

# City of Rockville

City Hall  
111 Maryland Ave  
Rockville, MD 20850

Approved *Bridget Donnell Newton*  
Attest: *Ana Sofia Farrell*  
Approved Meeting No. 23-23  
August 7, 2023



## Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 5, 2023

6:30 PM

Meeting No. 18-23

WebEx

## Mayor and Council

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Bridget Donnell Newton	Mayor	Present
Monique Ashton	Councilmember	Present
Beryl L. Feinberg	Councilmember	Present
David Myles	Councilmember	Present
Mark Pierzchala	Councilmember	Present

**1. Convene**

The Mayor and Council convened in a hybrid Open Meeting Session at 6:32 p.m. on Monday, June 5, 2023, in the Mayor and Council Chambers, City Hall, 111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland, and via WebEx.

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

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Agenda Review**

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

**4. City Manager's Report**

City Manager, Rob DiSpirito provided a brief summary of city events.

The 2023 Hometown Holidays event was a great success and exceeded expectations. Estimates are that this year's attendance is double the attendance in 2022. The outdoor recreation pool at the Rockville Swim Center opened on May 27, 2023. The pool will open on weekends until the Montgomery County Public School semester ends; then the pool will be open daily. The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Rockville Pride event in Rockville Town Square is on Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup> from 1-4 p.m.

**5. Proclamation and Recognition**

**A.** Proclamation Declaring June 14, 2023, as Flag Day in Rockville, Maryland

Councilmember David Myles read and moved the proclamation declaring June 14, 2023, as Flag Day In Rockville, Maryland.

	<b>RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	David Myles, Councilmember
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Mark Pierzchala, Councilmember
<b>IN FAVOR:</b>	Mayor Newton, Councilmember Ashton, Councilmember Feinberg, Councilmember Myles, Councilmember Pierzchala

**B. Proclamation Declaring June 19, 2023, as Juneteenth in Rockville, Maryland**

Councilmember Beryl L. Feinberg read and moved the proclamation declaring June 19, 2023, as Juneteenth in Rockville, Maryland, and presented to Ms. Anita Neal Powell.

	<b>RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Beryl L. Feinberg, Councilmember
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Monique Ashton, Councilmember
<b>IN FAVOR:</b>	Mayor Newton, Councilmember Ashton, Councilmember Feinberg, Councilmember Myles, Councilmember Pierzchala

**C. Proclamation Declaring June 2023, as LGBTQ+ Pride Month.**

Councilmember Monique Ashton read and moved the proclamation declaring June 2023, as LGBTQ+ Pride Month in Rockville, Maryland, and presented to Mr. Andrew Lin, Co-Chair of the Rockville Human Rights Commission.

	<b>RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Monique Ashton, Councilmember
<b>SECONDER:</b>	David Myles, Councilmember
<b>IN FAVOR:</b>	Mayor Newton, Councilmember Ashton, Councilmember Feinberg, Councilmember Myles, Councilmember Pierzchala

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

**7. Community Forum**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>
Shyama Bhatt, Miss Rockville	Diversity and women in science; Project Health
Marissa Valeri	MPDU Rent Increase
Izola Shaw	MPDU Rent Increase
Lilit Ghazaryan	MPDU Rent Increase

## 8. Presentations

### A. Presentation of Environmental Excellence Awards

Clark Reed, Chair of the Rockville Environment Commission and Commissioner Sue Koester recommended that the Mayor and Council present the 2023 Environmental Excellence Award to Rishi Iyer and Mark Wright.

Staff recommends that the Mayor and Council concur with the Environment Commission's award selections and present the awards to the Environmental Excellence winners with Clark Reed, Chair of the Environment Commission and Commissioner Sue Koester.

Mayor and Council presented the 2023 Environmental Excellence Award to Rishi Iyer and Mark Wright.

### B. Annual Report Human Services Advisory Commission 2023 Accomplishments and FY2024 Goals.

Amanda Schwartz, Chair of the Human Services Advisory Commission presented Mayor and Council with a brief summary of the Commission's 2023 accomplishments and FY2024 goals.

Questions from the Mayor and Council were addressed by staff and representatives from the Human Services Advisory Commission. The Mayor and Council provided their thoughts and comments.

### C. Moderately Priced Dwelling Units (MPDU) Annual Maximum Monthly Rent Scheduled for 2023/FY2024 (Exact title pulled from outline on the agenda and approved)

Rockville Senior Housing Policy Analyst, Joseph Micallef, presented Mayor and Council with the Moderately Priced Dwelling Units (MPDU) Annual Maximum Monthly Rent Schedule for FY2023/FY2024.

Staff recommends the Mayor and Council receive the presentation on the 2023/FY2024 Moderately Priced Dwelling Unit rent maximum schedule.

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

## **FURTHER DISCUSSION**

June 12, 2023, Agenda Item 8

[https://rockvillemd.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view\\_id=2&clip\\_id=4714](https://rockvillemd.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=4714)

Video Timestamp 42:09

**9. Consent Agenda**

- A.** Award and Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Rider Contract with Pleasants Construction, Inc., of Clarksburg, MD, for an Amount Not to Exceed \$617,473.50, for Trenchless Pipe Rehabilitation Cured in Place Pipe Lining.
- B.** Approve the award of a Design-Build Contract with Centennial Contractors Enterprises, Inc. of Reston, Virginia, that is based on Sourcewell Cooperative Contract #MD-R3-GC02-052621-CCE, State of Maryland - Indefinite Delivery-Indefinite Quantity Construction Contracts; and Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Contract in the Amount of \$599,853.93 for the Gude Yard Recycling Enclosure Project.
- C.** Authorization for the City Manager to Sign the Maryland Department of Transportation Agreement Related to the Awarded Transportation Alternatives Program Grant.

Councilmember Mark Pierzchala moved to modify consent agenda item C.

	<b>RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Mark Pierzchala, Councilmember
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Monique Ashton, Councilmember
<b>IN FAVOR:</b>	Mayor Newton, Councilmember Ashton, Councilmember Feinberg, Councilmember Myles, Councilmember Pierzchala

Councilmember Beryl L. Feinberg moved to approve consent agendas item A, B, and C as amended.

	<b>RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Beryl L. Feinberg, Councilmember
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Mark Pierzchala, Councilmember
<b>IN FAVOR:</b>	Mayor Newton, Councilmember Ashton, Councilmember Feinberg, Councilmember Myles, Councilmember Pierzchala

**FURTHER DISCUSSION**

June 5, 2023, Agenda Item 9  
[https://rockvillemd.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view\\_id=2&clip\\_id=4714](https://rockvillemd.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=4714)  
Video Timestamp 2:22:27

**THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL WENT INTO A BRIEF RECESS AT 8:56 P.M. THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL RECONVENED AT 9:06 P.M.**

**10. Public Hearing - NONE**

**11. FY2024 Budget Debrief**

**A. FY 2024 Budget Debrief**

City of Rockville Deputy Director of Finance, Kimberly Francisco, provided Mayor and Council with an overview of the FY2024 Budget Debrief.

Staff recommends the Mayor and Council review the summary of the FY 2024 budget process, note plans for the next budget process, and share feedback.

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

**FURTHER DISCUSSION**

June 5, 2023, Agenda Item 11

[https://rockvillemd.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view\\_id=2&clip\\_id=4714](https://rockvillemd.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=4714)

Video Timestamp 2:24:25

**12. Introduction, Discussion and Instruction, Possible Adoption**

**B. Discussion and Instructions to Staff on Zoning Text Amendment TXT2023-00263, to Allow Accessory Apartments as Conditional Uses in Residential Zones; Mayor and Council of Rockville, Applicants**

City of Rockville Community Planning and Development Chief of Zoning, Jim Wasilak, provided Mayor and Council with a brief presentation of the Zoning Text Amendment (ZTA) TXT2023-00263, to Allow Accessory Apartments as Conditional Uses in Residential Zones, Mayor and Council of Rockville, Applicants.

Staff recommends that the Mayor and Council discuss the proposed text amendment and the testimony received and provide staff direction on the preparation of the ordinance if the Mayor and Council wishes to approve. Staff recommends the ordinance be changed based upon the Planning Commission's recommendation and return to Mayor and Council for approval. Staff supports the approval because it streamlines the process for obtaining an accessory apartment (attached accessory dwelling unit) and, in part, provides for more housing opportunities in our community.

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

**FURTHER DISCUSSION**

June 5, 2023, Agenda Item 11

[https://rockvillemd.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view\\_id=2&clip\\_id=4714](https://rockvillemd.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=4714)

Video Timestamp 3:46:48

**13. Review and Comment - Action Report - NONE**

**14. Future Agendas - Reference**

**A. Future Agendas**

The Mayor and Council reviewed Future Agendas.

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

**15. Old/New Business**

Mayor Newton suggested the Mayor and Council meetings be organized so that the first meeting of the month is a business meeting, second meeting is a worksession, and the third meeting of the month is presentations.

Councilmember Pierzchala asked that City staff and Rockville Police investigate adding speed cameras to West Gude Drive and Wootton Parkway to help calm traffic.

Councilmember Ashton requested that staff allow the community to have input on the design of the Gude Drive Senior Center berm and driveway access.

Councilmember Ashton requested that staff work with and the Board of Supervisors of Elections and IT to make sure election information is operational with screen readers.

Mayor Newton suggested the body support the original antisemitism resolutions drafted by Chevy Chase Mayor Rush and signed-off by 12 additional communities. and craft a separate resolution with Rockville specific items, and also discuss the telework policy and number of days employees should be in the office.

**FURTHER DISCUSSION**

June 5, 2023, Agenda Item 11

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Video Timestamp 4:59:40

**16. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

**RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**

**MOVER:** Beryl L. Feinberg, Councilmember

**SECONDER:** Monique Ashton, Councilmember

**IN FAVOR:** Mayor Newton, Councilmember Ashton, Councilmember Feinberg,  
Councilmember Myles, Councilmember Pierzchala