



# COUNCILWOMAN HOPE LOVE HOST CITY WIDE TAX/COVID-19 INFORMATION EVENT



**On March 27, 2023, Councilwoman Hope Love (Ward II), Chairman of the Seat Pleasant Budget and Finance Committee, hosted the “Taxes: Where Do We Stand? Where Do We go?” and COVID-19 Updates city-wide event at the Seat Pleasant Activity Center.**

**Councilmember Love held this event in response to receiving numerous inquiries from residents concerning misunderstandings about increases in personal property taxes in the city. This issue resulted in 100+ residents assembling for a panel discussion to gain clarification on this matter. The event also included a tasty full course dinner before the discussion.**

**Panelists included Mr. Vito Tinelli, Treasurer for the City of Bladensburg, who was on hand to explain the Maryland Constant Yield Tax rate. This is the tax rate which is needed to produce the same revenue from property tax as was produced in the previous year. Property owners are given the opportunity to voice their concerns annually at a public meeting prior to the rate setting if they are considering a tax rate higher than the Constant Yield Tax Rate.**

**Mr. Jonathan Glaser, Legislative Director at the Maryland State Department of Assessment and Taxation (SDAT) discussed the way personal property taxes are determined and why they may increase. If your property value increases due to home improvements, this will increase your personal property tax and vice versa. To receive the most accurate personal property tax bill, Mr. Glaser provided information to residents on how to receive free of charge an updated appraisal on their homes to determine the most accurate property value of their home.**

**Also, in attendance was Dr. Melodye R. Battens-Mickens, Deputy Director of the Prince George's County Office of Homeland Security, Emergency Management Division, who provided updates on the COVID-19 pandemic in our region. Prince George's County, like all counties in the state is at the “low” community level, which means positive tests and new cases are continuously declining. As of March 15, 2023, 85.8% of county residents have received at least one vaccine; 79% of county residents are fully vaccinated; and 2% hospitalizations are COVID-19 patients. She encouraged residents as they became eligible to get an updated COVID-19 bivalent booster.**

**Speakers were on hand to talk with residents one on one after the panel discussion**

## APRIL NEWSLETTER

# Photos from the Tax Event

A SMART CITY OF EXCELLENCE



**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**

Attention all residents of Seat Pleasant! We are looking for volunteers to help with our upcoming beautification projects and city-wide events. If you're interested in lending a hand and making our community a better place to live, please register online at [www.seatpleasantmd.gov](http://www.seatpleasantmd.gov). We need your help to make these events a success, so don't hesitate to sign up and make a difference today! Thank you for your support.

**City Council Monthly Meeting & Legislation Action  
Office of the City Clerk**

**April/May 2023**

**Legislation:**

- The City Council did not introduce or approve any legislation in the month of April 2023.

**Meeting Minutes:**

The City Council approved the March 2023 Meeting Minutes on Monday, April 10, 2023:

- Regular Work Session Meeting Minutes for Monday, March 6, 2023, Approved 5-1-0
- Closed Session Meeting Minutes for Monday, March 6, 2023, Approved 6-0-0
- Public Session Meeting Minutes for Monday, March 13, 2023, Approved 6-0-0
- Ward V Vacancy Public Hearing Meeting Minutes for Monday, March 20, 2023, Approved 6-0-0
- Closed Session Meeting Minutes for Monday, March 20, 2023, Approved 6-0-0

The Council meetings for May will be as follows:

Regular Work Session, Monday, May 1, 2023, at 6:00p.m. via Zoom Webinar:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88505471906?  
pwd=a3QvY1Zpdjk2b1FZR1p4VFN3RV A0Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88505471906?pwd=a3QvY1Zpdjk2b1FZR1p4VFN3RV A0Zz09)

Public Session, Monday, May 8, 2023, at 7:00p.m. via Zoom Webinar:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81671399813?  
pwd=RUI0QIRoTG45d0trN1VFbFB4S0xj UT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81671399813?pwd=RUI0QIRoTG45d0trN1VFbFB4S0xj UT09)

All meetings are open to the public with comments being taken in the Public Session. During the COVID-19 the City Council meetings will be held via Zoom with citizens being provided access to join the meeting from the city's website. All citizens are required to register for the Zoom meetings.

Copies of legislation and approved meeting minutes can be found on the City's website [www.seatpleasantmd.gov](http://www.seatpleasantmd.gov) or by contacting the City Clerk Dashaun N. Lanham, CMC directly on 301-336-2600.

### CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT BOARDS AND COMMISSION

The City of Seat Pleasant Mayor and City Council are seeking energetic residents that have a desire to serve their community on the following Boards and Commission. The interested parties shall contact the City Clerk and complete the application by May 31, 2023

#### Personnel Appeals Board

The City of Seat Pleasant Personnel Appeals Board consists of five members who will be appointed by the Seat Pleasant City Council.

Please contact the office of the City Clerk by e-mail at [dlanham@seatpleasantmd.gov](mailto:dlanham@seatpleasantmd.gov) to obtain an application.



*Congratulations!*

GRADUATE  
= 2023 =

Congratulations graduates of Seat Pleasant! Your hard work and dedication have paid off, and we couldn't be more proud of your achievements. No matter your age or level of education, this is a significant milestone and a moment of great accomplishment. Your efforts have led you to this moment, and we know that you will continue to strive towards success in all that you do. Here's to a bright future, filled with endless opportunities and continued growth. Keep up the great work and congratulations once again!



# SPPD NEWS

## CAR SEAT SAFETY

Car crashes are a leading cause of death for children. On average, two children under 13 were killed and an estimated 374 were injured every day in 2019 while riding in cars, SUVs, pickups, and vans.

608 child passenger vehicle occupants died in traffic crashes in 2019.

38% of children who died in 2019 while riding in passenger vehicles were unrestrained.

Choosing the right seat for your child can help prevent these tragedies from occurring. Visit [nhtsa.gov/TheRightSeat](https://nhtsa.gov/TheRightSeat) for more information.



## WELCOME TO THE TEAM!

Please join us in welcoming Mr. Keith Daye to the Seat Pleasant Family as the newest Neighborhood & Commercial Compliance (NCC) Inspector!

Inspector Daye joins us with a wealth of knowledge about code enforcement,

receiving

certifications and training from Prince George's County Department of Permitting, Inspections, and Enforcement (DPIE) in mechanical violations, zoning, property maintenance, fire inspections, and environmental codes.

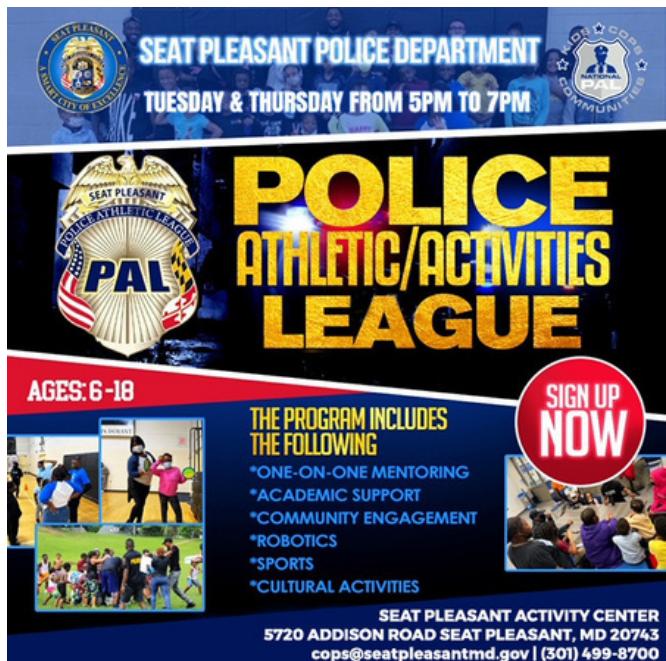
# SPPD'S EXPLORERS POST



The SPPD's Explorers Post is coming soon! The Explorers program is for young men and women interested in a future career in law enforcement, a career in the criminal justice system, or those interested in developing their personal & professional skills.

Be on the lookout for more information! If interested in joining, contact [cops@seatpleasantmd.gov](mailto:cops@seatpleasantmd.gov).

## POLICE ATHLETIC/ACTIVIES LEAUGE PROGRAM (PAL)



The Seat Pleasant Police Department's PAL Program is back for 2023! Join us every Tuesday and Thursday at 5 PM at the Seat Pleasant Activity Center located at 5720 Addison Road Seat Pleasant, Maryland 20743.

The PAL Program allows a safe space for kids and young adults to have fun, learn life skills, have access to academic support, and more.

For more information e-mail [cops@seatpleasantmd.gov](mailto:cops@seatpleasantmd.gov) or call (301) 499-8700.

**FOLLOW THE SEAT PLEASANT POLICE DEPARTMENT ON INSTAGRAM, FACEBOOK, TWITTER & TIKTOK @SPPDNEWS!**



We are saddened to announce the passing of Jeannelle Branson Wallace, former city manager of Seat Pleasant. Please join us in remembering her life and legacy as we share her obituary.



## A CELEBRATION OF AN ILLUSTRIOUS LIFE

You have to give something back." For many of us our beloved sister gave something back. Jeannelle Branson Wallace was born in Washington, DC on January 28, 1949 to Inez and Herman Branson. She was educated in the District of Columbia Public School System and graduated from Roosevelt High School in 1967 as a beloved classmate and cheerleader for the 'Rough Riders'. She later continued her education at Howard University earning a bachelor's degree in Sociology. Later settling down in Washington, DC, Jeannelle was the definition of a true 'native Washingtonian'. As an avid sports enthusiast and die-hard Commanders fan, she often said, "what is wrong with these bums!" referring to her frustration with consecutive losing seasons. Having served dutifully as City Manager and Chief City Administrator for four cities in Prince Georges County Maryland, Jeannelle finally retired from the City of Seat Pleasant, MD after over four decades of stellar service transforming lives in surrounding DC metropolitan communities.

In 1971, she was introduced to her future husband Phillip (Butch) Nelson Wallace. While never one to miss a party or social gathering orchestrated by the 13th Connection, Inc. Social Club, through those fun times Butch and Jeannelle developed a deep love for one another and were married in 1982. In 1986, their son Matthew Christopher Wallace was born. Matthew was Jeannelle's pride and joy. Whether it was driving long distances to the best schools or playgrounds, there were no limits in making sure Matthew had the very best. She was so proud of Matthew and awed by his many accomplishments. To know Jeannelle was to know she had an immense love for family and zest for life. She loved planting flowers, swimming, and going to the beach with both Butch and Matthew.

Many colleagues, friends, and family refer to Jeannelle as insightful, funny, giving, loving, and a 'diva' when it came to style and grace. Jeannelle was always going to be dressed for the right occasion in very fine fashion. She was a hard worker, but more importantly a loving coworker. She always knew what to say and how to say it in times of stress when a moment of clarity was needed. Her career legacy is not only filled with revitalized cities, but also can be credited with starting the careers of many other colleagues that have evolved into rewarding careers in local government. In 2018, as just one of her many accomplishments in her distinguished career, Jeannelle was honored at an awards luncheon along with 10 other women from across the US for their economic development and civic leadership. Among her many talents, Jeannelle was renowned for her culinary skills. Every week was Thanksgiving at the Wallace household. Many friends and family came from far and wide just to have a meal. Her signature was to "just whip up a little something" which would always turn out to be a feast with multiple entree items with plenty of side dishes and more than enough food, "just in case someone stops by."

Above all, Jeannelle was a woman of faith. Jeannelle was spiritually guided under her family's faith and membership to Metropolitan Baptist Church in Washington, DC. She loved the Lord with all her heart. When her son Matthew responded to God's calling through his own walk of faith, Jeannelle would often worship twice on Sundays, taking her father to Metropolitan for the early service, then head over to Matt's church (The Emory Fellowship) to worship with him; eventually becoming a member and communion steward there herself. Jeannelle also cherished the closeness with her father Herman. When her mother went home to glory in 1995, Jeannelle never missed a weekend spending time with her father and taking him Sunday dinner.

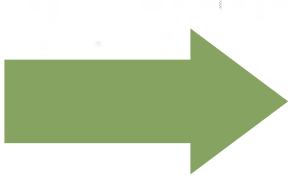
# Goodwin Parks New Playground!



Attention parents and guardians! Get ready for some fun as the new playground in Goodwin Park is now open for children to enjoy. Swing, slide, and climb to your heart's content! Keep an eye out for the dog park, coming soon for our furry friends to play. Visit Goodwin Park today



Stay Tuned! Our dog park is in progress!



The City of Seat Pleasant  
*A Smart City of Excellence*

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Open weekdays 9:00 am to 5:00 pm  
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## Mayor & Council

### Mayor

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### Councilmember- At-Large **James Wright, Jr.**

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