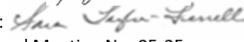


City of Rockville

City Hall
111 Maryland Ave
Rockville, MD 20850

Approved: 
Attest: 
Approved Meeting No. 05-25
February 10, 2025



Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 3, 2025

5:30 PM

Meeting No. 04-25

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 pm on Monday, February 3, 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. Certificates of Recognition for Rockville 2024 State Championship Student Athletes

The Mayor and Council presented certificate of recognition to championship coaches and students from High Schools in Rockville

Thomas S. Wootton High School

Boys Cross Country Team - 2024 Maryland Boys Cross Country Team Championship (Nov. 9, 2024)

2024 Maryland Boys Cross County Championship Team Members:

Kellie Redmond - Head Coach
Regina Gretchel - Assistant Coach
Alton Lightsey - Athletic Specialist
Adam Beckman - Student Athlete
Owen Berman - Student Athlete
Brandon Dickerson - Student Athlete
Nathan Downie - Student Athlete
Ellis Eppard - Student Athlete
Luke Gabrielle - Student Athlete
Brandon Kneisler - Student Athlete
David See - Student Athlete
Edward Sun - Student Athlete
Rendon Yerman - Student Athlete
Samuel Zinselmeier - Student Athlete

Richard Montgomery High School

Girls Volleyball Team – 2024 Maryland Girls Volleyball State Championship (2nd Consecutive after an undefeated season) (Nov. 16, 2024)

2024 Maryland Girls Volleyball Championship Team Members:

- Gretchen Barber-Strunk - Head Coach
- Jacob Achten - Assistant Coach
- Wes Carver – Assistant Coach
- Rebecca Garrigues - Assistant Coach
- Daniel Whitlow II - Athletic Specialist
- Makhi Abraham - Student Manager
- Bella Brennan - Student Athlete
- Keyontae Brinster - Student Manager
- Catie Chung – Student Athlete
- Sashesha Dhote - Student Athlete
- Ana Djordjevic – Student Athlete
- Ema Djordjevic – Student Athlete
- Jaymar Examen - Student Manager
- Chloe Kennedy - Student Manager
- Ellyn Kim - Student Athlete
- Corinne Howard - Student Athlete
- Elle Mitchell - Student Athlete
- Katie Mitchell - Student Athlete
- Hadley Mongan – Student Athlete
- Keefer Morsli – Student Manager
- Alicia Nguyen - Student Athlete
- Carly Nuñez – Student Athlete
- Cecilia Peele - Student Manager
- Emma Sotomayor - Student Athlete
- Nate Weinstein - Student Manager
- Jessica Yao - Student Athlete
- Amy Ye - Student Athlete

B. Proclamation Declaring February 2025, as Heart Month in Rockville, Maryland

Councilmember Kate Fulton moved the proclamation declaring February 2025, as Heart 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

C. Proclamation Declaring February 2025, as Black History Month in Rockville, Maryland

Mayor Monique Ashton read, and Councilmember Izola Shaw moved the proclamation declaring February 2025, as Black History Month in Rockville, Maryland, and presented it to Linda Plummer, President, Montgomery County Branch of the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) Henry Hailstock, member of the Gaithersburg/Rockville Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., and Lincoln Park Community members Anita Neal Powell and Ruth Ann Brown.

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

D. Proclamation Declaring February 28, 2025, as Rare Disease Day in Rockville, Maryland

Councilmember Barry Jackson moved the proclamation declaring February 28, 2025, as Rare Disease Day 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 6:02 PM. THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL RECONVENED AT 6:33 PM.

4. Agenda Review

City Clerk/Director of Council Operations Sara Taylor-Ferrell reported changes to agenda item #8 (vision Zero attachment updates) and added agenda item #9 (Consent Agenda) added.

5. City Manager's Report

The City Manager reported progress is being made on the King Farm Master Plan. Rockville Summer camp guides available online, and registration begins February 12. New legislative teams formed to focus on House bills that align with City's priorities.

The Legislative Priorities are as follows:

HB 80 – Land Use – Transit Oriented Development – Alterations

- Expands the use to TOD in Maryland Jurisdictions to add housing supply, and adds development near Metro rail stations.

Position – Hold/ No Position – additional research needed on the impact to Rockville.

HB 348 – Motor Vehicles – Speed Monitoring Systems – Safety Corridors

- Authorizes SHA to place speed cameras in “priority corridors” identified in the SHA pedestrian safety action, many of which are in or around municipalities.

Position: Support

HB 628 – Highways Sidewalks and Bicycle Pathways

- The State will prioritize funding for construction/reconstruction of sidewalks and bike paths adjacent to highways that have complete streets or vision zero plans.

Position: Support

HB 709 - Good Cause Eviction

- Authorizes a County to enact Good Cause Legislation that prohibits a landlord from failing to renew a lease during the lease period or seeking to terminate a holdover tenancy without good cause.

Position: Support

SB 609 – Residential Leases – Use of Algorithmic Device by Landlord to Determine Rent

- Prohibits a landlord from using certain algorithmic devices to determine the amount of rent to charge a residential tenant.

Position: Support

HB 801 – Maryland Financial Empowerment Center Network Pilot Program – Establishment

- Establishes a pilot program through the Comptroller’s Office to establish a Statewide financial empowerment center network of centers that provide free financial counseling/coaching services.

Position: Support

HB 489 – Maryland Department of Labor – Study on Building Code Requirements for Single Staircase Buildings

- Requires the Maryland Department of Labor to study and make recommendations for single-staircase buildings and forward a results report to the Governor by 12/1/25.

Position – Hold/No position. Additional information needed.

6. Boards and Commissions Appointments and Reappointments

A. Mayor and Council will appoint and reappoint the following members to the Boards and Commissions.

Councilmember Barry Jackson moved the reappointment of Alan Frankle to serve a full three-year term to the Board of Appeals until September 1, 2027.

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

Councilmember Adam Van Grack moved the reappointment of Peter Fosselman to serve a full three-year term to the Historic District Commission until February 1, 2028.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Adam Van Grack, Councilmember
SECONDER: Izola Shaw, 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 Kathleen Kleinmann to serve a full three-year term to the Transportation and Mobility Commission until February 1, 2028.

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

7. Community Forum

NAME	TOPIC
Mark Pierzchala	Town Center Master Plan, Zoning Ordinance.
Jeffrey Ganz	Zoning rewrite.
John Becker	Red light cameras, sidewalk conditions.

8. Special Presentations

A. Vision Zero Progress Update

Principal Transportation Planner, Bryan Barnett-Woods provided a progress update on Vision Zero.

City staff recommends the Mayor and Council receive a progress update briefing on the implementation of the City’s Vision Zero Action Plan, Pedestrian Master Plan, and Bikeway Master Plan.

The Vision Zero Action Plan was adopted by the Mayor and Council in July 2020. It includes 30 action items organized into four categories - Engineering, Education, Enforcement, and Policy - to eliminate all serious injury and fatal crashes by 2030. Updates for all action items are included in the Vision Zero Action Item Progress Report

Questions from the Mayor and Council were addressed in writing by staff and attached with responses to the February 3, 2025 briefbook, on the City Agenda Center.

FURTHER DISCUSSION

February 3, 2025, Agenda item 8A.

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Timestamp 50:47

9. Consent Agenda

A. Adoption of a Resolution to Authorize the Execution of Certain Employee Separation and Release Agreement

Councilmember Izola Shaw moved to approve consent agenda item A.

	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

10. Public Hearing - NONE

11. Action Items - NONE

12. Worksession - NONE

13. Mock Agenda

The Mayor noted that the Compensation and Classification item was removed from the February 10 meeting agenda.

14. Old/New Business

Mayor and Council understand the uncertainty Federal workers are experiencing and encourage them to reach out to Rockville Economic Development Inc. for support and training on developing business opportunities.

Mayor and Council congratulated Councilmember Van Grack and Chief West for participating in the Polar Bear Plunge. \$300,000.00 raised from this event supports the Special Olympics.

15. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm.

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