

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Monday, April 23, 2018.

Mayor Pro Tem Davis called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

PRESENT WERE: Councilmembers Judith F. Davis, Colin A. Byrd, Silke I. Pope, Rodney M. Roberts and Edward V. J. Putens. Mayor Emmett V. Jordan and Leta M. Mach were absent due to travel.

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Nicole Ard, City Manager; Todd Pounds, City Solicitor and Bonita Anderson, City Clerk.

Mayor Pro Tem Davis asked for a moment of silence in honor of Greenbelt residents Ronald Ott, Sharon Ann Alfaro, and Judith Gonda.

CONSENT AGENDA – Ms. Davis requested that #15 Reappointment to Advisory Groups be removed from the consent agenda. It was moved by Mr. Putens and seconded by Ms. Pope that the consent agenda be approved as amended. The motion carried vote 5-0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

Minutes:

Legislative Dinner, February 27, 2018

Work Session, March 17, 2018

Approved as presented

Board of Appeals Resolution for Variance #18-005-V: Council approved the Board of Appeals Resolution for Variance.

Community Center – Greenbelt Arts Center Lease: Council approved the Greenbelt Community Center Lease Agreement.

Resignation from Advisory Group: Council accepted the resignation of Julia Sharapi from the Youth Advisory Committee.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: It was moved by Mr. Byrd to add to the agenda “Request to send a Letter to the School Board as item #19. It was seconded by Mr. Roberts. The motion carried 5-0. It was moved by Mr. Putens and seconded by Mr. Byrd that the agenda be approved. The motion carried 5-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

No committee reports

PRESENTATIONS:

Older Americans Month Proclamation: Mayor Pro Tem Davis presented a proclamation recognizing May as Older Americans Month to Dr. Liz Park, Director of Greenbelt Cares. Dr. Park accepted 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.

Public Hearing: Mayor Pro Tem Davis read the agenda comments. She announced the meeting was recessed at 8:07 pm for the hearing.

Alex Barnes, Crescent Road addressed the City Council about implementing a cost of living adjustment (COLA) in the FY 2019 budget.

Molly Lester addressed the City Council about City resources for maintaining the Tugwell Collection. She also expressed her concerns about hiring an Economic Development Coordinator and that their first duty should be to host a community-based visioning session. Ms. Lester also expressed her concerns about the Animal Control Department's proposed relocation under the CARES Department.

Mayor Pro Tem Davis explained that the Council is concerned about the Tugwell Collection. There is a MOU in place and when it is time for funding, the City will find resources to maintain the collection. She further explained that the Council has not decided on the Economic Development Coordinator and the proposed relocation of the Animal Control Department.

The regular meeting reconvened at 8:20 pm.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS:

Bill Orleans, resident, inquired about the status of his previous request about the general City policy regarding evictions at Green Ridge House. He also inquired about the responses from Baltimore Washington Rapid Rail (BWRR) being posted to the city website. Mr. Orleans also spoke on behalf of a former Greenbelt resident who suggested that the city varnish the wooden bus shelters to preserve the wood.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Ms. Ard introduced Dr. Park to explain how the CARES Department operates and handles the homelessness issue within the city. Dr. Park introduced Rayann Pope, Department of Social Services (DDS), to provide an overview to the City Council on the outreach Prince George's County offers for mental health issues and homelessness in the County. Ms. Davis asked Ms. Ard and Mr. Pounds to contact Maryland Municipal League (MML) to gather more information about implementing an Anti-Camping Ordinance for the city. The DSS representative indicated that the County has small drop-in centers operated by faith-based communities. Dr. Park will plan a community meeting to address this issue.

Ms. Pope inquired about the Anti-Harassment Training offered by LGIT for all employees. She suggested that all City employees should attend. Ms. Ard mentioned that the training was offered in person and is available online. Mr. Putens inquired about the number of employees who had attended the training. He stated that all staff should attend the training. Mr. Byrd indicated that the training should be mandatory and implemented in the revised Anti-Harassment Policy. He also expressed his concern about the delay in response from Mr. Henley of BWRR to questions that the residents had about the proposed MAGLEV project.

LEGISLATION

None

OTHER BUSINESS

Violent Crime Reduction Plan: Mr. Byrd moved that Council direct the City Manager to have the Police Chief produce in writing a violence reduction, prevention and public safety strategic plan by or before May 23rd, 2018. There was no second.

Reappointment to Advisory Group: It was moved by Ms. Davis to reappointed Marc Siegel to PRAB, Jon Gardner to ACE, Robert B. Trumbule to ACT and to appoint Shamar Higgs to AAB, LEEAN Irwin to FPAB, Kristen Weaver to PRAB and Arsalan Siddiqui to YAC. It was seconded by Ms. Pope. The motion carried 5-0.

Council Activities:

Ms. Davis reported the following:

- Lunch with Municipal Leaders and Senator Ben Cardin (Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis and Mr. Byrd)
- Listening and Input Session, Future Museum Design Plan (Mayor Jordan and Ms. Davis)
- Maker Fair, Roosevelt Center (Ms. Davis)
- Anti-Harassment Presentation for City Employees (Ms. Davis and Mr. Byrd)
- MML Legislative Committee, Annapolis (Mayor Jordan and Ms. Davis)
- Golden Age Club 61st Annual Luncheon (Ms. Davis, Mr. Putens and Mr. Byrd)
- Prince George's County Municipal Association meeting, District Heights (Ms. Davis)
- Retirement Party for Lt. Robert Lauer (Ms. Davis and Mr. Byrd)
- Art and Music Performances by Eleanor Roosevelt Senior High School students, New Deal Café and Roosevelt Center (Ms. Davis)
- Presentation of the film Angst, Greenbelt Theatre (Ms. Davis)
- Dedication of Storm Water Management project at 20 Ct. Ridge, GHI (Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis, Mr. Putens and Mr. Byrd)

Mr. Robert expressed his gratitude to the Council for submission of the letter to the transportation board. The letter was discussed at the meeting he attended.

Ms. Pope reported her attendance at the opening ceremony for the Little League Baseball along with Mayor Jordan.

Council Reports: Council reported on meetings and conferences recently attended.

Federal funding (funding that was cut by Trump and added by Congress)

Letter to the Board of Education: Mr. Byrd moved that the Council send a letter to the Board of Education to confirm if the hidden camera was within the boundaries of the city. It was seconded by Mr. Roberts. Mr. Byrd expressed his concern on the issue. Mr. Putens moved to call the question for the original motion by Mr. Byrd. It was seconded by Ms. Pope. The motion carried 3-2. Discussion closed. Mayor Pro Tem Davis stated that the Council will vote on Mr. Byrd's motion

to send a letter to the Prince George's County School Board asking if the camera in question was in a Greenbelt school boundary. The motion failed 2-2-1.

MEETINGS: Council reviewed the meeting schedule.

Ms. Davis moved that Council schedule a Closed Session on Wednesday, May 16, 2018, immediately following the conclusion of the 7:30 pm Green Ridge House Work Session, in the library of the Municipal Building. Council will hold this closed meeting in accordance with the General Provisions Article 3-305(b)(1) of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland to meet with the City Manager.

Ms. Pope seconded.

ROLL CALL:	Ms. Davis	–	Yes
	Mr. Byrd	–	Yes
	Ms. Mach	–	Absent
	Ms. Pope	–	Yes
	Mr. Putens	–	Yes
	Mr. Roberts	–	No
	Mayor Jordan	–	Absent

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Putens and seconded by Ms. Pope. The motion carried 5-0. The Mayor adjourned the regular meeting of April 23rd, 2018, at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonita Anderson
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 23rd, 2018.

Judith F. Davis
Mayor Pro Tem