

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Monday, May 23, 2011.

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 8:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL was answered by Councilmembers Konrad E. Herling, Emmett V. Jordan, Leta M. Mach, Silke I. Pope, Edward V. J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts and Mayor Judith F. Davis.

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

Mayor Davis asked for a moment of silence in memory of Greenbelt residents John Unger, Paul Snyder and Mary Gardner, and former residents Joyce Phillips, Charles Backstrom and David Anderson.

CONSENT AGENDA: It was moved by Mr. Putens and seconded by Mr. Jordan that the agenda be approved. The motion passed 7-0.

Council thereby took the following action:

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS:

Work Session, February 19, 2011

Work Session, May 4, 2011

Regular Meeting, May 9, 2011

Approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Advisory Committee on Education, Report #2011-2 (Recognition of National Board Certification and Agnes Meyer Award): Council accepted the report and will recognize the educators who received National Board Certification during the 2010-2011 school year, and also the Agnes Meyer Award winner, at the June 6, 2011, meeting.

Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, Report #2011-1 (Review of Charter):

Council accepted this report and will consider it on the agenda of a future meeting.

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING GRANT APPLICATION: Council approved submission of the Police Department's grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, for two officer positions.

AMENDMENTS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT INSURANCE TRUST AGREEMENT:

Council approved the membership amendments proposed by the Board of Trustees of the Local Government Insurance Trust (LGIT) to the Eighth Amended and Restated LGIT agreement and authorized the City Manager to sign the LGIT consent and approval documents on their behalf.

AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN GRANT FUND APPLICATIONS AND GRANT AWARD OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS FOR THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION: Council authorized the Mayor to sign as the "Authorized Official", but also designated the City Manager to sign as an "Alternate Authorized Signatory", for grant fund applications and grant award official documents for the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention.

REAPPOINTMENT TO ADVISORY GROUP: Council appointed Charles Jackman to a new term on the Advisory Committee on Trees.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Ms. Mach requested "Appointments to Advisory Groups" be added to the agenda. With this addition, it was moved by Mr. Putens and seconded by Mr. Jordan that the agenda be approved. The motion passed 7-0.

PRESENTATIONS:

Memorial Day Poppy Presentation - Unit 136, American Legion Auxiliary: Mayor Davis announced that the American Legion will hold its commemoration of Memorial Day on Monday, May 30, in honor of those who have died in combat while serving in the armed forces. She read and presented the proclamation to Jenny Bonny, President of the American Legion Auxiliary of Greenbelt Post 136, and Rosita Dietrich and Sandy Dutton, members of the Auxiliary. Ms. Bonny thanked Council and residents for their support throughout the year. Ms. Dietrich and Ms. Dutton presented poppies to Council.

Click It or Ticket Month – Proclamation: Click It or Ticket Month, recognized in the month of May, is part of the year-long Maryland Chiefs' Challenge. Mayor Davis presented a proclamation to MPO Scott Yankow.

MPO Yankow discussed the importance of safety belt and child safety seat and booster seat use, which are proven methods for saving lives on our roadways. Ms. Pope suggested a child safety seat and booster seat check be included as part of the Public Safety Day to be held in the fall.

Peace Month Proclamation: Mayor Davis read a proclamation to recognize June as Peace Month. Alexander Barnes, Sr., received the proclamation on behalf of the Prince George's Peace and Justice Coalition.

Mr. Barnes thanked Council for their support of Peace Month activities.

International Institute of Municipal Clerks Certification: Mayor Davis announced that Cindy Murray, City Clerk, had been awarded the designation of Certified Municipal Clerk from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) on April 1, 2011. Council presented Ms. Murray with her IIMC Certification.

Maryland Municipal League (MML) Certificates: Mayor Davis and Mr. Jordan presented MML appreciation certificates to staff and councilmembers for their service to the organization over the past year: Ms. Mach and Ms. McHale, Communications Committee; Ms. Pope, Mr. Putens and Mr. McNeal, Convention Planning Committee; Mayor Davis and Mr. McNeal, Board of Directors; and Mayor Davis, Legislative Committee.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Public Hearing on the Proposed FY 2012 Budget: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. She then announced the meeting was recessed for the public hearing.

Molly Lester, 6-M Hillside, thanked Council for their efforts throughout the budget process. She requested the award of the bid for tennis court lights on the agenda for later this evening be postponed until after the Capital Projects work session is scheduled and the entire project can be reevaluated. Ms. Lester said she believed other projects such as the Greenbelt Dam repair and the Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center (GAFC) roof should be considered before the tennis court light and resurfacing project. She mentioned the tennis courts are only used six to seven months of the year and questioned whether the courts are predominantly used by residents or non-residents.

Mayor Davis and Mr. McLaughlin explained that 75% of the cost of the tennis court project is being funded by Program Open Space funds, which cannot be used for projects such as the dam or GAFC roof. Mr. McNeal said staff is looking into a new card type system for tennis court users, which may be able to provide information whether the users are residents or non-residents.

Ms. Lester also expressed concern over contribution group funding, specifically to the New Deal Café. Mayor Davis said no funding had been provided to the New Deal Café itself, but to Friends of the New Deal Café.

There was no other public comment on the proposed budget.

Mayor Davis announced that the City has received a 2011/12 Constant Yield Tax Rate Exemption from the State of Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation, so no Constant Yield hearing is required.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS:

Cary Coppick, 9-D Ridge Road, and member of Prince George's Clean Water Coalition, requested Council support of amendments to strengthen the requirements of Prince George's County Bill CB-15 regarding stormwater legislation. Mayor Davis said that Council had taken a position in support of strong stormwater legislation last year and would be discussing CB-15 and proposed amendments at their work session on June 1, 2011, with other stormwater issues.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS: None

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mr. Moran briefed Council on Greenbelt Day Weekend events.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Ms. Mach commented on the annual meeting of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Clean Air Partners, where she was elected committee chair, and the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Open House, which was also attended by Mayor Davis, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Jordan and Mr. Herling. She mentioned the awards ceremony for the Maryland Municipal League "If I Were Mayor" contest winners and the Greenbelt Baby Boomer Expo, both of which were also attended by Mayor Davis.

Mr. Herling reported both he and Mr. Jordan had been elected to the board of the Prince George's County Municipal Association.

Mr. Jordan reported on his attendance at the National League of Cities Community and Economic Development Committee meeting.

Mayor Davis noted her attendance at the senior awards ceremony at Eleanor Roosevelt High School, the annual banquet of the Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department, the meeting of the Beaverdam Creek Watershed Watch Group, meeting of the Greater Beltsville Business Association, annual homeowners association meeting of Greenspring residents, awards ceremony for the Partnership for a Safer Maryland, luncheon and forum at Doctors Community Hospital Center for Women's Wellness, National Parks Day, and the luncheon for Maryland Space Business Roundtable which was also attended by Governor O'Malley.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

LEGISLATION:

A Resolution Supporting Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, Neighborhood Businessworks Program Financing to Helen and Company LLC/Greenbelt Travel Services

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Mr. Jordan introduced the resolution for second reading and moved that it be adopted. Mr. Putens seconded the motion.

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

The resolution was declared adopted (Resolution No. 1078, Book 8).

Mark Svensen, Co-owner and Manager of Greenbelt Travel Services, was present and thanked Council for their support.

AWARD OF BID – TENNIS COURT LIGHTS

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Ms. Mach questioned how the bids received for tennis court lighting on Braden Field compared to the bids received last year. Mr. McNeal and Mr. McLaughlin said the bids received this year were for the type of lights specified; noting staff as well as the Greenbelt Tennis Association (GTA) are very satisfied with this quality light system.

Mr. Jordan asked about the life expectancy of the new lights. Mr. McNeal said 30 years is expected.

Ellen Jent Carter, Stan Zurkin and R. S. Venkatachalam, members of Greenbelt Tennis Association (GTA), spoke in support of new lights on all eight tennis courts.

Mr. Herling moved that Council award the bid to relight Braden Field Tennis Courts #1 thru 8 to Tennis Court's Inc. for \$194,128, which includes \$15,000 for electrical and payment system contingencies. Ms. Pope seconded. The motion passed 6-0. (Mr. Jordan excused himself from the vote, noting his membership in GTA)

ENVISION PRINCE GEORGE'S

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Mr. Jordan moved that Council send a letter to Envision Prince George's supporting the goals, vision and priorities established by the Envision Prince George's process. Mr. Herling seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

OTHER REPORTS: Council provided information from the following meetings they had recently attended.

Mr. Roberts – COG Transportation Planning Board meeting

Mayor Davis – COG Board of Directors meeting
Governor's Blue Ribbon Commission on Maryland Transportation Funding

APPOINTMENTS TO ADVISORY BOARDS: Ms. Mach moved that Council appoint Michael Lee to the Park and Recreation Advisory Board and Frank Pearlman to the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee. Mr. Putens seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn the regular meeting was made by Ms. Mach and seconded by Mr. Putens. The motion passed 7-0.

Mayor Davis adjourned the regular meeting of Monday, May 23, 2011, at 9:57 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 May 23, 2011."

Judith F. Davis
Mayor