

WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Wednesday, October 16, 2019, to meet with County Council Chair Turner and County Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement.

Mayor Jordan started the meeting at 8:04 p.m. The meeting was held in room 201 of the Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

Present were: Councilmembers Colin A. Byrd, Judith F. Davis, Leta M. Mach, Silke I. Pope, Edward V. J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts (8:08 p.m.), and Mayor Emmett V. Jordan.

Staff present were: Nicole Ard, City Manager; David Moran, Assistant City Manager; Charise Liggins, Economic Development Coordinator; and Shaniya Lashley-Mullen, Administrative Assistant.

Also present were: County Council Chair Todd Turner; Clarence Mosley, Supervisor Department of Permitting, Inspections, and Enforcement (DPIE); Susan Walker, Greenbelt Community Development Corporation; Bill Orleans and others.

Mr. Turner provided an update on County Council activities. He noted that there are six new County Councilmembers and two At-Large County Councilmembers. Mr. Turner stated that this is the first time there is a Public/Private Partnership to build six to eight middle schools. Mr. Turner explained that four companies would bid on the proposal and the winning company would build the middle schools in three years. He stated the selected company would be responsible for the maintenance of the schools.

Mr. Turner stated the County is in the second phase of the Zone Ordinance Rewrite/Map Amendment. He advised the goal was to streamline the zone codes from 70 to 40 by early 2021.

Mr. Turner advised the Short Term Rental License Ordinance went into effect on October 1st. He explained the resident must obtain a permit and the location must be his/her primary residence. He noted that the registrations are online.

Mr. Turner provided an update on the Prince George's County Animal Control Ordinance on Dangerous Animals and the 22-year ban on Pitbulls. He noted the bill CB-64-2019 would be introduced the following week.

Mr. Turner provided an update on the zoning bill CB58/CB59 on Small Cell Towers. He noted the bill passed with amendments.

Mr. Turner noted the upcoming transportation meeting at the Prince George's County Administration Building. He advised the meeting was open to the public.

There was discussion on the Public/Private Partnerships with the schools. Mr. Turner stated the schools would be built with the State and County specifications. The vendor would maintain the maintenance of the building for the life of the contract. Ms. Davis stated Greenbelt needed a new elementary school and Springhill Lake Elementary need repairs.

Mr. Turner stated the greatest need for schools are in the northern part of the county given schools are overcrowded. Ms. Pope explained there are many challenges at Springhill Lake

Elementary. In response to a question from Ms. Pope, Mr. Turner stated that the suggestion to build a larger campus for an elementary and middle school has been proposed, but not in this area.

There was discussion on the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite. Mayor Jordan stated that the City Council received the County Map Amendment Briefing. Mr. Turner stated the Zone Rewrite was conducted with the previous County Council.

Based on a question from Ms. Davis, Mr. Turner stated the State of Maryland conducted a study on rent control. He noted that the City of College Park and the City of Takoma Park are the only two jurisdictions that have rent control related to seniors. Mr. Turner said they were ending the programs. Mr. Turner answered Ms. Mach's question, stating he would follow up with Council regarding cooperatives.

Mr. Mosley answered Mayor Jordan's question, stating that DPIE will make sure the property is licensed to be used as a Short Term Rental Property.

Mr. Mosley provided a brief history on DPIE. He advised DPIE was established in 2013 and the department has a new director. He noted that applicants could apply for permits and submit the supporting documents online.

Ms. Liggins explained applicants have expressed their concerns on applying for permits and receiving conflicting information from different inspectors.

There were discussions about the Farmers Market and the Labor Day Festival. Mr. Mosley stated there is training on requirements for Farmers Markets on the third Thursday of each month. He noted that special committees should submit their request 45 days prior to the event to obtain instructions. Mr. Mosley advised there are brochures available with detailed information.

Regarding questions about the animal shelter, Mr. Turner noted he would follow up on the animal shelter with Chief Taylor. Ms. Ard answered Ms. Davis's question stating Chief Bowers is waiting on the new County Administration's direction regarding the North County Animal Shelter.

Mr. Orleans asked and was provided answers to several questions.

Several informational items were discussed.

The meeting ended at 9:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Shaniya Lashley-Mullen
Administrative Assistant*