

WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Monday, February 4, 2013, with NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC).

Mayor Davis started the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

PRESENT WERE: Councilmembers Konrad E. Herling, Emmett V. Jordan, Leta M. Mach, Edward V.J. Putens, Silke I. Pope, Rodney M. Roberts, and Mayor Judith F. Davis.

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Michael McLaughlin, City Manager, and David Moran, Assistant City Manager.

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Chris Scolese, Center Director; Ray Rubilotta, Deputy Director of Management Operations, Phillina Tookes, Legislative Affairs Specialist, Bill Orleans, Greenbelt resident and Angel Torres, News Review

Mayor Davis began with introductions. Mr. Scolese summarized the activities and missions that Goddard was involved in. He noted the Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution spacecraft had been built at Goddard. Mr. Rubilotta reported that GSFC had authority to build a flight projects building.

Mr. Scolese stated that the personnel level and budget for GSFC had been stable. He noted there were some cuts but they had not been significant. Mayor Davis asked about the impact of sequestration. Mr. Scolese responded that GSFC had not received guidance from NASA headquarters as to what would be cut under sequestration.

Mr. Jordan asked if sequestration would impact capital projects. Mr. Scolese responded that they did not foresee an impact.

Mr. Rubilotta reviewed the GSFC Capital Improvements Program. He noted the new facilities being built as well as several buildings being deconstructed. He stated that GSFC was actually reducing the overall square footage by a more efficient use of space.

Ms. Tookes provided a timeline on the new Visitor Center project.

Mr. Scolese stated they were planning an Open House in September, 2013. He announced a Veterans job fair being promoted by the Maryland Space Business Roundtable.

Mr. Jordan thanked GSFC for participating in the City's business breakfast. Mr. Jordan asked if there was anything the City could do to support GSFC contractors. Mr. Scolese indicated that Greenbelt is viewed as a good place to work and thanked the City for its support to GSFC.

Mayor Davis asked about the bike path to connect GSFC to Greenbriar. Mr. Rubilotta indicated that a lack of funding prevented them from undertaking any new activity like the proposed path.

Informational Items

Mr. Putens stated that the street lights at Hanover Parkway and Ora Glen were dim, making it difficult to see pedestrians at the intersection. Mr. Putens also noted a problem with persons using debit cards at gas stations being penalized.

Mr. McLaughlin announced that Fire Chief Bashoor would be at the Council Meeting on Monday. Mr. McLaughlin reported on a tour of the five classrooms identified for possible lease to the City at the old Greenbelt Middle School.

The meeting ended at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*David Moran
Assistant City Manager*