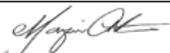


City of Rockville

City Hall
111 Maryland Ave
Rockville, MD 20850

Approved: 
Attest: 
Approved Meeting No. 08-25
March 17, 2025



Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 10, 2025

6:30 PM

Meeting No. 05-25

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 6:30 PM

Mayor and Council convened in a Hybrid Open Meeting at 6:32 pm on Monday, February 10, 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 - NONE

4. Agenda Review

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

5. City Manager's Report

The City Manager is monitoring the weather, and a decision on cancellations or closures will be made as soon as possible. The City is actively recruiting for a new Chief of Police, and a survey is online for residents to provide input. The City continues to monitor the activities of the State Legislation, including: House Bill 343, speed camera violation efficiencies, House Bill 232, Maryland’s version of a bottle bill, House Bill 1032, Montgomery County stop sign monitoring, House Bill 84, transportation and climate act to multi-modal systems that reduce greenhouse gases.

6. Boards and Commissions Appointments and Reappointments - 6:45 PM

A. Board and Commission Appointment and Reappointment

Councilmember David Myles moved the reappointment of Roy Deitchman to the Board of Appeals to serve a full three-year term until November 1, 2027.

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

Councilmember Marissa Valeri moved the reappointment of Michael Goldfinger to serve a full three-year term to the Historic District Commission until February 1, 2028.

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

Councilmember Barry Jackson moved the reappointment of Paula Perez to serve a full three-year term to the Retirement Board until July 1, 2028.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Barry Jackson, 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 the reappointment of Ellen Wicker to serve a full three-year term to the Senior Citizens Commission until February 1, 2028.

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

7. Community Forum

NAME	TOPIC
Erin Adams	Rent Stabilization

8. Special Presentations – NONE

9. Consent Agenda - 7:10 PM

- A. Award and Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract Responsive to IFB #05-25, for Mowing Services, to Lorenz, Inc. of Baltimore, Maryland, in an amount not-to-exceed \$350,000.00 for a Term of one year through October 31, 2025, with the option to renew the Contract for four (4) additional one-year periods through October 31, 2029.**
- B. Ratify and approve the City Manager’s earlier execution of a Grant Agreement with the State of Maryland in the amount of \$135,868 towards an upgrade to the City Exposure Management System.**

C. Approval of Minutes

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

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

10. Public Hearing – NONE

11. Action Items – NONE

12. Worksession

A. Work session - Mid-Year Report Presentation - Rockville Economic Development, Inc.

Cindy Rivarde, Chief Executive Officer of Rockville Economic Development, Inc. (REDI) and Deputy Director Richelle Wilson provided the Mid-Year report on REDI progress.

Questions from Mayor and Council were answered by the REDI team.

Worksession Summary:

Rockville Economic Development, Inc. (REDI) was established in 1997 as a 501 (c) (3) by the Mayor and Council to proactively support existing businesses and attract new businesses to the city among other purposes. REDI receives funding from the city pursuant to a Funding Agreement dated July 1, 2024. The Agreement requires both parties to fulfill certain obligations. One of those requirements is for REDI to present a mid-year report in February.

A summary of the REDI funding agreement and status was presented, including FY25 funding amounts from Rockville, and FY25 expenses. REDI FY25 total funding sources were identified, FY25 Incentive Grants. A list and summary of over 40 FY25 projects, City retail vacancy comparison date, business visits, achievements, awards and accolades, and upcoming FY25 projects.

FURTHER DISCUSSION

February 10, 2025, Agenda item 12A.

https://rockvillemd.granicus.com/player/clip/4967?view_id=2&redirect=true

Timestamp 10:00

B. Worksession - Market Overview - Jones Lang LaSalle Incorporated (JLL)

Consultants Morgan Sullivan, Michael Hartnett, and Tommy Lanowy Jones Lang LaSalle Incorporated, provided a Market Overview to Mayor and Council.

Worksession Summary:

JLL is a global real estate services company that helps clients, purchase, build, invest, and occupy real estate.

The JLL consultants provided a summary of the national office sector real estate leasing volumes and rent momentum trends for Rockville and surrounding areas, including data on the increase in return-to-office trends. The Metro DC market health was discussed, including pre and post pandemic data. The Artificial Intelligence (AI) revolution and its impact on the real estate market was presented. Suburban Maryland occupancy changes, vacancy, and leasing volume, and Rockville's office sector correction period, spurred by the pandemic. Distressed, demolished, repurposed assets, and the new trend towards Class A and Prime leasing. Venture capital trends, demographic insights and the outlook for Rockville's commercial real estate market was summarized and discussed.

FURTHER DISCUSSION

February 10, 2025, Agenda item 12B.

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Timestamp 1:09:17

13. Mock Agenda - 8:45 PM

Mayor and Council reviewed the Mock Agenda and there were no comments.

14. Old/New Business - 8:50 PM

Mayor and Council noted that the Montgomery Chapter of the Maryland Municipal League will be meeting with the County and municipalities on February 20 to discuss how to support the Federal workforce including support.

Mayor Ashton noted the 250th Anniversary of the Country is approaching in 2026 and requested the City work with Peerless Rockville, Rockville Historic Commission, Lincoln Park Historical Foundation and other organizations to look at what 4th of July would look like for Rockville as the County Seat marks the occasion.

Mayor and Council discussed upcoming state legislation, their current process for presenting state testimony and the potential for formalizing the testimony process going forward.

15. Adjournment - 9:16 PM

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

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