

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Monday, April 23, 2012.

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, 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 former Greenbelt residents William E. Cookson and Alicia Derin Andreou, and former College Park City Councilmember Jack Perry. She then led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Mayor Davis requested the minutes of the February 27, March 12 and March 26 meetings be removed from the agenda. With these changes, it was moved by Mr. Putens and seconded by Mr. Jordan that the consent agenda be approved. The motion passed 7-0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

- Work Session, August 3, 2011
 - Work Session, February 1, 2012
 - Work Session, March 7, 2012
 - Interview, March 12, 2012
 - Interview, March 26, 2012
 - Interview, April 9, 2012
 - Regular Meeting, April 9, 2012
- Approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Advisory Planning Board Report No. 2012-1 (Detailed Site Plan – Friends Community School): Council accepted this report and will consider it on the agenda of the next meeting.

Advisory Planning Board Report No. 2012-2 (Revised Detailed Site Plan – Sign Request for CVS at Greenway Shopping Center): Council accepted this report and will consider it on the agenda of the next meeting.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT INSURANCE TRUST (LGIT) – BOARD OF TRUSTEES BALLOT: Council authorized the City Clerk to respond affirmatively for the following four candidates for the LGIT Board of Directors: John Miller, Town of Middletown; David E. Carey, Town of Bel Air; Gregan T. Crawford, Garrett County; and John “Sonny” Bloxom, Worcester County.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mayor Davis requested “Letters of Support for Maryland Historical Trust Grant Applications” 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

Introduction of Christopher Scolese, New Center Director of Goddard: Mr. Scolese introduced himself to Council and provided an update on the current work being done at Goddard and his future vision for the facility. Ray Rubilotto, Director of Goddard Facilities, reviewed the capital improvement program plan.

Public Works Week – Proclamation: Mayor Davis issued a proclamation in recognition of the National “Public Works Week” which is celebrated May 20-26, 2012. Ken Hall, Director of Public Works, received the proclamation and reported on the success of the annual Public Works Open House.

National Kids to Parks Day – Proclamation: Mayor Davis issued a proclamation in recognition of the second “National Kids to Parks Day” which will be held on May 19, 2012. Joe McNeal, Assistant Director of Recreation, received the proclamation and provided an overview of this year’s events. Mr. McNeal also reported on the success of the Celebration of Spring, Arbor Day and Earth Day events at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center and the Three Lakes Walk.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. She then announced the meeting was recessed at 8:36 p.m. for the public hearing.

Proposed FY 2013 Budget: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Molly Lester, 6 Hillside Road, provided the following comments on the proposed budget:

1. Support of funding to define the City’s strategy and role in economic development.
2. Concern that data from the speed sentry has not been utilized to provide a more accurate estimate of the revenue that can be expected from the Speed Camera Program.
3. Support of funding to continue the GED and ESOL classes to residents of Greenbelt West.
4. Concern regarding a request for increase in personnel for the Animal Shelter, especially given the need for additional personnel in other areas such as CARES counseling services.
5. Concern regarding the amount of tax payer money being spent on the Animal Shelter.
6. Support of a different approach to capital projects revolving around prioritization, planning and budgeting of capital projects, based on needs versus wants.
7. Concern that the \$16,000 cost of the license plate reader requested for parking enforcement would not justify the return.

Future Cable Television Needs: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Dale Worley, Director of IT, provided an update on the negotiation process.

There was no public comment.

The regular meeting reconvened at 8:45 p.m.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS:

Mayor Davis read a petition from the Windsor Green Board of Directors requesting Council reconsider adopting a youth curfew law. Mayor Davis moved to refer the petition to staff, as well as the Public Safety Advisory Committee, Community Relations Advisory Board, Senior Citizens Advisory Committee and Youth Advisory Committee, for review. Mr. Putens seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Chris Shuman, 1-E Gardenway, expressed concern regarding the cost impact of the County storm water tax to average tax payers in the community. Mayor Davis said staff would be reviewing this new County legislation including how the tax will apply and what types of projects will be funded.

MINUTES:

Regular Meeting, February 27, 2012: Under Council Reports, Mayor Davis advised that Mr. Jordan, Mr. Herling, Ms. Pope and Mr. Putens had also attended the Greenbelt Community Foundation Tea. With this correction, she moved that the minutes be approved. Ms. Pope seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Regular Meeting, March 12, 2012: Under Council Reports, Mayor Davis advised that Ms. Mach had also attended the Prince George's Police Chief's meeting and Mr. Jordan had also attended the Metropolitan Washington Council of Government legislative lunch meeting in Annapolis. With these corrections, she moved that the minutes be approved. Ms. Mach seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Regular Meeting, March 26, 2012: Under Council Reports, Mayor Davis advised that Mr. Herling had also attended the Greenbelt Middle School Task Force meeting and the Prince George's County Municipal Association meeting. Under Legislation – Roll Call Votes, Mayor Davis noted that Mr. Putens was not present at the meeting due to a work commitment. With these corrections, she moved that the minutes be approved. Mr. Herling seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Executive Session of April 9, 2012, Statement of Record: Mr. Jordan moved that in accordance with Section 10-509 (c) (2) of the State Government Article of the *Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland*, the minutes of tonight's meeting reflect that Council met in executive session on Monday, April 9, at 10:10 p.m. in the Library of the Municipal Building. Council held this closed meeting in accordance with Section 10-508 (a) (1) of the State Government Article of the *Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland* to discuss a personnel matter.

Vote to close session:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Herling	X			
Mr. Jordan	X			
Ms. Mach	X			
Ms. Pope	X			

Mr. Putens	X			
Mr. Roberts	X			
Mayor Davis	X			

The following staff members were in attendance: Michael McLaughlin, City Manager; Robert Manzi, City Solicitor; and Cindy Murray, City Clerk.

Other individuals in attendance: None

Council took no actions during this session.

Mr. Herling seconded. The motion passed 7-0. .

Executive Session of April 9, 2012: Mr. Jordan moved that the minutes of the executive session of the City Council held Monday, April 9, 2012, be approved as presented. Ms. Pope seconded.

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

Executive Session of April 11, 2012, Statement of Record: Mr. Jordan moved that in accordance with Section 10-509 (c) (2) of the State Government Article of the *Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland*, the minutes of tonight's meeting reflect that Council met in executive session on Wednesday, April 11, 2012, at 7:04 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Planning Office, 15 Crescent Road. Council held this closed meeting in accordance with Section 10-508 (a) (1) of the State Government Article of the *Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland* to discuss a personnel matter.

Vote to close session:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Herling	X			
Mr. Jordan	X			
Ms. Mach	X			
Ms. Pope	X			
Mr. Putens	X			
Mr. Roberts	X			
Mayor Davis	X			

The following staff member was in attendance: Cindy Murray, City Clerk.

Other individuals in attendance: None

Council took no actions during this session.

Ms. Mach seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Executive Session of April 11, 2012: Mr. Jordan moved that the minutes of the executive session of the City Council held Wednesday, April 11, 2012, be approved as presented. Ms. Pope seconded.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mr. McLaughlin provided an update on the 75th Anniversary Symposium scheduled later this week.

COUNCIL REPORTS: Councilmembers commented on the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad's Annual Banquet, Public Works Open House, Celebration of Spring, Rededication of the Springhill Lake Recreation Center and the Earth Day and Arbor Day events. They also noted their attendance at the following meeting and events:

Greenbelt Consumer Cooperative Annual Meeting – Ms. Mach
Prince George's Elected Municipal Women's Meeting – Ms. Mach and Mayor Davis
Greenbelt Museum Annual Meeting – Ms. Mach and Mayor Davis
Clean Air Partners Board Meeting – Ms. Mach
Parents Cooperative Preschool International Meeting – Ms. Mach
Prince George's County Municipal Association Meeting – Mr. Herling and Mr. Jordan
Heritage Film Festival – Mr. Herling
Prince George's County Green Business Tax Credit Advisory Board – Mr. Herling
Council of Governments Board Meeting – Mr. Jordan and Mayor Davis
Prince George's Police Chief's Association Awards Banquet – Mr. Jordan and Mayor Davis
Still Water Creek Watershed Cleanup – Mr. Jordan
Delta Sigma Theta Town Hall meeting – Mr. Jordan
Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission Final Sector Plan Meeting –
Ms. Pope, Mayor Davis, Mr. Jordan and Mr. Putens
Springhill Lake Elementary School Cleanup – Mayor Davis and Ms. Pope
Cub Scout Pack 202 Lake Cleanup – Mayor Davis and Mr. Herling
Girl Scouts 100th Birthday Celebration – Mayor Davis
Greenbelt Artists Studio Tour and Reception – Mayor Davis and Mr. Jordan
Golden Age Club Annual Luncheon – Mayor Davis, Mr. Jordan, Mr. Putens and Mr. Roberts
Maryland Municipal League Board Meeting – Mayor Davis
Public Works Open House – Mayor Davis

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

LEGISLATION: None

NEW LIQUOR LICENSE – RESIDENCE INN: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Mr. Putens moved that Council take “No Position” on the application for a Class B (BH), Beer, Wine and Liquor License from Golden Triangle Greenbelt, LLC, t/a Residence Inn, Greenbelt, 6320 Golden Triangle Drive. Mr. Jordan seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

GREENBELT MIDDLE SCHOOL TASK FORCE, REPORT #2012-2 (RECOMMENDATION FOR INITIAL LEASE DISCUSSIONS): Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Beatrice Rodgers, Vice-Chair of the Greenbelt Middle School Task Force (GMSTF) explained that the GMSTF recommends that the City start discussions with Prince George’s County Public Schools (PGCPS) regarding a possible lease of part of the current Greenbelt Middle School building and grounds. She added that the GMSTF also recommends that the City undertake an effort to solicit feedback from residents regarding a possible City lease on the School.

Ms. Mach noted that Turning Point Academy (TPA) was discussing lease options with PGCPS and said the City should be part of these discussions if the City has any interest in sharing use of the facility.

There was discussion regarding the difficulty of entering into discussions with PGCPS without knowing exactly what the City wants. Ms. Mach said that Council may have a better idea after the May 5th community event scheduled at the school where the GMSTF will be asking for public input/ideas on what to do with the building. Mr. Putens and Mr. Jordan noted the need to have some of the questions the City already posed to PGCPS answered.

Mr. Roberts suggested Council meet with TPA directly. Mayor Davis recommended a meeting with TPA occur after a staff to staff meeting between the City and PGCPS.

Ms. Mach moved the Council direct staff to begin discussions with PGCPS regarding the City’s possible lease of the current Greenbelt Middle School building. She also moved that staff schedule a Public Hearing regarding City use of the current Greenbelt Middle School building soon after the May 5th community event. Mr. Herling seconded.

Mr. Shuman noted he was on the side of fiscal constraint and supported the current building being used as a school. He suggested the staff discussion include a conversation about which parts of the building are historic.

The motion passed 7-0.

COMMUNICATION FROM COUNCILMEMBER MACH (ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION): Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Jon Gardner, Chair of the Advisory Committee on Education (ACE), advised ACE had discussed the possible relocation of Turning Point Academy in the current Greenbelt Middle School

building. ACE had identified several concerns including lack of athletic fields, potential traffic problems and the impact of a competing K-8 school on surrounding schools.

Ms. Mach, Council liaison to ACE, said Janet Mirsky, ACE representative to the Greenbelt Middle School Task Force (GMSTF), had relayed these concerns to the GMSTF at their last meeting.

Council commented that the concerns identified by ACE were all good questions that should be relayed to Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) through staff to staff discussions.

In response to a question from Chris Shuman, Mr. Putens requested ACE submit a formal report to Council noting their concerns.

Mr. Roberts moved that Council send a letter to the Board of Education opposing an expansion of the school bus lot. No second was received. The motion died.

Molly Lester asked if there had been any outreach to the College Park and Berwyn Heights communities inviting them to participate in the community event regarding the Greenbelt Middle School scheduled for May 5th. Mr. McNeal said yes, participation from neighboring communities had been encouraged.

SELECTION OF STARFIRE CORPORATION FOR JULY 4TH FIREWORKS: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Mr. Hall, Director of Public Works, explained that Starfire Corporation has proposed to provide a fireworks show which can be choreographed to music, as well as the labor for set up and conduct of the show, at a cost of \$14,000. He advised the music would provide an addition to the standard fireworks show in recognition of the 75th anniversary celebration.

Mr. Putens moved that Council authorize the City Manager to contract with Starfire Corporation for the provision of the City's July 4th fireworks as described in its proposal. Ms. Pope seconded.

Mr. Herling mentioned the environmental concerns of fireworks shows that have been raised by environmental groups and suggested a laser show be considered. Mr. Hall said he would look into laser shows for future events.

Michael Hartman, Eva Fallon and two other members of the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability commented on the air pollution, water pollution, noise pollution, and danger to animals posed by fireworks shows. They requested an environmental and cost study on fireworks shows compared to laser shows.

Mr. Roberts mentioned the stress fireworks place on animals and suggested all pets be banned from the fireworks. He said he would support the fireworks this year but would like staff to research information on other types of shows for future events.

Ms. Mach said she received comments from several residents when campaigning last year that suggested fireworks on July 4th were not necessary. She said she would support fireworks this year because of the 75th Anniversary celebration.

The motion passed 7-0.

CONTRACT WITH BREKFORD CORPORATION FOR SPEED CAMERA PROGRAM:

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Chief Craze introduced Maurice Nelson from Brekford Corporation.

Mr. Putens questioned what expenses the speed camera revenues would cover. Mr. McLaughlin explained the revenues would cover the expense of an additional police officer.

Mr. Jordan expressed concern that ten speed cameras were too many. Chief Craze and Mr. McLaughlin said they initially had the same concerns but then realized that ten cameras would only cover five separate locations since two cameras are needed at each location to cover each direction of traffic.

Mayor Davis reviewed several items noted in the proposal and contract. She requested that quarterly reporting be provided.

Molly Lester, 6 Hillside, questioned who would be responsible for the security of credit card information. Mr. Nelson explained that Brekford contracts with Hartland Corporation as their credit card clearing house and they had been chosen because of their good security measures.

Chris Shuman, 1-E Gardenway, questioned the logistics of having an officer respond to all speed camera machines. Chief Craze explained that the machines can be monitored remotely by the officer issuing the citations and service for the machines would be provided by Brekford technicians locally located in Hanover, Maryland.

Mr. Putens moved that Council authorize the City Manager to execute the contract for a speed camera program with Brekford Corporation on behalf of the City. Ms. Pope seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

APPOINTMENTS TO ADVISORY GROUPS:

Ms. Mach moved that Council appoint Sieglinde Peterson, Consuella Harris and Robert Zugby to the Greenbelt Ethics Commission. Mr. Herling seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

OTHER REPORTS: Councilmembers presented reports on the following meetings and conferences they recently attended.

Mayor Davis – Council of Governments (COG) Board of Directors Meeting

Mr. Jordan – COG Transportation Planning Board Meeting

LETTERS OF SUPPORT FOR MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST GRANT

APPLICATIONS: Mayor Davis explained that a request had been received from Jen Ruffner at the Maryland Historical Trust who is working with Greenbelt Homes Incorporated (GHI) on a project to make GHI homes more energy efficient. The Trust is applying for grants from the National Trust for Historic Preservation and Preservation Maryland to support the hiring of a consultant to provide GHI with some energy efficiency solutions that are preservation minded and had requested the City's support of the grant applications.

Mayor Davis moved that Council send letters to the National Trust for Historic Preservation and Preservation Maryland supporting the grant applications submitted by the Maryland Historical Trust for the GHI project. Mr. Putens 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, April 23, 2012, at 11:33 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 23, 2012."

Judith F. Davis
Mayor