

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Monday, April 24, 2017.

Mayor Jordan called the meeting to order at 8:08 p.m.

ROLL CALL was answered by Councilmembers Judith F. Davis, Konrad E. Herling, Leta M. Mach, Edward V. J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts and Mayor Emmett V. Jordan. Councilmember Silke I. Pope was unable to attend due to a family obligation.

ALSO PRESENT were Nicole Ard, City Manager; David E. Moran, Assistant City Manager; Karen Ruff, Associate of the City Solicitor; and Cindy Murray, City Clerk.

Mayor Jordan asked for a moment of silence in memory of Greenbelt resident Bobby Turner, former Greenbelt resident Father Thomas Crowley, former State Senator and County Executive Lawrence Hogan Sr. and Holocaust Remembrance Day. Ms. Davis then led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

CONSENT AGENDA: It was moved by Mr. Herling and seconded by Ms. Mach that the consent agenda be approved. The motion passed 6-0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

Minutes:

Legislative Dinner, February 23, 2017
Work Session, March 6, 2017
Work Session, March 16, 2017
Work Session, March 20, 2017
Work Session, April 5, 2017
Interview, April 10, 2017
Regular Meeting, April 10, 2017
Interview, April 12, 2017
Work Session, April 12, 2017
Approved as presented.

Committee Reports

Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, Report #2017-1 (2016 Open Forum): Council accepted this report and directed staff to provide any needed responses to issues raised to Council as well as to the Committee as soon as they are available.

Park and Recreation Advisory Board, Report #2017-1(Request to Reduce Number of Members): Council accepted this report and will consider it on the agenda of a future meeting.

Community Center – Greenbelt Arts Center Lease: Council approved the Lease Agreement with the Greenbelt Arts Center/Costume Shop located in the Community Center.

Resignations from Advisory Groups: Council accepted the resignations of: 1) Edward Hickey from the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee effective immediately; and 2) Susan Breon from the Advisory Committee on Education effective July 1, 2017.

Grant Review Panel Report (FY 2018 Project and Operating Grant Applications): Council accepted the report which will be discussed at the budget work session with Recognition Groups on May 10, 2017.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: It was moved by Mr. Putens and seconded by Mr. Herling that the agenda be approved. The motion passed 6-0.

PRESENTATIONS:

Eleanor Roosevelt High School STEM Team: Mayor Jordan announced that a combined team of students (named “Big Bang Brains of the World”) from Eleanor Roosevelt High and Edinaman Senior High School in Ghana recently won the grand prize of the World SMARTS STEM Challenge. He said the team lead teachers were Dave Eisenberg from Eleanor Roosevelt High School and Joyce Darkwaa from Edinaman Senior High School.

Council congratulated the team. They recognized Eleanor Roosevelt High School team members Annie Gomez, Danielle Wilson and Kelechi Nwanna, and lead teacher Dave Eisenberg who were present. Certificates were presented to all team members including Audrey Rappaport, Caleb Wheeler, Chiebuka Ohams, Chinazam Uhegwu and Michael Nagel who were unable to attend..

Eleanor Roosevelt High School 40th Anniversary: Mayor Jordan announced that Eleanor Roosevelt High School was celebrating its 40th anniversary. Council presented a letter of congratulations to Reginald McNeill, Principal of Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

Older Americans Month Proclamation: Mayor Jordan issued a proclamation recognizing older Americans of the City. Joyce Kolenky, Service Coordinator for Green Ridge House, received the proclamation on behalf of the Greenbelt Assistance in Living Program (GAIL), the Golden Age Club, the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee and all older Americans of the City. Ms. Kolenky spoke about events planned for the month.

PUBLIC HEARING:

FY 2018 Budget: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. He then announced the meeting was recessed at 8:34 p.m. for the hearing.

Stephan Brodd, 2-C Westway, submitted a request for funding for improved seating, including both chairs and risers, for the Greenbelt Community Center. (Request attached to minutes.)

Colin Byrd, Matthew Street, asked for: 1) more detail on what goes on at conferences attended by city representatives; 2) look into travel expenses for conferences by city representatives (expressed concerns); 3) video recording of all council work sessions and meetings of the Board of Elections; 4) funding to ensure work at the Museum is

completed expeditiously; 5) funding for position of Museum Assistant Director Ennis Smith; 6) picture of Rexford Tugwell in the Council Room; 7) plaques to recognize former and current city managers; and 8) details on how tax increment financing works.

Ms. Davis said the photos of Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt (in the Council Room) were donated by the Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club. Mayor Jordan and Ms. Mach mentioned the Tugwell Room in the Greenbelt Library and noted that a picture of Rexford Tugwell was on display there and also in the Greenbelt Community Center. Mayor Jordan said staff is looking into filming of all work sessions. Regarding conferences, Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis and Mr. Herling spoke of the enormous value of continuing education, training and networking for staff as well as Council. They noted how busy conferences are for the attendees. Ms. Davis added that councilmembers as well as many members of staff are part of leadership of national and local organizations. It was noted that councilmembers provide reports on meetings and conferences attended at regular meetings (when time allows) or at work sessions.

Theodora Scarato, Hillside Road, suggested an environmental health section be included on the City's website.

No other comment was received.

The regular meeting reconvened at 8:52 p.m.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS:

Mr. Orleans, Greenbelt, asked about executive sessions of Council.

Joseph Trullinger, Greenbelt Station, presented a petition regarding Woodlawn Development Group (WDG) terminating shuttle service for Greenbelt Station residents to/from the Greenbelt Metro last Friday. He said the shuttle service has been replaced by The Bus transit service which does not meet the needs of the residents. Mr. Trullinger added that the transition from the shuttle service to transit service was handled unprofessionally and incompetently by WDG. (Copy of petition attached to minutes.)

Rick Gordon, Franklin Park, expressed concern about children playing with toy guns and the sale of toy guns at the neighborhood store in Franklin Park. He suggested legislation be enacted to ban toy guns.

Colin Byrd, Mathew Street, requested water testing for lead in city facilities. He also mentioned Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Darlene Jon Pierre, Greenbelt Station resident, requested that Council continue to advocate with: 1) the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) for the trail connection between Greenbelt Station and Greenbelt Metro; and 2) Prince George's County Public Schools for children residing in Greenbelt Station to be assigned to Greenbelt schools.

MINUTES:

Minutes – Executive Session of February 28, 2017: Ms. Davis moved that the minutes of the executive session of the City Council held Tuesday, February 28, 2017, at 8:05 p.m., in Room 114 of the Community Center be approved as presented. Council held this closed meeting in accordance with the General Provisions Article, §3-305(b)(9) of the Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland, to discuss collective bargaining negotiations between the City and Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 32.

Mr. Herling seconded.

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

Minutes – Executive Session of March 27, 2017: Ms. Davis moved that the minutes of the executive session of the City Council held Monday, March 27, 2017, at 7:36 p.m. in the Library of the Municipal Building be approved as presented. Council held this closed meeting in accordance with the General Provisions Article, §3-305(b)(9) of the Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland, to discuss collective bargaining negotiations between the City and Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 32.

Mr. Herling seconded.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

In follow-up to comments by Mr. Gordon, Ms. Ard said that Acting Chief Kemp confirmed the Police Department responded to a complaint of shots fired yesterday in Franklin Park. She said no one was injured and the suspect (an acquaintance of the victim) was identified and a warrant has been issued.

In response to a question from Mayor Jordan, Jessica Bellah, Community Planner, said the trail between Greenbelt Station and Cherrywood Lane is expected to be complete by early July.

Ms. Ard reported the Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition (GEAC) has scheduled its annual work session with Council on July 13th at 7:30 p.m. at the Hunting Ridge Community Center. She also advised the city had been copied on a letter from GEAC to the Prince George's County Board of

Elections (PGCBoE) requesting Precinct 18 be relocated from Turning Point Academy to a location more centrally in Greenbelt East, such as Schrom Hills Park, for the 2017 city election. Mr. Putens said the Board of Directors for Greenbelt Lake Village and Hunting Ridge had both discussed use of their community rooms for the upcoming election and both Boards voted against it.

Charlene MacAdams, GEAC, explained voters in Greenbelt East found it confusing to vote at Turning Point Academy. Cindy Murray, City Clerk, explained that the City Board of Elections (BOE) designates polling places used for City elections, not the PGCBoE. She added that the BOE had discussed the relocation of Precinct 18 at its February 2017 meeting and voted to relocate Precinct 18 to Schrom Hills Park for the 2017 election.

Ms. Ard reported that Beverly Palau, Public Information and Communications Coordinator, has worked very hard on creating a Greenbelt Info Wall on the City's website for the announcement of city and community information. She said the wall includes many sections, including a Social Media Wall, Events and Green Steps section. Ms. Ard noted that the Green Steps section includes information on environmental programs which complemented the suggestions made by Ms. Scarato during the Public Hearing on the Proposed Budget earlier this evening.

SPECIAL ORDER AGENDA ITEM: Mayor Jordan moved to special order Item #15 "Proposed Cell Tower at Eleanor Roosevelt High School" to the next item on the agenda. Mr. Putens seconded. The motion passed 6-0.

PROPOSED CELL TOWER AT ELEANOR ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Mayor Jordan said the City received a packet from Milestone Communications on April 5, 2017, regarding the construction of a marquee cell tower at Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) adjacent to Greenbelt Road and notification of a community meeting on April 25 at the Seabrook Seventh-Day Adventist Church. He explained that this is the first time the City received correspondence from Milestone detailing the ERHS cell tower proposal.

Mayor Jordan said the city sent a letter on April 10 to Milestone requesting a community meeting be held in the city. Milestone responded on April 18 indicating its April 25 community meeting was sufficient. He said he was shocked at the way Milestone notified the city and public of this proposal.

Mr. Moran reported that an email was received late Friday afternoon from Milestone indicating there was a misunderstanding of its April 18th letter and Milestone would be willing to meet with and conduct a briefing for Council.

Ms. Davis noted that all councilmembers were upset about the proposed cell tower. She said the City has been put in an awkward situation with the Board of Education approving the contract with Milestone. Ms. Davis said the Board does not determine (vote on) site selection for the cell towers so the site selection and requirement for community notification is up to Milestone. She added that funds received for the cell tower go into general funds for the Board and not to Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

Ms. Davis commented on the lack of notification to all residents about the community meeting including those property owners adjacent to the proposed cell phone tower site. She mentioned there is an existing cell phone tower within one-half mile of the Eleanor Roosevelt High School site. Ms. Davis made several suggested amendments to the proposed draft letter to Milestone prepared by staff.

Mr. Herling said there is a need for legislation that would require far greater notification to the community. He added that the Federal Communications Commission encourages wireless companies to double up on cell towers.

In response to a question from Mr. Roberts, Ms. Ruff explained that County zoning law makes provisions for cell phone towers to be located on public property.

Mayor Jordan expressed frustration that a community meeting was not being provided (by Milestone) near the location of the proposed cell tower to accommodate those residents who would be most affected. He said Eleanor Roosevelt High School or Greenbriar would have been good locations for the community meeting.

Mr. Putens said since most homeowners in the area did not receive notification of the community meeting, Milestone failed in its process for notification. He said the Prince George's County School Board and Chief Executive Officer were lax as well.

Ms. Davis moved that Council: 1) send the draft letter with amendments to Milestone Communications noting their opposition to the proposed cell phone tower as well as the process; and 2) direct staff to prepare a second letter to Milestone incorporating the legal questions identified after staff consultation with the telecommunications attorney. Ms. Mach seconded. The motion passed 6-0.

Bill Manico, Greenwood Village, spoke about his opposition to the proposed cell phone tower and said he had studied this matter very thoroughly. He said the Board of Education should rescind its contract with Milestone and noted that the process is lacking in transparency. He mentioned health concerns associated with the towers. Mr. Manico reported that community notifications are required to be mailed first class and the notifications received by some residents were done by bulk mail. He said if the community wants to fight the cell phone tower, school board members as well as state legislators should be contacted and informed that the community is outraged. Mr. Manico mentioned the health concerns associated with cell phone towers and said he believes Milestone is targeting minority communities for cell phone tower installations.

Ms. Davis thanked Mr. Manico and Ms. Scarato for their work regarding this matter.

Ms. Davis suggested members of the state delegation be copied on the letters.

Dasan Bobo, Greenbelt Village resident, spoke in opposition to the cell tower. He said his home is located within a couple hundred feet of the cell phone tower. Mr. Bobo said he would not continue to live there if the tower is constructed.

Theodora Scarato, Hillside Road, suggested the School Board rescind the policy regarding cell towers on school property. She said if the policy can't be rescinded, then it needs to be more

transparent and address all concerns raised by individuals. Ms. Scarato mentioned that cell phone towers do catch fire. She added that residents in Montgomery County have successfully fought several proposed cell phone tower installations on school properties.

Paul Dynan, Greenwood Village resident, spoke in opposition to the cell phone tower. He said he had received no notification of the community meeting and his home will be in the line of sight of the proposed cell phone tower. Mr. Dynan added that he has a son attending Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

Ms. Ruff noted that the School Board delegated the authority for placement of cell towers on sites owned by PGCPs to Dr. Maxwell, Chief Executive Officer for PGCPs, to manage on behalf of the school system.

Ms. Davis moved that Council also send a letter to Dr. Maxwell and County Executive Baker noting its opposition to the proposed cell phone tower as well as the process. Ms. Mach seconded. The motion passed 6-0.

LEGISLATION:

An Ordinance to Amend Greenbelt City Code, Chapter 4 “Buildings and Building Regulations,” Article III “Property Maintenance Code,” Division 7 “Fire Safety Requirements” to Amend Section 4-266 “Smoke Alarms” to Incorporate State Law Requirements and to Add Subdivision 8 “Carbon Monoxide Detectors” to Require Carbon Monoxide Detectors in Certain Dwelling Units

Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Ms. Davis introduced the ordinance for second reading and adoption.

Ms. Mach seconded.

Ms. Craze mentioned the addition of “and/or” was needed to the draft ordinance as noted below.

Sec. 4-278.5. Carbon monoxide detectors required.

(a) Dwelling units heated with either natural or propane gas service **and/or** having an attached garage, or a wood or gas burning fireplace or stove, is required to have a carbon monoxide detector on every floor of the dwelling unit.

Ms. Ruff noted this was not a substantive change.

Ms. Davis moved to amend the ordinance with this change.

Ms. Mach seconded the amendment.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Davis - yes
 Mr. Herling - yes

Ms. Mach	-	yes
Ms. Pope	-	absent
Mr. Putens	-	yes
Mr. Roberts	-	yes
Mayor Jordan	-	yes

The ordinance was declared adopted (Ordinance No.1352, Book 12).

An Ordinance to Amend Greenbelt City Code, Chapter 4 “Buildings and Building Regulations,”
Article III “Property Maintenance Code,” to Add Section 4-149.5 “Window Guards”

Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Mr. Putens introduced the ordinance for second reading and adoption.

Ms. Mach seconded.

In response to a question from Mayor Jordan, Ms. Craze said that only Franklin Park had windows with a sill height of 24 inches or less from the floor and windows greater than 72 inches of the outside ground level.

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

The ordinance was declared adopted (Ordinance No.1353, Book 12).

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 Beer
 and Hard Cider at the Greenbelt Farmers Market between May 1st and December 24th of Each
Year

Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Ms. Davis said she wants to be sure Greenbelt Farmers Market understands Council’s policy that vendors must require identification from all individuals participating in beer and hard cider samplings and/or sales (same as requirement for individuals participating in wine tastings and/or sales).

Mr. Herling introduced the ordinance for first reading.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES: Council noted their attendance at the following events.

Clean Air Partners Meeting (by conference call) – Ms. Mach
Parent Cooperative Preschools International Meeting – Ms. Mach
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Transportation Planning
Board Meeting – Mr. Herling
Congressman Hoyer’s Town Hall Meeting at Reid Temple AME Church – Ms. Davis
33rd Annual Research Practicum Symposium and Luncheon at Eleanor Roosevelt High
School – Ms. Davis
Annual Egg Hunt at Buddy Attick Park – Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis, Ms. Pope and Mr.
Herling
Maker Faire at Roosevelt Center – Mayor Jordan and Ms. Davis
Maryland Municipal League (MML) Legislative Committee Meeting – Ms. Davis
MML Subcommittee Meeting on Utilities – Ms. Davis
Wall of Fame Induction at Beltway Plaza – Mayor Jordan and Ms. Davis
Meeting with Representatives from City of Mount Rainier at Greenbelt Movie Theater –
Mayor Jordan and Mr. Herling
American Red Cross Free Smoke Detector Staging Area at Greenbriar - Mayor Jordan
Earth Day – Mayor Jordan
Franklin Park Spring Fling – Mayor Jordan
Lady Angels Benefit Basketball Game – Mayor Jordan

COUNCIL REPORTS: None.

MEETINGS: Council reviewed the meeting schedule.

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Mach moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Davis seconded. The motion passed 6-0.

Mayor Jordan adjourned the regular meeting of Monday, April 24, 2017, at 11:10 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 April 24, 2017.

Emmett V. Jordan
Mayor