

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held March 25, 2024.

Mayor Jordan called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL was answered by Councilmembers Amy E. Knesel, Danielle P. McKinney, Jennifer A. Pompei, Silke I. Pope, Rodney M. Roberts, Kristen L.K. Weaver, and Mayor Emmett V. Jordan.

ALSO PRESENT were Josué Salmerón, City Manager; Timothy George, Assistant City Manager; Bertha Gaymon, City Treasurer; Terri Hruby, Planning Director (online); Greg Varda, Recreation Director; Brian Kim, Acting Public Works Director; John McMullin, Horticulture Supervisor; Chondria Andrews, Public Information Officer; Jamarie Spencer, Public Information Producer; and Bonita Anderson, City Clerk.

Mayor Jordan asked for a moment of silence in honor of those who passed since the last meeting. Ms. Weaver then led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

CONSENT AGENDA: Mayor Jordan requested that item #20, Municipal Building Finance Department Renovations, be removed from the consent agenda. The request was approved after being moved by Mayor Jordan and seconded by Ms. Pope. The consent agenda was then approved with the amendment 7-0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

MEETINGS: Council approved the meetings list.

STAKEHOLDER LIST: Council approved the stakeholder list.

APPOINTMENT TO ADVISORY BOARD: Council approved the appointment of Nicole Shyong to the Board of Elections.

REAPPOINTMENT TO ADVISORY BOARD/COMMITTEE: Council reappointed Susan Gregersen for a new term to serve on the Forest Preserve Advisory Board.

Letter – TheBus Proposed Spring Service Changes: Council approved staff submitting a comment letter on DPW&T's Spring 2024 Proposed Service Changes for TheBus opposing the service changes proposed for Route 11 and supporting the proposed changes for Route 15X as well as the addition of a new Route 61 connecting Greenbelt and Laurel.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Ms. Pompei moved to add the legislative update under section III, Legislation, to the agenda. Ms. Pope seconded the motion, and the agenda was approved as amended. The motion passed 7-0.

PRESENTATIONS:

Arbor Day Proclamation: Mayor Jordan proclaimed Saturday, April 13, Arbor Day. Charles Jackman, an Advisory Committee on Trees member, and John McMullin were present to accept the proclamation and gave an overview of this year's Arbor Day events.

Award of the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Award for FY2024 Budget: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Ms. Gaymon accepted the award.

Proposed FY 2025 Budget Preparation: Mr. Salmerón submitted to Council the proposed budget for FY 2025. It was noted that Council will hold work sessions on each department's budget and two public hearings on the proposed budget.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS:

Mary Johnson, a resident, expressed her concern about a recent staff restructuring. She stated that only Council could restructure a classified position, and to her knowledge, Council was not involved in the process nor had authorized the restructuring. This, she stated, violates the City Code.

Bill Orleans, a resident, inquired about the recent mid-session legislative dinner. 1) who was the host, 2) who was in attendance, and 3) who paid for the dinner.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS: None.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mr. Salmerón noted the Springhill Lake Recreation Center renovations and playground improvement, which will be discussed later on the agenda. Mayor Jordan announced that officers and staff of the National League of Cities will visit the City on April 15 to celebrate its 100th anniversary. Mayor Pro Tem Weaver announced that the Community Center elevator has been repaired and is running.

LEGISLATION

Legislative Review: Mayor Jordan mentioned that there will be a discussion about the amendments to County Council bill CB15, which pertains to the zoning rewrite. Ms. Hruby explained the bill and gave a brief overview of a draft letter of opposition that was emailed this afternoon to Council regarding CR-22-2024, a resolution concerning zoning ordinance transitional provisions. Mayor Jordan moved that Council authorize the letter to be sent to the County Council. Ms. Weaver seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Mayor Jordan provided an update of legislative bills, noting that the crossover date was on Monday. The bills moving ahead are HB396 (Telecommunications Tax), SB191 (Tax Credit for Teachers), and SB747/HB165 (Audit Reporting for Municipalities).

Springhill Lake Recreation Center Storefront Door & Interior Painting: Mayor Jordan reviewed the agenda comments. Mr. Kim provided a brief overview of the staff recommendations, which included installing a new main entrance door and painting the interior of SLRC and the clubhouse.

Ms. Pope made a motion for Council to approve the purchase of a new door and installation from E.J. Whitcomb & Sons, Inc., for \$14,225 and painting services from Tri Star Contractor, Inc., for \$11,550. Ms. Pompei seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Ballfield Improvements ARPA Project – Schrom Hills Park Multi-purpose Field/Braden Complex Fields #1 & #2: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Mr. Varda provided a brief overview of the project's scope of work. Ms. Weaver moved that Council approve the project management services of Charles P. Johnson & Associates, Inc. (CPJ) for \$190,133. Ms. Pope seconded the motion, which passed 6-1 vote (Mr. Roberts).

Municipal Building Finance Department Renovations: Mr. Salmerón provided a brief overview and recommended reconfiguring the existing floor plan to allocate a separate section for the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) team, Grants Coordinator, and Economic Development staff within the current Human Resources office space. No action was taken.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES: The Council briefly reviewed their list of activities.

Events between March 12 and March 25, 2024

- 13 March: Tour of Greenbelt for MML President John Carroll and Celina Benitez, Mayor of Mount Rainier (Mayor Jordan, Ms. McKinney, Ms. Pompei, and Ms. Weaver)
- 14 March: Elizabeth Seton High School Day of Service (Mayor Jordan and Ms. Pompei)
- 14 March: Citizens Police Academy (Ms. Knesel, Ms. McKinney, and Ms. Pompei)
- 14 March: Community Relations Advisory Board (Ms. Pompei)
- 14 March: Meeting with City Manager (Mayor Jordan)
- 15 March: GIVES quarterly meeting (Mayor Jordan and Ms. Pope)
- 15 March: Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee (Ms. Pompei)
- 16 March: Learn 2 Earn graduation celebration (Mayor Jordan, Ms. Weaver, Ms. McKinney, Ms. Knesel, Ms. Pompei, and Ms. Pope)
- 16 March: Greenbelt Animal Shelter Pet Food Pantry (Ms. Pope)
- 17 March: Greenbelt Community Orchestra Concert (Mayor Jordan, Ms. Weaver, Ms. Knesel, and Ms. Pompei)
- 17 March: Panel of women elected officials at Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club meeting (Ms. McKinney, Ms. Pompei, and Ms. Weaver)
- 18 March: PGCMA Legislative Committee (Mayor Jordan and Ms. Pompei)
- 19 March: GHI Open House (Ms. Pompei and Ms. Weaver)
- 20 March: Legislative Dinner (Mr. Jordan, Ms. Weaver, Ms. McKinney, Ms. Knesel, Ms. Pompei, Mr. Roberts, and Ms. Pope)
- 21 March: SHL Elementary Women's History Event (Ms. Pompei, Ms. Pope, and Ms. Weaver)
- 21 March: Transportation Planning Board Visualize 2050 Work Session and Monthly Meeting (Ms. Weaver)
- 21 March: Prince George's County Municipal Association (Mayor Jordan and Ms. Pompei)
- 21 March: Eleanor Roosevelt High School Career Day (Mayor Jordan and Ms. McKinney)
- 22 March: Friends of the Greenbelt East Trail Stakeholder Meeting (Ms. Weaver)
- 22 March: Greenbelt Elementary School Career Day (Mayor Jordan)
- 22 March: Cookies at the Bridge (Mayor Jordan, Ms. Pope, Ms. Weaver)
- 23 March: Youth Author Jordan Owens Book Signing (Ms. Pompei and Ms. Weaver)
- 24 March: Mass for Helen White (Mayor Jordan)

24 March: Greenbelt Animal Shelter Adoption Event (Ms. Pompei)
24 March: GATE Annual Meeting (Ms. Knesel)
25 March: PGCMA Legislative Committee (Mayor Jordan and Ms. Pompei)
25 March: Meeting with City Manager (Mayor Jordan)

CLOSED SESSION: Ms. Weaver moved that Council go into a Closed Session, in accordance with the General Provisions Article 3-305(b)(1) of the *Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland* to discuss a personnel matter. Ms. Pope seconded.

ROLL CALL: Ms. McKinney- Yes
 Ms. Pompei - Yes
 Ms. Pope - Yes
 Ms. Knesel - Yes
 Mr. Roberts - No
 Ms. Weaver - Yes
 Mayor Jordan - Yes

Ms. Weaver noted that Council would not return to open session.

The Mayor adjourned the regular meeting of March 25, 2024, at 9:52 pm.

Council moved into Closed Session at 9:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonita Anderson

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 March 25, 2024.



Emmett V. Jordan
Mayor