



Howard County Council

George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043-4392

COUNCILMEMBERS

Liz Walsh, Chair
District 1
Opel Jones, Vice Chair
District 2
Christiana Rigby
District 3
Deb Jung
District 4
David Yungmann
District 5

Minutes - Approved

Budget Public Hearing - Capital and Operating
Thursday, May 8, 2025
Hybrid Meeting (In-Person and WebEx)
Video Streamed on <https://cc.howardcountymd.gov/watch-us>
Broadcast on channels 44(Verizon), 99 and 1071(Comcast)
9:30 a.m.

Members Present: Council Chair Liz Walsh, Vice Chair Opel Jones, Council Member Deb Jung, Council Member Christiana Rigby and Council Member David Yungmann were present.

Staff Present: Michelle Harrod, Council Administrator; Gary Kuc, County Solicitor; Amanda Mihill, Assistant County Solicitor; Isaiah Anderson, Executive Assistant; Nick Rinehart, Senior Legislative Analyst; Chris Ashman, County Auditor; Jennifer Sager, Legislative Coordinator; and Rozonna Hightower, Administrative Assistant, were also present.

- I. Called to Order at 9:30 AM
- II. Roll Call
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Capital Budget and Operating Budget
 - a. Angela Huang - Student, Centennial High School, called to speak
 - b. Isha Ande - Student, Mount Hebron High School, called to speak
 - c. Jessamine Duvall - Columbia Housing Center, called to speak
 - d. Amanda Hoff - Executive Director, Howard County Tourism, called to speak
 - e. Brendan Murray, called to speak
- V. Closed Session
 - A. Section 3-305(b)(1) to discuss a personnel matter. The topic is compensation, employment, performance evaluation, and assignment of one or more specific employees

At the end of the Council's Thursday, May 8, 2025, Budget Public Hearing, the Council determined the need for a Closed Session. The open portion of which was held in the Banneker Room. Chair Liz Walsh moved that the meeting be closed in accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland to discuss a personnel matter, the topic was compensation, employment, performance evaluation, and assignment of one or more specific employees. Council Member Opel Jones seconded the motion.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion was: Yea: Council Members Liz Walsh, Opel Jones, Deb Jung, Christiana Rigby, and David Yungmann. The motion to close the meeting in accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland passed.

The Council moved to the C. Vernon Gray room to meet in closed session.

Adjourned Public Hearing at 10:06 AM

Statement of Closed Session

As required by Section 3-306(c)(2), of the *General Provisions* Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the following is a report of the County Council's closed session of May 8, 2025. The County Council met in closed session at 10:11 a.m. on May 8, 2025, in the C. Vernon Gray Room, pursuant to Section 3-305(b)(1) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland to discuss a personnel matter, the topic was compensation, employment, performance evaluation, and assignment of one or more specific employees.

The topics actually discussed were compensation, employment, and assignment of one or more specific employees.

Action taken during closed session:

Council authorized the Council Auditor to work with Human Resources regarding a conditional offer of employment for a candidate for the Deputy Auditor position.

Council authorized the County Administrator and Council Auditor to work with Human Resources regarding the evaluation of two specific employees' compensation.

Council did not approve a change in assignment for two specific employees.

Council Member Yungmann moved to renew a contract for one specific person. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rigby.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to renew a contract for one specific person was: Yea: Council Members Rigby, Jones, and Yungmann. Nay: Council Member Jung and Walsh. The motion to appoint renew a contract for one specific person passed.

The following people were present at the closed session:

Council Members Present for the Closed Session: Liz Walsh; Opel Jones; Deb Jung; Christiana Rigby; and David Yungmann.

Staff present: Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council; Chris Ashman, County Auditor; Theo Wimberly, Administrative Manager, Brandee Ganz, Chief Administrative Officer; and Anju Bennett, Administrator Human Resources.

The closed session ended at **11:16 a.m.**