved the Proclamation Declaring April 27, 2025, as the 34th Annual Rockville Science Day.

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

**J. Proclamation Declaring April 23-24, 2025, as Yom HaShoah in Rockville, Maryland**

Councilmember Adam Van Grack read, and Councilmember Izola Shaw moved the Proclamation Declaring April 23-24, 2025, as Yom HaShoah in Rockville, Maryland.

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

**THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL WENT INTO A BRIEF RECESS AT 6:18 PM. THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL RECONVENED AT 6:37 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 his office is focused on the budget, as well as carefully monitoring the last few days of the state legislative sessions ending this evening. Eagle Scout candidate Jack Zinky revitalized the fire pit area at the Croydon Creek Nature Center.

**6. Boards and Commissions Appointments and Reappointments – NONE**

**7. Community Forum**

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

	<b>NAME</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>
1.	Fran Thompson	Gude Drive Noise Abatement Study
2.	Jim Reschovsky	Gude Drive Noise Abatement Study
3.	Jeanine Gould Koskta	Gude Drive, FY2026 Budget
4.	Anita Neal Powell	FY2026 Budget
5.	Mary Grace Sabol	Rockville Ice Rink Season Pass for Alex Ovechkin
6.	Magaret Wagner	Supports Peerless Rockville Grant
7.	Emily Stelzer	Fund Study for Noise Abatement on Gude Drive

## FURTHER DISCUSSION

April 7, 2025, Agenda Item 7.

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8. **Special Presentations - NONE**
9. **Consent Agenda**
  - A. **Authorization for the City Manager to Release and Extinguish an Existing Water Easement and to Approve Four Easements and Two License and Maintenance Agreements Associated with Private Amenities and Stormwater Management, Public Improvements, Storm Drain, Water and Sewer, and a Water Meter on Parcel A, Rockshire Village Center**
  - B. **Approve and Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Project Agreement with the State of Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to proceed with an application for a \$1,500,000 grant to fund grading, excavation as well as build pathways, a playground, meadows restoration, community gardens, picnic tables, signage, and trash cans at RedGate Park and Arboretum, consistent with the RedGate Park Master Plan.**
  - C. **Authorization for the City Manager to Sign Amendment Two to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for North Stonestreet Avenue Sidewalk Improvements**
  - D. **Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Maryland State Arts Council Public Art Conservation Grant on behalf of the Mayor and Council**
  - E. **Approve the City Owned Building Located at 6 Taft Court to be Named “City of Rockville Taft Center.”**
  - F. **Approval of Minutes**

Councilmember Adam Van Grack pulled consent agenda item A for discussion.

Councilmember Barry Jackson pulled consent agenda item B for discussion.

Councilmember Izola Shaw moved to approve consent agenda item C, D, E and F.

### **RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**

**MOVER:** 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 Adam Van Grack moved to approve consent agenda item A.

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

Councilmember Adam Van Grack moved to approve consent agenda item B.

	<b>RESULT: APPROVED [4-2]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Marissa Valeri, Councilmember
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Izola Shaw, Councilmember
<b>IN FAVOR:</b>	Mayor Ashton, , Councilmember Jackson, Councilmember Myles, Councilmember Shaw, Councilmember Valeri
<b>OPPOSED:</b>	Councilmember Fulton, Councilmember Van Grack

**FURTHER DISCUSSION**

April 7, 2025, Agenda Item 9.

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- 10.      **Public Hearing - NONE**
- 11.      **Action Items**
  - A.      **Briefing on Project Plan Amendment PJT2025-00020, an Application to Amend the Planned Development for Rockville Center, Inc. to Permit a Residential Conversion of 13,011 Square Feet of Previously Approved Street-Level Commercial Retail Space into 13 Dwelling Units at 198 East Montgomery Avenue in the PD-RCI (Planned Development - Rockville Center, Inc.) Zone; Comstock 33 Monroe, LC, Applicants**

Senior Planner, Christopher Davis, and Nancy Regelin, Esq., Land Use attorney for the Applicant Shulman Rogers PA, provided a briefing on Project Plan Amendment PJT2025-00020, an Application to Amend the Planned Development for Rockville Center, Inc. to Permit a Residential Conversion of 13,011 Square Feet of Previously Approved Street-Level Commercial Retail Space into 13 Dwelling Units at 198 East Montgomery Avenue in the PD-RCI (Planned Development - Rockville Center, Inc.).

Questions from the Mayor and Council were addressed by staff and the applicants attorney. The Mayor and Council provided their thoughts and comments.

**FURTHER DISCUSSION**

April 7, 2025, Agenda item 11A.

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## **12. Worksession**

### **A. FY 2026 Budget Worksession #3 - Operating Expenditures, CIP, Grants, Debt Review, and Final Balancing**

Director of Finance, Stacey Webster, and Deputy Director of Finance Kim Francisco provided an overview of the FY 2026 Budget Worksession #3 - Operating Expenditures, CIP, Grants, Debt Review, and Final Balancing.

Staff recommends that the Mayor and Council review the FY 2026 Proposed Operating Expenditures, CIP, Grants, Debt Review, and Final Balancing, and provide direction as needed. Any requested revisions to the operating or capital budget should be communicated during this final worksession so that they can be incorporated into the FY 2026 budget ordinance.

Questions from the Mayor and Council were addressed by the staff. The Mayor and Council provided their thoughts and comments.

#### **Summary:**

This is the Mayor and Council's third budget worksession related to the FY 2026 Proposed Operating Budget and Capital Improvements Program. This worksession will begin with a follow up to Worksession #2 and will provide time for the Mayor and Council to finish the discussion on operating expenditures (City Clerk/DCO, Office of the City Attorney, City Manager's Office) and the Community Services and Enrichment Grants.

Mayor and Council were provided overview of the city's Capital Improvements Program (CIP), and cover the FY 2026 CIP budget, planned debt, and highlights of capital projects by program area. As part of this final worksession, staff will share the recommended changes between the proposed and adopted budget and look for final direction ahead of budget adoption.

**THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL WENT INTO A BRIEF RECESS AT 9:53 PM. THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL RECONVENED AT 10:08 P.M.**

#### **FY 2026 Capital Budget**

The FY 2026 proposed CIP budget includes new appropriations of \$33.8 million to address the priorities of the Mayor and Council and residents of Rockville. This new funding combined with prior year carryover funding of \$94.7 million, supports a total of 65 capital projects in FY 2026 for a total of \$128.5 million in appropriations.

#### **Changes Between Proposed and Adopted**

Following the preparation of the proposed budget, the city became aware of several changes that will need to be reflected in the adopted budget. In addition, the proposed budget held personnel capacity in the non-departmental budgets in anticipation of the results of the compensation and classification study. Personnel adjustments totaling \$1.2 million across all funds includes the adjustments for the



implementation of the compensation and classification study. For the General Fund, the net impact of all adjustments provides additional operating budget capacity of \$640,490 which will be the focus of the Mayor and Council's final balancing exercise.

#### Mayor and Council Considerations

This is the final FY 2026 budget worksession. Staff recommends that any requested revisions to the operating or capital budget be communicated during this final worksession so that they can be incorporated into the FY 2026 budget ordinance.

The FY2026 Budget Public Record is closed as of April 7, 2025, and is scheduled for adoption on May 5, 2025.

#### **FURTHER DISCUSSION**

April 7, 2025, Agenda item 12A.

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#### **13. Mock Agenda**

##### **A. Mock Agenda**

#### **14. Old / New Business**

##### **A. Request for a Proclamation - Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Day Against Bullying and Hate on May 18, 2025.**

Mayor and Council requested staff incorporate the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Day Against Bullying and Hate proclamation in the Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month Proclamation.

The Mayor and Council agreed to support the Council request to create a Certificate of Recognition for Education and Sharing Day on April 9, 2025, and add the Greek Genocide Remembrance Day proclamation to the May 2025 proclamation list.

#### **15. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:54 p.m.

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