



Howard County Council

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

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

Minutes - Approved

Special Meeting and Closed Session Meeting
Tuesday, February 17, 2026
George Howard Building, Banneker Room
Hybrid Meeting (Virtual and In-Person Meeting)
Video Streamed on <https://cc.howardcountymd.gov/watch-us>
6:00 p.m.

The Chairperson convened a special meeting at **6:01 p.m.** in the Banneker Room.

Council Members Present for the Special Meeting to Determine Closed Session: Opel Jones, Deb Jung, and David Yungmann.

Staff present: Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council; Gary Kuc, County Solicitor; Amanda Mihill, Assistant County Solicitor; Isaiah Anderson, Executive Assistant I; and Trish Hammond, Administrative Assistant.

The County Council held a Special Meeting to determine the need for a closed session on February 17, 2026, at 6:01 p.m. The open portion of the meeting was held in the Banneker Room. The Council then determined the need for a closed session on February 17, 2026, which was convened at 6:07 p.m.

During open session, Chair Opel Jones moved that the meeting be closed in accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1) and (7) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom the County Council has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; and to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter. The topics were performance and compensation of one or more specific employees and legal advice from counsel regarding that personnel matter. Council Member Deb Jung seconded the motion.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion was: Yea: Council Members Opel Jones, Deb Jung, and David Yungmann.

The motion to close the meeting in accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1) and (7) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland passed.

The Council moved from the Banneker Room to the Council's Large Conference Room to meet in closed session.

The Council discussed performance and compensation of one or more specific employees and legal advice from counsel regarding that topic. Actions taken by Council during the Closed Session include the following; by consensus Council Members requested an investigation.

The closed session ended at **7:02 p.m.**

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 February 17, 2026. The County Council met in closed session at 6:07 p.m. on February 17, 2026, in the Council's Large Conference Room, pursuant to Section 3-305(b)(1) and (7) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom the County Council has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; and to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter. The topics were performance and compensation of one or more specific employees and legal advice from counsel regarding that personnel matter.

The topics actually discussed were performance and compensation of one or more specific employees and legal advice from counsel regarding that personnel matter. Actions taken by Council during the Closed Session include the following; by consensus Council Members requested an investigation.

The following people were present at the closed session:

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

Staff present: Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council; Gary Kuc, County Solicitor; Amanda Mihill, Assistant County Solicitor; Brandee Ganz, Chief Administrative Officer; Anju Bennett, Human Resources Administrator; and Chris Ashman, County Council Auditor.

The closed session ended at **7:02 p.m.**

Persons needing accommodations to fully participate in the meeting, please contact the Council Office, 410-313-2001 or email CouncilADA@howardcountymd.gov