

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Monday, August 12, 2013.

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 8:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL was answered by Councilmembers Konrad E. Herling, Emmett V. Jordan, Leta M. Mach, Silke I. Pope, Rodney M. Roberts and Mayor Judith F. Davis. Councilmember Edward V.J. Putens was detained at work and arrived at 9:35 p.m.

ALSO PRESENT were Michael McLaughlin, City Manager; David E. Moran, Assistant City Manager; John Shay, City Solicitor; and Cindy Murray, City Clerk.

Mayor Davis asked for a moment of silence in memory of Greenbelt residents Leonie Penney, William Rowland and Manu Shrestha; former residents Betty Jane Moore, Patrick Hanyok, Mike Magrum, George Neumann, Katherine Reynolds, Loretta Jean May and James McGann; and former Greenbelt Mayor Antoinette Bram. She then led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Ms. Mach requested that the minutes of the July 17, 2013, work session and the July 22, 2013, work session be removed from the agenda. With these changes, it was moved by Ms. Pope and seconded by Mr. Jordan that the consent agenda be approved. The motion passed 6-0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS:

Work Session #2, May 21, 2013
Interview, June 17, 2013
Work Session, June 19, 2013
Work Session, July 1, 2013
Regular Meeting, July 8, 2013
Work Session, July 15, 2013
Interview, July 29, 2013

Approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Advisory Committee on Trees, Report #2013-2 (Crape Myrtle Replacement Tree near the Municipal Building): Council accepted this report and the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Trees.

Advisory Committee on Trees, Report #2013-3 (Remedy for the Damaged Large Red Mulberry Tree by Greenbelt Lake): Council accepted this report and will consider it on the agenda of this meeting.

Board of Elections, Report #2013-1 (Compensation for Election Judges and Clerks for 2013 City Council Election): Council accepted this report and will consider it on the agenda of a future meeting.

Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department – Authorization to Release Funds for Apparatus Purchase: Council approved the release of \$205,000 of the Apparatus Replacement Fund to be used towards the purchase of a new fire engine truck for the Greenbelt Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.

Community Development Block Grant Application for PY 39R – Round 2: Council approved submission of the Prince George’s County for Community Development Block Grant Program Year 39R Round 2 Application for Springhill Lake Recreation Center renovations as proposed by staff.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mayor Davis requested “Referral to Advisory Groups - Greenbelt Lake Dam 5 Year Plan” be added to the agenda. With this addition, it was moved by Ms. Pope and seconded by Mr. Jordan that the consent agenda be approved. The motion passed 6-0.

PRESENTATIONS:

Partners in Preservation – Greenbelt Theatre Award: Rob Nieweg, Director, and Monica Rhodes, Local Project Manager, of the Washington Field Office for the National Trust for Historic Preservation presented Council with a commemorative plaque to recognize the Greenbelt Theatre as a Partners in Preservation grant award winner.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS: None

MINUTES:

Work Session, July 17, 2013: Ms. Mach requested the minutes reflect that she was unable to attend as she was on vacation. With this change, Ms. Mach moved that the minutes be approved. Ms. Pope seconded. The motion passed 6-0.

Work Session, July 22, 2013: Ms. Mach requested the minutes reflect that both she and Ms. Pope were unable to attend as they were on vacation. Mr. Jordan requested the second paragraph of page two include “the benefit civic and recognition groups receive from in-kind services is insignificant.” With these changes, Ms. Mach moved that the minutes be approved. Ms. Pope seconded. The motion passed 6-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mr. McLaughlin reported on an error in the County property tax bills that had been mailed out last week. He advised the City has been in contact with the County regarding the problem.

Mr. McLaughlin announced a community Meet and Greet with the new Chief Executive Officer of Prince George’s County Public Schools, Dr. Kevin Maxwell, is scheduled for tomorrow at DuVal High School.

COUNCIL REPORTS: Councilmembers commented on the National Night Out events held throughout the City. They also reported on their attendance at the following events.

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Leadership Meeting and Retreat - Mayor Davis, Mr. Jordan and Ms. Mach

Cub Scout Pack 202 Picnic – Mayor Davis, Mr. Jordan, Mr. Putens, Ms. Mach and Mr. Herling
 Prince George’s County Municipal Association Retreat – Mr. Jordan and Mr. Herling
 Governor O’Malley’s Climate Change Summit – Mr. Jordan
 COG Region Forward Coalition Meeting – Mr. Jordan
 Community Clinic Inc. Open House – Mr. Jordan and Ms. Pope
 Memorial Picnic for Bob Auerbach, Doug Love, Bert Donn and Esther Webb – Mayor Davis, Mr. Jordan, Mr. Roberts and Mr. Herling
 Reel and Meal Presentation on Human Trafficking – Mayor Davis
 Friends of Greenbelt Museum Lecture on Parkbelt Homes – Mayor Davis
 Greenbelt Community Foundation 12th Awards Ceremony – Mayor Davis and Mr. Jordan
 Greenbelt Swim Team Banquet – Mayor Davis and Mr. Putens
 Combined COG Chesapeake Bay Policy Committee and Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee Meeting – Mayor Davis and Mr. Herling
 Greenbelt Creative Kids Camp and Circus Camp Performances – Mayor Davis
 COG Board of Directors Meeting – Mayor Davis

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

LEGISLATION

An Ordinance to Authorize and Empower the City of Greenbelt to Issue One or More Tax Anticipation Notes in Amounts Not to Exceed Three Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$3,500,000) in the Aggregate in Anticipation of the Receipt of Current Taxes and Other Revenues, Directing that the Proceeds of Said Notes Shall be Used for General Fund Operating Expenses Heretofore Authorized; and Providing for the Sale of Said Notes by Private Negotiation to Columbia Bank in Accord with Its Offer Dated July 27, 2013

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Ms. Mach introduced the ordinance for first reading and moved suspension of the rules in order to allow second reading and passage of the ordinance tonight. Ms. Pope seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL:	Mr. Herling	-	yes
	Mr. Jordan	-	yes
	Ms. Mach	-	yes
	Ms. Pope	-	yes
	Mr. Putens	-	absent
	Mr. Roberts	-	yes
	Mayor Davis	-	yes

Ms. Mach introduced the ordinance for second reading and moved that it be adopted. Ms. Pope seconded.

ROLL CALL:	Mr. Herling	-	yes
	Mr. Jordan	-	yes
	Ms. Mach	-	yes
	Ms. Pope	-	yes
	Mr. Putens	-	absent
	Mr. Roberts	-	yes

Mayor Davis - yes

The ordinance was declared adopted (Ordinance No. 1332, Book 12).

A Resolution of the City of Greenbelt Adopted Pursuant to the Authority of Article XI-E of the Constitution of Maryland and Section 13 of Article 23A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition as Amended), Titled “Corporation-Municipal,” Subtitle, “Home Rule,” to Amend the Charter of the City of Greenbelt Found, in Whole or In Part, in the Compilation of Municipal Charters of Maryland (1983 Edition as Amended), as Prepared by the Department of Legislative Services Pursuant to Chapter 77 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland of 1983, by Adding Section 58B Titled “Financing of City Retirement and Pension Plans” (Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2013-1)

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Mr. Jordan introduced the resolution for first reading.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TREES, REPORT #2013-3 (REMEDY FOR THE DAMAGED LARGE RED MULBERRY TREE BY GREENBELT LAKE): Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Charles Jackman, Chair of the Advisory Committee on Trees (ACT), and Ethel Dutky, ACT member, complimented Public Works staff on their prompt actions in preventing immediate further damage to the mulberry tree. Mr. Jackman said ACT believes the additional repair work proposed by Bartlett Tree Experts will ensure the survival of the tree for an additional two to three decades.

There was discussion regarding the mulberry tree being part of Greenbelt’s Best or Significant Trees. Mayor Davis suggested a sign noting this designation be considered for the tree. Lore Rosenthal, 2-R Gardenway, suggested an educational display sign explaining the history of the tree.

Ms. Pope moved that Council authorize Bartlett Tree Experts be contracted to provide necessary repairs to the mulberry tree in Buddy Attick Park at a cost of \$3,200 in accord with their proposal dated June 25, 2013. Mr. Herling seconded.

Ms. Dutky said she would like to see Public Works make cuttings from the mulberry tree available for citizens. In response to a question from Mr. Jordan, she said the cuttings would be sustainable in just a few years.

The motion passed 6-0.

SPECIAL ORDER OF AGENDA ITEM: Mr. Herling moved to special order Agenda Item #18 “Designation of City’s Green Team” to the next item of business. Mr. Jordan seconded. The motion passed 6-0.

DESIGNATION OF CITY’S GREEN TEAM: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

John Lippert, Chair of the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability (GreenACES), said GreenACES is interested in serving as the City’s Green Team. He advised

that representatives from Sustainable Maryland Certified (SMC) had met with GreenACES last month and offered assistance with the development of an Action Plan which is required to obtain SMC Certification. Michael Hartman, GreenACES member, said GreenACES plans to solicit participation from a diverse group, including City staff, elected officials, business representatives, and residents.

Mr. Putens arrived at this time.

Ms. Mach moved that Council designate GreenACES as the City's Green Team for the purpose of assisting the City becoming a Sustainable Maryland Certified community. She further moved that the persons who have expressed interest in serving on the City's Green Team be contacted to determine if they remain interested in an appointment to the Green Team. Mr. Jordan seconded.

Lore Rosenthal, 2-R Gardenway, said she had done an internship with SMC. She provided a list of suggested individuals/businesses that may be interested in participating with the Green Team.

The motion passed 7-0.

FY 2015 COMMUNITY PARKS AND PLAYGROUND GRANT APPLICATION: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Ms. Pope noted her position as President of the Belle Point Homeowners Association (BPHOA) and recused herself from voting on this item. She did report that the BPHOA was supportive of the playground.

Mayor Davis asked whether residents of Belle Point had been invited to participate in the playground design. Ms. Pope said yes but the residents that had planned to participate were unable to do so when the meeting with BPHOA, Chambers Management (Belle Point Management company) and the City occurred. Mr. Moran advised that the application/proposed design is merely to meet the grant deadline and if approved, it would be more than a year before construction would begin. He noted there was ample time to again seek input from residents and there was flexibility in the proposed design as long as any changes fit within the overall budget.

Mayor Davis questioned whether the playground path could be specified as a permeable pavement surface. Mr. Moran said he would check to determine if this meets ADA requirements and if so, then it could be specified as such.

Mr. Roberts, Ms. Mach, Mr. Putens and Mr. Herling noted that a playground for this area was long overdue.

Lore Rosenthal expressed support for the proposed playground but asked Council to reconsider the poured in place surfacing proposed. She suggested Council hold another work session or public hearing on playground surfacing materials. Mayor Davis explained Council referred the playground surfacing matter to the Park and Recreation Advisory Board and they would be holding public hearings/meetings.

Michael Hartman, 2-R Gardenway, expressed support for the proposed playground and suggested efforts be made to retain as much as the natural (brush and trees) setting as possible.

Mr. Putens moved that Council approve submission of the FY 2015 State of Maryland Community Parks & Playground Grant application for \$98,342 for construction of a new tot lot adjacent to the Belle Point neighborhood. Mr. Jordan seconded. The motion passed 6-0. (Pope abstained)

POLICE MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT WITH TOWN OF BERWYN HEIGHTS: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments and the questions answered in a memorandum from Chief Craze.

Ms. Pope moved that Council approve the addition of the Town of Berwyn Heights to the list of jurisdictions with which the Greenbelt Police Department has mutual aid agreements. Mr. Herling seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

CAMPAIGN SIGNS ON CITY PROPERTY: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Mr. Roberts said he supported the campaign sign site program but opposed using City staff to put up and take down candidate signs. He said candidates should place the signs themselves. Mayor Davis expressed concern regarding liability in the event of an injury.

Ms. Mach moved that Council continue the Campaign Sign Program for the 2013 election. Mr. Putens seconded. The motion passed 6-1. (Roberts)

OTHER REPORTS:

Mr. Roberts - Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments (COG)
Transportation Planning Board Meeting (attended with Mr. Jordan)

Mayor Davis - Reel and Meal Presentation on Human Trafficking
COG Board of Directors Meeting

REFERRAL TO ADVISORY GROUPS - GREENBELT LAKE DAM 5 YEAR PLAN: Mayor Davis moved the Council refer the Greenbelt Lake Dam 5 Year Plan to the Park and Recreation Advisory Board, Advisory Planning Board and the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability for their review and comment. Mr. Jordan seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

MEETINGS: Council reviewed the upcoming meeting schedule.

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Mach moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Putens seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Mayor Davis adjourned the regular meeting of Monday, August 12, 2013, at 10:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Murray
City Clerk

"I hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct report of the regular meeting of the City Council of Greenbelt, Maryland, held August 12, 2013."

Judith F. Davis
Mayor