



City of Annapolis

160 Duke Of Gloucester
Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Special Meeting Minutes City Council

Monday, April 28, 2025

7:00 PM

Mayor John T. Chambers, Jr.
City Council Chambers

Special Meeting

Call To Order

Mayor Buckley called the Special Meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Invocation

Given by Alderwoman Finlayson.

Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Mayor Buckley.

Roll Call

Tonight's roll call began with Alderwoman O'Neill.

Present: 8 - Mayor Buckley, Alderman Huntley, Alderwoman O'Neill, Alderwoman Pindell Charles, Alderwoman Finlayson, Alderman Schandelmeier, Alderman Savidge and Alderman Arnett

Absent: 1 - Alderman Gay

Approval of Agenda

Alderman Huntley moved to approve the AGENDA as AMENDED TO ADD: R-25-25, Temporarily Waiving Certain Citations for Waterfront Uses in R4 District on first reader and to REMOVE R-2-25 Demonstration Program to Build Green Roofs on City Bus Shelters ON SECOND READER from tonight's agenda. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.

PETITIONS, REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS

Update from Mayor

I'd like to begin tonight by remembering longtime City employee Sylvia Gilmer who was laid to rest on Saturday. She retired in 2014, but had spent more than two decades in an administrative role with the Annapolis Police Department.

During her 24 years with APD, Sylvia was known for her strong work ethic and outgoing personality. On behalf of the City Council, we send our condolences to her family, friends, and colleagues. She will be greatly missed.

[moment of silence]

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Thank you.

We had a great weekend with the spring boat show in town. It was a little soggy on Saturday, but the crowds didn't seem to mind. We thank our boat show partners for staging around our preliminary work at City Dock.

Speaking of City Dock, work there is getting underway in earnest this spring and summer. The old Harbormaster building was demolished earlier this month and recently we received final approvals from Maryland Historic Trust for the new Harbormaster Office and its connection to Burtis House. We're proud to have met all requirements of the lead preservation agency within our state and I thank everyone who worked towards this important goal.

Now we move to undertaking all the necessary preliminary work: removing ten ugly utility poles and 16 transformers, then widening the sidewalk so we can install utility vaults underground along with realigning the storm drains along Dock Street. All this will make a huge difference to the downtown experience, even before we start construction on the new park.

You will see new construction fencing going up at City Dock during the second week of May as we get started. The fencing will be moved throughout the project as the contractors work in different locations - doing archeological work in one place, underground utilities work in another. This is the essential site work required prior to ground breaking and full construction after the fall boat show.

To help our residents and visitors navigate the area during construction, we will install wayfinding signs for Watermark Cruises, Latitude 38, the Harbormaster, dockside restrooms and showers, and the mobile hub for Visit Annapolis, where visitors can pick up maps, brochures and personalized recommendations for downtown Annapolis attractions.

We thank you all in advance for your patience while we work our way to a more resilient and sustainable Annapolis City Dock. The new City Dock Park will not only provide essential flood protection, it will be a beautiful public space for all!

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Also this weekend, Rec and Parks managed the citywide Greenscape program. The city buys the plants and volunteers in all Wards clean up patches of public greenspace, plant the plants, and enjoy time with their neighbors on a beautiful spring day.

We thank all our Greenscape volunteers for helping us to keep Annapolis beautiful.

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This Wednesday, April 30, we will close out National Poetry month by celebrating the publication of the 4th annual edition of “Around Each Corner,” the City’s youth poetry book.

Come listen to the inspiring words of 18 talented young poets from our community as they share their visions, hopes, and stories about the theme ‘where I am from’. That’s 6 p.m. on Wednesday April 30 right here in City Council Chambers. Refreshments will be served.

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This Thursday is May 1 when Annapolitans put May Baskets out on the door, stoop, or in front of their business to celebrate May Day.

For the 70th year, the Garden Club of Old Annapolis Towne will judge baskets in historic downtown and parts of inner Murray Hill. Winning baskets get a ribbon and an invitation to a tea party. If you are in those areas and want to be included in the judging, remember to tag your basket with your name and theme of your basket.

But you don’t need to live downtown to hang a May Day Basket! You can put your displays in any area of the city!

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This Saturday, May 4, the Kick Gas EV event at the Annapolis Mall will host Electric Vehicles and proudly feature Annapolis Transit’s EV offerings including the all-new 100 percent electric 22-seater transit bus and the all-electric ten-minute trolleys that spend weekends circling Maryland Avenue/State Circle in downtown, and also in Eastport between the shopping center and numbered streets.

Stop by the mall between noon and 3 pm to check these out and talk to individual EV owners to hear about their experience.

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On May 10, we look forward to taking part in the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr parade. The parade will start at 11am on Amos Garrett, then move down West Street, to Church Circle, then turn left and proceed to Northwest Street and along to the festival site at People’s Park on Calvert Street.

The parade will be followed by the African Diaspora Festival, which will take place at People’s Park from 12-8pm. There will be music, arts and crafts, lots of great food and more! So come along for some fun and color in celebration of the legacy, endurance, and rich cultural contribution of all those descended from African migration - both voluntary and involuntary. I hope to see you there!

On the same day, the .05K Eastport Bridge Run, will also be taking place – described by Runner’s World magazine as the “least challenging athletic event ever conceived.” The foot race over the bridge will take place at the crack of noon.

This event is over quickly - the bridge will be closed to traffic for about the same duration as a regular drawspan opening.

Again, all these events are Saturday, May 10th.

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Toward the end of next month, we are looking forward to Commissioning Week. I’ll have more details for you at our next council meeting, but be aware that activities will take place

from May 17th to 22nd, with the commissioning ceremony on the 23rd. It's a busy time in Annapolis so it's good to plan ahead!

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Lastly, Sunday May 11th is Mother's Day! A day to celebrate all the incredible mums out there who lift us up — that's moms, grandmothers, stepmoms, and the amazing people who fill the role of 'mom' in every form. To you we say, "Happy Mother's Day!"

I'm especially grateful for my wife Julie, who is an incredible mother to our two children.

Here at City Hall, we find ourselves lucky to work alongside so many talented moms who serve this City every day with heart and dedication. To the children of those mums: thank you for sharing!

To all the moms across Annapolis — Happy Mother's Day!

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Now let's get on with our meeting.

Reports by Committees

Standing Committee Dates:

Finance Committee Special Meeting - BUDGET Dates:

Tuesday, April 29, 2025 - 09:00 AM

Thursday, May 01, 2025 - 09:00 AM

Monday, May 05, 2025 - 09:00 AM

Tuesday, May 06, 2025 - 09:00 AM

Thursday, May 08, 2025 - 01:00 PM

Rules and City Government Committee Meeting

Friday, May 02, 2025 - 01:00 PM

Public Safety Committee Regular Meeting

Monday, May 05, 2025 - 06:30 PM

Environmental Matters Committee Regular Meeting

Thursday, May 08, 2025 - 03:00 PM

Comments by the General Public

Speakers:

Efe Brock, 1306 President Street, Annapolis, Maryland 21403.

Mayor Buckley declared comments from the general public closed.

BUSINESS & MISCELLANEOUS

Appointments

[AP-10-25](#)

Re-Appointment - Recommendation - Ms. Sharon Elliot

Attachments: [AP-10-25](#)

Alderman Huntley moved to approve AP-10-25. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.

Supplemental Appropriations \$50,000 & Above

[SA-29-25](#) **Capital - Department of Public Works - Capital Reserve**

Attachments: [SA-29-25](#)

Alderman Schandelmeier moved to approve SA-29-25. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.

[SA-30-25](#) **General - Department of Planning Zoning - Reserve for one time uses**

Attachments: [SA-30-25](#)

Alderdwoman O'Neill moved to approve SA-30-25. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.

[SA-31-25](#) **General Fund - Federal Emergency Management Agency Grant - City Manager/Supplies and Other**

Attachments: [SA-31-25](#)

Alderman Arnett moved to approve SA-31-25. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Ordinances

[O-10-25](#)

Annual Budget and Appropriation and Property Tax Levy - For the purpose of adopting the City Budget, comprising the Annual Operating Budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the Capital Budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the Capital Improvement Program for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2027, June 30, 2028, June 30, 2029, June 30, 2030, and June 30, 2031; appropriating funds for all expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026; levying and imposing a property tax for the use of the City of Annapolis for the taxable year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026; and fixing the rate of the City property tax for the taxable year.

Sponsors: Buckley

Attachments: [O-10-25 First Reader](#)

[O-10-25 Fiscal Impact Note](#)

[O-10-25 Appendix A](#)

[O-10-25 Appendix B](#)

[O-10-25 Appendix C](#)

[O-10-25 Appendix D](#)

[O-10-25 Appendix E](#)

[O-10-25 Staff Report to Planning Commission with Attachments](#)

Speakers:

Cindy Dommissie, 144 Spa Drive, Annapolis, Maryland 21403.

Tom Berger, 170 Duke of Gloucester Street, Annapolis, Maryland 21401.

Efe Brock, 1306 President Street, Annapolis, Maryland 21403.

John Taylor, 144 Spa Road, Annapolis, Maryland 21403.

Mayor Buckley declared the public hearing on O-10-25 OPEN.

[O-11-25](#)**Arts in Public Places Commission Update and Revisions**

For the purpose of moving the Arts in Public Places Commission from Title 6, the revenue and finance Title of the City Code, to Title 2, Chapter 2.48 dealing with boards, commissions, and committees; placing oversight of the Arts in Places Commission under the Planning and Zoning Director instead of the Recreation and Parks Director; and generally dealing with the Arts in Public Places Commission duties and responsibilities.

Sponsors: O'Neill and Huntley

Attachments: [O-11-25 First Reader](#)

[O-11-25 Legislative Summary](#)

[O-11-25 Staffing Impact Report](#)

[O-11-25 Staff Report](#)

[O-11-25 Fiscal Impact Note](#)

Speakers:

Lynn Farrow, 1901 McGuckian Street, Annapolis, Maryland 21401.

Peter Fyles, 152 Conduit Street, Annapolis, Maryland 21401.

Mayor Buckley declared the public hearing on O-11-25 CLOSED.

Resolutions

[R-17-25](#)**2025 Transit Development Plan for the City of Annapolis**

For the purpose of approving the City of Annapolis Transit Development Plan that is updated every five years.

Sponsors: Buckley

Attachments: [R-17-25 First Reader](#)

[R-17-25 Staff Report](#)

[R-17-25 Staffing Impact Report](#)

[R-17-25 Fiscal Impact Note](#)

[R-17-25 Annapolis Transit Development - Draft Plan - March 2025](#)

Speakers:

Krista Margaret, 820 Janice Drive, Annapolis, Maryland 21403.

Mayor declared the public hearing on R-17-25 CLOSED.

R-20-25

FY 2026 Annual Fees Schedule - For the purpose of specifying fees that will be charged for the use of City services for Fiscal Year 2026; and providing an effective date.

Sponsors: Buckley

Attachments: [R-20-25 First Reader](#)

[R-20-25 Fiscal Impact Note](#)

[R-20-25 Proposed FY 2026 Fees Schedule](#)

Speakers:

Efe Brock, 1306 President Street, Annapolis, Maryland 21403.

Mayor declared the public hearing on R-20-25 CLOSED.

R-21-25

FY 2026 Fines Schedule - For the purpose of specifying fines that will be charged for Fiscal Year 2026; and providing an effective date.

Sponsors: Buckley

Attachments: [R-21-25 First Reader](#)

[R-21-25 Fiscal Impact Note](#)

[R-21-25 Proposed FY 2026 Fines Schedule](#)

Speakers:

Efe Brock, 1306 President Street, Annapolis, Maryland 21403.

Mayor declared the public hearing on R-21-25 CLOSED.

The order of the agenda was amended to allow for.....

LEGISLATIVE ACTION**First Reader****Resolution**

[R-25-25](#)**Temporarily Waiving Specific Citations for Waterfront Activities in R4 Districts**

For the purpose of allowing boat rentals, charters, and charter services to operate on the waterfront in R4 (residential) zoning districts during the summer without the risk of citations, while the Annapolis City Council reviews O-9-25, which proposes changes to R4 zoning regulations.

Sponsors: Arnett

Attachments: [R-25-25 First Reader](#)

Alderman Schandelmeier moved to adopt R-25-25 on first reader. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.

Alderman Arnett moved to suspend the rules to allow passage of the resolution at the meeting of its introduction. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.

Alderman Arnett moved to adopt R-25-25 on second reader. Seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The motion CARRIED by the following vote:

Aye: 8 - Mayor Buckley, Alderman Huntley, Alderwoman O'Neill, Alderwoman Pindell Charles, Alderwoman Finlayson, Alderman Schandelmeier, Alderman Savidge and Alderman Arnett

Absent: 1 - Alderman Gay

The order of the agenda was resumed.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

SECOND READERS

Resolutions

[R-15-25](#)

Friendship City Relationship with Frankston, Australia - For the purpose of authorizing a friendship city relationship between Annapolis, Maryland and Frankston, in the State of Victoria, Australia.

Attachments: [R-15-25 First Reader](#)

[R-15-25 Staffing Impact Report](#)

[R-15-25 Staff Report](#)

[R-15-25 Fiscal Impact Note](#)

Alderman Arnett moved to adopt R-15-25 on second reader. A roll call vote was taken. The motion CARRIED by the following vote:

Aye: 8 - Mayor Buckley, Alderman Huntley, Alderwoman O'Neill, Alderwoman Pindell Charles, Alderwoman Finlayson, Alderman Schandelmeier, Alderman Savidge and Alderman Arnett

Absent: 1 - Alderman Gay

Alderwoman Pindell Charles - Cosponsor Added.

[R-19-25](#)

Memorial Honoring the Life and Legacy of the Late U.S. Representative Parren J. Mitchell For the purpose of dedicating a memorial at the City of Annapolis Pip Moyer Recreation Center in honor of the late U.S. Representative Parren J. Mitchell (D-MD), the first African-American elected to Congress from Maryland.

Sponsors: Buckley, Schandelmeier, Finlayson and Huntley

Attachments: [R-19-25 First Reader](#)

[R-19-25 Staffing Impact Report](#)

[R-19-25 Staff Report](#)

[R-19-25 Fiscal Impact Note](#)

[R-19-25 Amendment 1 - Savidge](#)

Alderman Arnett moved to adopt R-19-25 on second reader. Seconded.

Alderman Savidge moved to amend R-19-25 as follows:

Amendment #1:

1) On page 3, before the subtitle "Memorial", insert the following:

ANNAPOLIS CONNECTIONS

WHEREAS, While Rep. Mitchell represented Maryland's 7th congressional district, covering the Baltimore area, he advocated for the people and causes in the Annapolis area, becoming a de facto congressman for the city; and
WHEREAS, In 1974, U.S. Rep. Mitchell partnered with the Anne Arundel County NAACP in their successful efforts to make Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday a state holiday. Maryland became the second state in the nation to do so; and

WHEREAS, During this time, Rep. Mitchell met Daryl Jones, a student at the University of Maryland at College Park, and encouraged Mr. Jones to run for public office. Mr. Jones went on to become the first African American male to serve on the Anne Arundel County Council; and
WHEREAS, Congressman Mitchell's mentoring of Daryl Jones had a cascading effect in Annapolis politics. Mr. Jones campaigned for Carl Snowden when he was elected alderman in 1985 and served three terms, and he also supported Alderwomen Classie Hoyle and Cynthia Carter during their campaigns; and

WHEREAS, Congressman Mitchell was a strong advocate for residents living in public and subsidized housing, successfully fighting to preserve Bloomsbury

Square in Annapolis, an affordable housing community that the State of Maryland planned to demolish; and

WHEREAS, Congressman Mitchell also supported Elizame Robinson, who led the longest rent strike in Annapolis's history in 1975. Additionally, he championed the cause of Newtowne 19, which is now known as Admiral Oaks; and

WHEREAS, On July 18, 1978, Congressman Mitchell spoke on the U.S. House floor about Black Annapolitans' efforts to enact change in the city, and that can be found today in the Congressional Record; and

WHEREAS, Congressman Mitchell was a trailblazer and a pathfinder, and without him there might not have been Governor Wes Moore, Attorney General Anthony Brown, Senator Shaneka Henson, Councilman Pete Smith, or Sheriff Everett Sesker; and

2) On page 3, delete lines 11-12 and insert the following:

WHEREAS, The nonprofit Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee, Inc., spearheads this \$100,000 project, with the funding coming from private donors, including St. John's College and the First Presbyterian Church of Annapolis; Seconded. **CARRIED** on voice vote.

Alderman Arnett moved to adopt R-19-25 as amended on second reader. Seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The motion CARRIED by the following vote:

Aye: 8 - Mayor Buckley, Alderman Huntley, Alderwoman O'Neill, Alderwoman Pindell Charles, Alderwoman Finlayson, Alderman Schandelmeier, Alderman Savidge and Alderman Arnett

Absent: 1 - Alderman Gay

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion duly made, seconded and adopted, the Special Meeting was adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Regina C. Watkins-Eldridge, MMC
City Clerk