

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Monday, May 13, 2013.

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 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 Doug Love and Dorothy Peters, former resident Denise Mary Bokar, and the mother of County Councilmember Ingrid Turner, June Turner. She then led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Mr. Putens moved that the agenda be approved. Mr. Jordan seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Regular Meeting, April 8, 2013
Regular Meeting, April 22, 2013
Approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Arts Advisory Board, Report #2013-1 (Contribution and Recognition Groups): Council accepted the report which was discussed at the Contribution Group work session on May 1, 2013.

Advisory Committee on Trees, Report #2013-1 (White Pine by Municipal Building): Council accepted the report and directed staff to proceed with the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Trees.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT INSURANCE TRUST (LGIT) – BOARD OF TRUSTEES

BALLOT: Council authorized the City Clerk to respond affirmatively on the appointment of Barbara Matthews, Tari Moore, and Theodore Zaleski III, to the Local Government Insurance Trust annual ballot for Board of Trustees.

REAPPOINTMENTS TO ADVISORY BOARDS: Council appointed the following individuals to new terms on Advisory Boards and Committees.

Susan Breon	Advisory Committee on Education
Ethel Dutky	Advisory Committee on Trees
Betty Sonneveldt	Park and Recreation Advisory Board

RESIGNATION FROM ADVISORY BOARD: Council accepted the resignation of Dr. Franklin Noll from the Forest Preserve Advisory Board.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mayor Davis requested that “Electric Vehicle” be added to the agenda and special ordered as the first item after Legislation. With this addition, Ms. Pope moved that the agenda be approved. Mr. Jordan seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

PRESENTATIONS:

ACE Student Awards: Mayor Davis introduced Susan Breon, Chair of the Advisory Committee on Education (ACE). Ms. Breon explained the purpose of the ACE Outstanding Student Awards, gave an overview of ACE’s other activities, and described the gifts and certificates to be presented tonight. She said this was the 19th consecutive year that the ACE Awards had been presented, and thanked the City Council for its support over that period.

Ms. Breon recognized Alla Lake, Janet Mirsky, Jon Gardner, Veronica Martin-Frederick, Donald Rich and David Whiteman, ACE members; Councilmember Mach, ACE Council liaison; Rosalind Ceasar, ACE staff liaison; State Senator Paul Pinsky and Delegates Tawanna Gaines, Anne Healey and Alonzo Washington; Altmann Pannell, Constituent Service Aid for County Councilmember Ingrid Turner; and School Board Member Peggy Higgins. She also recognized the following principals and Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Representatives: Greenbelt Elementary School - Monica Gaines, Principal, and Karen Yoho, PTA Representative; Magnolia Elementary School – Phyllis Gillens, Principal, and Donna James, PTA Representative; and Greenbelt Middle School - Warren Tweedy, Principal, and Anne Gardner, PTA Representative.

The following 2013 award recipients were recognized, and gifts and citations were presented from ACE, the City Council, the County Council and the General Assembly.

Greenbelt Elementary School	Zion Albright and Hans Konchou
Springhill Lake Elementary School	Doris Aviles and Sergio Coutino
Magnolia Elementary School	Madison Telfer and Malcolm Elbert
Turning Point Academy	Ryley Hinson
Greenbelt Middle School	Shahara Rahman and Nathaniel Kalil
Eleanor Roosevelt High School	Ershia Francois and Nnaedozie Okorie

Maryland State Delegate Scholarship Award: Delegate Healey presented Eleanor Roosevelt High School student Joshua Nichols with a Maryland State Delegate Scholarship Award.

Legislative Wrap-Up – 22nd District Delegation: State Senator Paul Pinsky and Delegates Tawanna Gaines, Anne Healey and Alonzo Washington, provided an update on the 2013 General Assembly Session. They discussed the Transportation Infrastructure Investment Act, College Readiness and Completion Act, Death Penalty Repeal, Firearms Safety Act, Offshore Wind Energy Act, Prince George’s County Public School Reform Bill.

School Board Member Peggy Higgins spoke on the County Public School Reform Bill which profoundly changes the structure of the School Board. She commented that a consideration of a referendum on the bill is an important issue.

Council thanked the State Delegation and School Board Member Higgins for attending.

Older Americans Month Proclamation: Mayor Davis issued a proclamation in recognition of Older Americans Month. Narineh Abrahamian, Interim Service Coordinator for Green Ridge House, received the proclamation on behalf of the Assistance in Living Program (GAIL) and the residents of Green Ridge House.

Public Works Week Proclamation: Mayor Davis issued a proclamation in recognition of National "Public Works Week" to be held May 19-25, 2013. Ken Hall, Director of Public Works, received the proclamation.

PUBLIC HEARING ON WINE SAMPLING AT GREENBELT FARMERS MARKET: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. She then announced the meeting was recessed at 9:59 p.m. for the hearing.

There was no public comment.

The regular meeting reconvened at 10:00 p.m.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS:

Theodora Scarato, 2 Laurel Hill Road, expressed concern about the negative health impacts to children exposed to rubber tire playground mulch. Mayor Davis noted that Council and staff had received materials she had sent on the subject and a work session will be scheduled on the subject.

Dennis Fincham, Northway, requested a copy of the operating contract for the Greenbelt Theater. He also asked about plans for the operation of the Theater after the renovation project. Mr. McLaughlin explained that a decision regarding the future operation of the Theater would be made after the project was underway. He also advised he would provide a copy of the current contract to Mr. Fincham.

MINUTES: None

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Beverly Palau, Public Information and Communications Coordinator, announced that the Greenbelt Theater project was awarded \$75,000 in the Partners in Preservation contest. Council thanked staff and everyone who participated in the contest.

Ms. Mach announced that the City had been named a “Playful City” again this year for the 7th year straight. She thanked staff for their efforts.

COUNCIL REPORTS: Councilmembers commented on their attendance at the following events.

Greenbelt Toastmasters Open House – Mr. Jordan and Ms. Mach
Pathways School Awards Luncheon – Mayor Davis, Mr. Jordan and Ms. Mach
Clean Air Partners Annual Celebration – Ms. Mach
Cooperative Hall of Fame Cooperative Issues Forum – Ms. Mach
Green Man Festival – All Councilmembers
Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee Meeting – Ms. Mach
Maryland Municipal League Legislative Committee Meeting – Mayor Davis and Mr. Jordan
Meeting with Chuck Bean, Council of Governments (COG) Executive Director, and Scott Hancock, Maryland Municipal League (MML) Executive Director – Mayor Davis
75th Anniversary Celebration of Greenbelt American Legion Post 136 – Mayor Davis, Mr. Jordan, Mr. Putens, Mr. Herling and Ms. Pope
Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad Annual Awards Ceremony – Mayor Davis, Mr. Jordan, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Putens, Mr. Herling and Ms. Pope
Environmental Protection Agency Affordability Dialogue – Mayor Davis
Maryland Municipal League Board of Directors Meeting – Mayor Davis
Artful Afternoon Program – Mayor Davis
Opening Celebration of Club 125 - Mayor Davis, Mr. Jordan, Mr. Putens, Ms. Mach, Mr. Herling and Ms. Pope
Springhill Lake Elementary School STEM Fair Judge – Mayor Davis
COG Board of Directors Meeting – Mayor Davis
National Capital Area Emergency Preparedness Council Meeting – Mayor Davis
Greenbelt Farmers Market Opening Day – Mayor Davis, Mr. Jordan and Ms. Mach
Anacostia Trails Heritage Area Forum for George Washington University Graduate Students at the New Deal Café – Mayor Davis and Mr. Jordan

Mayor Davis announced that National Police Week is being held May 12-18, 2013 in recognition of the service and sacrifice of law enforcement professionals.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

LEGISLATION:

A Resolution to Negotiate the Purchase of a New Truck Body and Lift Gate from Intercon Truck Equipment of Joppa, Maryland at Cost of \$15,431

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Ms. Mach introduced the resolution for second reading and moved that it be adopted.

Mr. Putens seconded.

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. 1099, Book 8).

A Resolution to Negotiate the Purchase of July 4th Fireworks from ACE Pyro LLC of Clearfield, Pennsylvania at a Cost of \$12,000

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Mr. Herling introduced this resolution for first reading and moved suspension of the rules in order to allow second reading and passage of the ordinance tonight. 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

Mr. Herling introduced the resolution for second reading and moved that it be adopted. Mr. Putens seconded.

Ms. Mach noted that the cost was \$2,000 more than is usually spent on fireworks and asked if more fireworks were included. Mr. Hall explained the increased cost included ACE Pyro securing the necessary State and County permits as well as the labor costs and permit fees for shooting the electronics show.

Mayor Davis requested that staff run advertisements to 1) advise the public not to bring dogs to the fireworks event, and 2) keep dogs indoors during the event.

Ms. Pope asked if an electronics shoot was safer than a manual shoot. Mr. Hall said yes, electronic shoots were much safer.

There was discussion regarding laser light shows. Mr. Hall said Public Works staff had explored the option of offering a laser show this year in place of a fireworks show and consulted with Image Engineering, a local company that provides laser shows throughout

the country. He noted that due to budget restraints and site limitations, Image Engineering did not feel a laser only show would meet the expectations of the community. Mr. Roberts said he would like Public Works to continue to look into laser shows for the future and perhaps come up with some type of combination laser and fireworks show.

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. 2000, Book 8).

An Ordinance to Amend Article 3 “Public Parks, Playgrounds, Etc., Generally” of Chapter 12 “Parks and Recreation” of the Greenbelt City Code to Allow the Sale and Sampling of Wine at the Greenbelt Farmers Market between May 1st and December 24th of Each Year

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

ELECTRIC VEHICLE: Mayor Davis said that at its March 27, 2013, meeting, Council had approved the purchase of a GEM eL XD Low Speed Electric Vehicle from Criswell Chevrolet of Gaithersburg, Maryland in accord with State of Maryland BPO# 001B3400288 at a cost of \$20,737. At its following meeting, she explained that Mr. Roberts had raised concerns regarding the purchase of the GEM Electric Vehicle instead of a Cushman Electric Vehicle at a lesser cost.

Mayor Davis explained she had added this item to the agenda tonight so any further concerns regarding this purchase could be addressed. She noted Mr. Hall had responded to the concerns raised by Mr. Roberts in a memorandum dated April 30, 2013.

Mr. Roberts said he was familiar with the Cushman electric vehicle and felt that it would meet the needs of the City. Mayor Davis noted the GEM was a heavier duty vehicle than the Cushman and Ms. Pope added that the fiberglass cab of the GEM was safer than the canopy cab of the Cushman.

After further discussion, Mr. Roberts moved that Council change the award of purchase from a GEM electric vehicle to a Cushman electric vehicle. Mr. Putens seconded. The motion failed 2-5. (Davis, Jordan, Mach, Herling and Pope)

TRANSFER OF LIQUOR LICENSE – ROYAL JADE: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Lynn Tue, owner of Royal Jade, reviewed the upgrades planned for the new location. She said she hopes to have the new location open by mid-June.

Mr. Herling moved that Council take No Position on the Transfer of Liquor License for Royal Jade Cuisine from 7401 Greenbelt Road to 7701 Greenbelt Road. Ms. Pope seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

OTHER REPORTS:

Mayor Davis – Council of Governments (COG) Board of Directors Meeting
National Capital Area Emergency Preparedness Council Meeting

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, May 13, 2013, at 11:22 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 13, 2013."

Judith F. Davis
Mayor