

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Monday, March 13, 2017.

Mayor Jordan called the meeting to order at 8:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL was answered by Councilmembers Judith F. Davis, Konrad E. Herling, Leta M. Mach, Silke I. Pope, Edward V. J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts and Mayor Emmett V. Jordan.

ALSO PRESENT were Nicole Ard, City Manager; David E. Moran, Assistant City Manager; John Shay, City Solicitor; and Cindy Murray, City Clerk.

Mayor Jordan asked for a moment of silence in memory of former Greenbelt resident Bryan Dale Crick. Mr. Herling then led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

CONSENT AGENDA: Ms. Mach requested the minutes of the regular meeting of February 13, 2017, be removed from the consent agenda. With this change, it was moved by Mr. Putens and seconded by Ms. Pope that the consent agenda be approved. The motion passed 7-0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

Minutes:

Work Session, February 22, 2017

Interview, March 6, 2017

Approved as presented.

Committee Reports:

Advisory Committee on Education, Report #2017-3 (Voting at Age 16 in Greenbelt City Elections): Council accepted this report and will consider it on a future agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: It was moved by Ms. Pope and seconded by Ms. Davis that the agenda be approved. The motion passed 7-0.

PRESENTATIONS:

ACE Educators Awards Ceremony: Janet Mirsky, Advisory Committee on Education (ACE), described the awards program. She introduced the County officials and ACE Members who were present.

Melinda Brady, ACE, introduced and described the 2017 ACE Educator Award recipients from Greenbelt schools.

City Council, County Councilmember Todd Turner, Board of Education Representative Lupi Grady, and Joe Schlosnagle (representing State Senator Pinsky and State Delegates Anne Healey, Tawanna Gaines, and Alonzo Washington who were not able to attend) presented each recipient with a certificate.

The 2017 award recipients were:

Bonnie Merryman – Springhill Lake Elementary School
Joseph Fernandez – Magnolia Elementary School
Felecia Motley - Turning Point Academy
Michelle Harrison - Greenbelt Elementary School
Renita Staley – Greenbelt Middle School
Erika Brett – Eleanor Roosevelt High School

Mayor Jordan thanked everyone for attending.

Recognition of Brian and Camille Butler: Council presented a letter of support to Brian and Camille Butler for the Journey to Health Fitness and Awareness Fair scheduled for March 26, 2017, at Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS:

Greenbelt Compost Group: Lore Rosenthal and Beth Leamond of the Zero Waste Circle and Greenbelt Compost Group presented a petition requesting City support of a Community Impact Grant request they are submitting to the Prince George’s County Redevelopment Authority (due March 31, 2017) to secure funds for two composting projects. They requested Council provide: 1) a letter of support for the overall project; and 2) permission to use locations at the Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center and Public Works (or alternative locations based on City staff recommendations) for the compost project sites. Mayor Jordan said the request would be handled administratively by the City Manager.

Bill Orleans, Greenbelt, requested that Council provide an explanation of past executive sessions.

Colin Byrd, Mathew Street, asked and was provided answers regarding Council’s letter to David Hillman dated February 23, 2017, regarding the Lakeside North Development Concept.

Colin Byrd expressed concern about the positions and level of commitment to public education by Education Secretary Betsy DeVos. He asked Council to send a letter to Secretary DeVos asking for her to commit in general terms to supporting public education in terms of funding and opposing any over prioritization of vouchers/privatization of schools over public schools. Council indicated they would not do so as a council body and suggested Mr. Byrd write a letter to Secretary DeVos. Mr. Byrd said he had already done so. Mayor Jordan requested Mr. Byrd provide him with a copy of the letter.

MINUTES:

Regular Meeting, February 13, 2017: Under Petitions & Requests and the Council suggestion that the request from Eli Zimet, Greenbelt Concert Band, be considered during the upcoming budget process, Ms. Mach asked that her request “the example of swim team coaches being paid by the city be considered in relation to this request” be included. With this change, it was moved by Ms. Mach and seconded by Ms. Pope that the minutes be approved. The motion passed 7-0.

Statement for the Record - Executive Session of February 28, 2017: Ms. Davis moved that in accordance with the General Provisions Article, Section 3-306(c)(2) of the Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland, the minutes of tonight's meeting reflect that Council met in executive session on Tuesday, February 28, 2017, at 8:05 p.m. in Room 114 of the Greenbelt Community Center. 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.

Vote to close session:

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

The following staff member was in attendance: Nicole Ard, City Manager.

Other individuals in attendance: Stephen Silvestri, Legal Counsel, and Andrew Baskin, Associate to Legal Counsel.

Council took no actions during this session.

Mr. Herling seconded.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Ms. Ard reported that Public Works crews were prepared for the approaching winter storm.

LEGISLATION:

An Ordinance to Amend Greenbelt City Code, Chapter 2 "Administration," Article IV, "Public Ethics," Sec. 2-111 "Financial Disclosure – Elected Officials, Appointed Officials and

Employees” to Amend the Real Property and City Employment Reporting Requirements for Certain Employees

Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Ms. Pope introduced the ordinance for first reading.

Grant Application – Green Streets, Green Jobs, Green Towns: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Ms. Bellah, Community Planner, explained that Phase One of the retrofit green street concept design for the reconstruction of Cherrywood Lane (CVS Entrance to just before the Greenbelt Metro Drive roundabout) as a green and complete street is currently at 30% design and the next step toward implementation is to produce an engineered design. She said under the Green Streets, Green Jobs, Green Towns Grant Program, the City may apply for up to \$30,000 for development of engineered designs. A match is encouraged but not required for this grant.

Ms. Bellah advised that the estimated cost to complete engineered designs for Phase One of the project is \$320,000. She noted that it will be necessary to acquire additional funding to complete engineered designs either through additional grants or utilization of Greenbelt West funds dedicated to Cherrywood Lane improvements.

Ms. Bellah explained that a green street is an environmentally friendly street designed to reduce stormwater runoff and improve a street’s ecological performance. She said a complete street incorporates facilities to serve the transportation needs of pedestrians, bicyclists, vehicles and buses.

Ms. Davis moved that Council pledge \$30,000 cash match for the Green Streets, Green Jobs, Green Towns Grant as proposed by staff. Ms. Pope seconded.

Ms. Mach said she would like the Cherrywood Lane sidewalk to be included to provide walkability to Greenbelt Metro for residents in the area. Ms. Bellah said this will be considered in the engineering phase.

Mr. Roberts said the estimated engineering cost is very high. Ms. Bellah advised that the estimate was developed by a consultant in the concept design phase who prepared a conservatively high estimate. She noted that a request for proposals for the design project would be issued.

The motion passed 7-0.

Greenbelt Station North Core – Development Agreement: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Ms. Davis moved that Council approve the proposed Greenbelt Station North Core Development Agreement as proposed to include review and approval authority of stormwater management plans. Ms. Mach seconded.

Under Item #18 (Metroland Developers recognizes the City's position regarding the widening of MD Route 201 and agrees to support the City's position to the extent that it would not have any effect or cause any delays in the development of the project), Mr. Herling noted his opposition to the widening of Kenilworth Avenue. Mr. Roberts agreed. Ms. Davis noted that this (opposition of widening of MD Route 201) was Council's position also.

The motion passed 6-1 (Roberts).

State Legislation

HB 1374 – State Highway Administration Neighbor Notification Act: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Ms. Davis moved that Council support HB 1374 with an amendment requiring municipal notification. Ms. Pope seconded.

The motion passed 7-0.

Council Activities: Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis, Mr. Herling, Ms. Mach, Ms. Pope and Mr. Putens reported on their participation in committee meetings and workshops at the National League of Cities Congressional City Conference. They also noted their attendance at the following events.

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Air Quality Committee Meeting – Ms. Mach
Greenbelt Youth Musical “Buried Treasure” – Ms. Davis and Mr. Herling
Central Maryland Transportation and Mobility Commission and RTA Partners Meeting – Ms. Davis
County Council Member Turner's District 4 Listening Session – Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis, Mr. Herling, Ms. Mach and Mr. Putens
Greenbelt Homes, Inc. Board Meeting – Ms. Davis
Maryland Municipal League (MML) Legislative Committee Meeting – Ms. Davis
COG Chesapeake Bay Policy Committee Meeting Conference Call – Ms. Davis
MML If I Were Mayor Contest Presentation at Magnolia Elementary School – Mayor Jordan

Lore Rosenthal, 2-R Gardenway, noted her support of councilmembers attending the National League of Cities. In response to her question regarding Council support of federal issues, Mayor Jordan and Ms. Davis explained that Council relies on NLC, COG and MML, who have staff and lobbyists that deal with federal issues. Mayor Jordan agreed and noted that councilmembers serve on many committees within these organizations. Ms. Davis said if Council is requested by one of the organizations to take a position on a specific federal issue, Council does consider the request.

Council Reports: None

MEETINGS: Council reviewed the meeting schedule.

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Mach moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Putens seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Mayor Jordan adjourned the regular meeting of Monday, March 13, 2017, at 10:15 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 March 13, 2017.

Emmett V. Jordan
Mayor