

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Monday, January 23, 2017.

Mayor Jordan called the meeting to order at 8:00 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; Karen Ruff, Associate to the City Solicitor; and Cindy Murray, City Clerk.

Mayor Jordan asked for a moment of silence in honor of former Greenbelt residents Joan Lloyd and Colleen Shafer. Mr. Putens then led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

CONSENT AGENDA: It was moved by Mr. Putens and seconded by Mr. Herling that the consent agenda be approved. The motion passed 7-0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

Minutes:

Regular Meeting, December 12, 2016
Work Session, December 19, 2016
Interview, January 9, 2017
Regular Meeting, January 9, 2017
Work Session, January 11, 2017

Approved as presented.

Committee Reports:

Advisory Committee on Education, Report #2017-2 (Grant Program – 2016 Final Reports): Council accepted this report. No further action was recommended.

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

PRESENTATIONS:

Oath of Office – City Manager Nicole Ard: Mayor Jordan administered the oath of office to Greenbelt's new City Manager, Nicole Ard. Council welcomed Ms. Ard to the City.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS:

Brian Almquist, Greenbelt Advocates for Environmental and Social Justice, presented 500 signatures collected for the petition (submitted 6-6-2016) to oppose the proposed development of a high-rise apartment complex on forested land adjacent to the Lakeside North Apartments by David Hillman, Southern Management Corporation. He requested Council respond to the petition and notify Mr. Hillman of its opposition to the proposed development. Mayor Jordan said the petition was on Council's agenda for the next meeting.

Bill Orleans, Greenbelt, asked about executive sessions of Council regarding acquisition of real property.

Lore Rosenthal, Greenbelt Climate Action Network (GCAN), thanked Council for including State Legislation PG 422 “Authority to Prohibit the Use of Disposable Bags” on the agenda for discussion this evening. She asked that if Council votes to support the legislation, copies of the letters sent to the State be provided to GCAN as well as the Zero Waste Circle group.

Colin Byrd, Mathew Street, asked about his previous request for Council to adopt a non-discrimination ordinance. Mayor Jordan said the request was under review by staff. Mr. Byrd also suggested plaques (similar to Council plaques in the Council room) be considered to recognize service of all Greenbelt City Managers.

MINUTES:

Minutes – Executive Session of January 3, 2017: Ms. Davis moved that the minutes of the executive session of the City Council held Tuesday, January 3, 2017, at 8:05 p.m., in the Library of the Municipal Building be approved as presented. Council held this closed meeting in accordance with the General Provisions Article, §3-305(b)(1) of the Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland, to consider a personnel matter (contract negotiations for the City Manager position).

Ms. 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

Minutes – Executive Session #1 of January 4, 2017: Ms. Davis moved that the minutes of the executive session of the City Council held Wednesday, January 4, 2017, at 7:01 p.m. in Room 201 of the Greenbelt Community Center be approved as presented. 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.

Ms. Pope seconded.

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

Mr. Roberts - yes
Mayor Jordan - yes

Minutes – Executive Session #2 of January 4, 2017: Ms. Davis moved that the minutes of the executive session of the City Council held Wednesday, January 4, 2017, at 9:43 p.m. in Room 201 of the Greenbelt Community Center be approved as presented. Council held this closed meeting in accordance with the General Provisions Article, §3-305(b)(3) of the Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland, to consider the acquisition of real property.

Ms. Pope 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 members of the Greenbelt Police Department had assisted with inaugural events.

Council requested a congratulatory letter be sent to the Mayor and Council of Greenhills, Ohio, on the City receiving designation as a National Historic Landmark from the U.S. Secretary of Interior.

LEGISLATION: None

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, REPORT #2017-1 (GRANT PROPOSALS – 2017): Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Jon Gardner, member of the Advisory Committee on Education (ACE), reported that ACE had solicited grant proposals for up to \$500 each from the seven ACE core schools: Greenbelt Elementary, Springhill Lake Elementary, Magnolia Elementary, Dora Kennedy French Immersion School, Turning Point Academy, Greenbelt Middle School and Eleanor Roosevelt High School. He said after a review of the 36 proposals received from six schools totaling \$16,848.24, ACE is recommending 20 grant proposals totaling \$8,638.55 be approved for funding. Mr. Gardner advised the FY 2017 budget includes \$9,500 for the ACE Grants Program.

Ms. Davis moved that Council approve the distribution of the 2017 ACE Grant Awards totaling \$8,638.55 as recommended by ACE in its Report #2017-1. Ms. Pope seconded.

In response to questions from Ms. Davis and Mr. Putens, Mr. Gardner explained the ACE grant writing workshops for the schools.

Council complimented ACE on its work on the Grants Awards Program.

The motion passed 7-0.

REQUEST TO MODIFY SCHOOL BOUNDARIES FOR GREENBELT STATION NEIGHBORHOOD: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Ms. Mach said she would attend the Board of Education public hearing on school boundaries the week of February 5, 2017, to advocate (on behalf of Council) for children living in Greenbelt Station to be reassigned from Berwyn Heights Elementary and Parkdale High Schools to Greenbelt schools such as Greenbelt Elementary and Eleanor Roosevelt High Schools.

Mr. Putens suggested a representative from the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Education attend the public hearing.

After discussion, Council suggested that a letter summarizing all the actions that the City had taken to address the situation be provided to the Board of Education. These actions include the meetings held by Council with Lupi Grady, Greenbelt's School Board representative, Kevin Maxwell, the PGCPs Chief Executive Officer, and Johndel Jones-Brown, Director of PGCPs's Pupil Accounting and Boundaries Office, as well as all the correspondence between the city and school system.

STATE LEGISLATION:

PG 422 – Authority to Prohibit the Use of Disposable Bags: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Mr. Moran explained this enabling legislation would allow the County to prohibit the use of disposable plastic and paper bags, except for those bags used for certain uses such as bulk items, flowers, newspapers, etc. He noted that the City had supported similar legislation last year.

Ms. Davis moved that Council support PG 422. Mr. Putens seconded.

Mr. Putens and Ms. Pope said that plastic bags had been included in previously supported legislation but question when paper bags had been included. Mr. Moran will check and report back to Council.

The motion passed 7-0.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES: Councilmembers noted their attendance at the following activities and events:

Maryland Municipal League (MML) Legislative Reception – Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis, Mr. Herling and Ms. Mach
Prince George's Elected Municipal Women's Meeting – Ms. Davis and Ms. Mach
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service Event at Buddy Attick Park – Mayor Jordan, Ms. Pope and Mr. Putens
Maryland Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council Meeting – Mr. Herling

Central Maryland Transportation and Mobility Commission and RTA Partners Meeting – Ms. Davis

MML Legislative Committee Meeting – Ms. Davis

District 22 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Reception – Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis and Mr. Herling

MML Utility Subcommittee Conference Call – Ms. Davis

Springhill Lake Elementary; School Literacy Fair - Ms. Davis (as Judge)

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Chesapeake Bay Policy Committee Conference Call – Ms. Davis

Women's March on Washington – Ms. Davis and Ms. Mach

COG Board Meeting – Mayor Jordan

Senator Jim Rosapepe's Winter Brunch at College Park Aviation Museum - Mayor Jordan and Mr. Herling

National League of Cities Inaugural Reception – Mr. Putens and Ms. Pope

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, January 23, 2017, at 9:50 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 January 23, 2017.

Emmett V. Jordan
Mayor