

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL
Municipal Building
Regular Meeting
January 8, 2018 - 08:00 p.m.

I. ORGANIZATION

1. [Call to Order](#)
2. [Roll Call](#)
3. [Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag](#)
4. [Consent Agenda ??? Approval of Staff Recommendations \(Items on the Consent Agenda \[marked by *\] will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.\)](#)
5. [Approval of Agenda and Additions](#)

II. [COMMUNICATIONS](#)

6. Presentations
7. [Petitions and Requests \(Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless Council waives its Standing Rules.\)](#)
8. Minutes of Council Meetings

* Interview, October 2, 2017

[INT171002](#)

* Interview, November 1, 2017

[INT171101](#)

* Interview, November 20, 2017

[INT171120](#)

* Regular Meeting, August 14, 2017

[RM170814](#)

Statement for the Record - Executive Session, December 18, 2017

The following motion is needed:

I move that the minutes of tonight's meeting reflect that Council met in closed session on Monday, December 18, 2017, at 7:05 p.m. in the City Council Room of the Municipal Building. Council held this closed meeting in accordance with the General Provisions Article, §3-305(b)(10) of the Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland, to discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to the public or to public security, including: i) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans. Seconded by Ms. Pope.

Vote to close session:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ms. Davis	X			
Mr. Byrd	X			

Ms. Mach	X			
Ms. Pope	X			
Mr. Putens				X
Mr. Roberts				X
Mayor Jordan	X			

Mr. Putens arrived at 7:05 pm and Mr. Roberts arrived at 7:35 pm.
The following staff members were in attendance: Nicole Ard, City Manager, David Moran, Assistant City Manager, Devin Williams, William Beal, George Mathews and Tom Kemp, Acting Police Chief.
Council took no actions during this session.

Statement for the Record - Executive Session, January 3, 2018

The following motion is needed:

I move that the minutes of tonight's meeting reflect that Council met in closed session on Wednesday, January 3, 2018, at 7:01 p.m. in the Room 201 of the Community Center. 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 discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.
Seconded by Mr. Putens.

Vote to close session:

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

The following staff members were in attendance: Nicole Ard, City Manager, Karen Ruff, City Solicitor and Bonita Anderson, City Clerk. Also in attendance: Jason DeLoach. Council took no actions during this session. (BA)

9. [Administrative Reports](#)

* 10. Committee Reports

III. [LEGISLATION](#)

11. [A Resolution of the Council of the City of Greenbelt Adopted Pursuant to the authority of Article XI-E of the Constitution of Maryland and Title 4, Subtitle 3 of the Local Government Article of](#)

the Annotated Code of Maryland, to Amend the Charter of the City of Greenbelt Found, in Whole or in Part, in the Compilation of Municipal Charters of Maryland (1983 Edition as Amended), as Prepared by the Department of Legislative Services Pursuant to Chapter 77 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland of 1983, by Amending Sections 12, 15, 16 and 20 to Change the Voting Age for City Elections to Those 16 Years Old and Older and to Clarify that Those Who Serve on the Employee Relations Board, Board of Elections and City Council must be at least 18 years old. - 2nd Reading & Adoption

The Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) recommended lowering the voting age for City Elections to 16 in July 2015 and conducted a survey of youth where 87% of respondents favored lowering the age. A question was included on the 2015 Community Questionnaire where 77% of respondents did not favor lowering the age. Council held a Work Session with YAC on November 2, 2016. Council also received reports from the Advisory Committee on Education and the Community Relations Advisory Board. A Public Hearing on this issue was held on May 22, 2017. On September 11, 2017, the Council adopted the resolution to have the advisory question of amending the City Charter to lower the Voting Age to 16 be placed on the election ballot of the Regular Municipal Election, which was held on November 7, 2017. The total number of votes for the Charter Amendment was 1,215 and the total number of votes against the Charter Amendment was 1,070.

Included in Council packet is Charter Amendment Resolution to lower the voting age to 16 years of age for second reading and establishes a minimum age of 18 to run for City Council, and to serve on the Board of Elections and Employee Relations Board. (BA).

Charter Amendment Voting Age

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

12. Consent to Appointment of City Solicitor

The City Charter states that the City Manager appoints a City Solicitor

with City Council consent. Upon approval of this item, Council consents to the appointment of Alexander & Cleaver as the City Solicitor for a one year period beginning on January 8, 2018. A five member panel interviewed the four responding firms and recommended Alexander & Cleaver. To initiate the search for the City Solicitor, the City issued and distributed a Request for Qualifications, including posting on the City and Maryland Municipal League websites, and advertisement in the Greenbelt News Review and the Maryland Municipal Attorney's Association's list serve. A copy of the Request for Qualifications, as well as a copy of the recommended firm's response is attached. The recommendation follows interviews of the four responding firms. The five-member interview panel was comprised of the appointing official, City Manager Nicole Ard, as well as Assistant City Manager David Moran, City Treasurer Jeff Williams, Human Resources Director Mary Johnson, and City Solicitor Karen Ruff. The panel highly regarded Alexander & Cleaver's qualifications in municipal service, personnel, law enforcement, and the Law Enforcement Officers Bill of Rights, land use and zoning. The firm's experience in contracting and environmental matters was also noted. The firm will provide legal services to the City, not lobbying or government relations services that it provides to other municipalities like Takoma Park or Gaithersburg. The firm will conduct rigorous conflict of interest checks throughout the term. As in the past, the City will continue to use firms that specialize in various matters to supplement the City Solicitor's legal counsel, for example, environmental or bond counsel. Council received a copy of the recommended firm's response on December 22, 2017. Council met with an Alexander & Cleaver representative on January 3, 2018. Council consent to appoint Alexander & Cleaver as City Solicitor is sought via an affirmative vote. (NCA).

13. Modifications to Police Non-Emergency Line

The Greenbelt Police Department will introduce and demonstrate a new, enhanced non-emergency phone system. The system is being introduced in order to streamline the routing of non-emergency calls while reducing the work load of our Communication Specialists which will then enable them also to better manage simultaneous emergency

situations. All current calls (non-emergency and emergency) are answered by a Communication Specialist who then transfers the calls to the appropriate destination. This process can take needed focus away from emergency police calls for service. The new enhanced system will allow callers to input their responses from their telephone keypad. This will allow the system to route the call in a more efficient manner thus allowing the Communications Specialist to concentrate on emergency situations from another phone line, the police radio or citizen contact window. As such, non-emergency callers will have their concerns addressed in a more efficient manner while emergency calls for service will receive the critical attention they require with less distractions.

The Police Department hopes to implement this system as soon as possible. A test line for demonstration and field evaluation purposes has already been established. The new system is a service offered by our current phone vendor and can be implemented at no additional cost to the City. The Department will monitor the system for effectiveness and upgrades as necessary through citizen and Department employee feedback with the end goal of providing better and more effective police responsiveness to both emergency and non-emergency situations. (TK).

14. Acceptance of Stream Valley Trail (Greenbelt West)

The Greenbelt Station South Core development includes the construction of a recreational trail amenity known as the Indian Creek Stream Valley Trail. The trail serves as a recreational amenity and provides bicycle and pedestrian connections to/from the Greenbelt Station community to Cherrywood Lane (at Breezewood Drive) and to Branchville Road. The trail consists of an eight to ten foot asphalt path, boardwalk, and bridge over Indian Creek.

Woodlawn Development Group completed construction of the trail in late 2017 and final inspections were subsequently performed. The inspector has confirmed the completion of all but one punchlist items resulting from that inspection and that the trail has been satisfactorily complete. The single remaining punchlist item concerns issues of minor ponding/puddling at certain low spots. Confirmation that these issues have been resolved is subject to inspection after a significant

rain event. Any area that shows evidence of pooling water will be addressed prior to final acceptance at the end of the one-year maintenance bond period.

Staff recommends that the City accept the trail into perpetual maintenance. At the time of acceptance, a one-year maintenance bond will be effective. (JB)

15. Appointment of Council Members to City Boards and Committees
At a work session on December 18, 2017, Council discussed the liaison assignments to various City advisory boards and committees. Listed below are the assignments tentatively agreed to at that meeting.

Advisory Committee on Education - Ms. Mach

Advisory Planning Board - Ms. Davis

Arts Advisory Board - Ms. Davis

Community Relations Advisory Board - Mr. Putens

Forest Preserve Advisory Board - Mr. Roberts

Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Education

Environmental Sustainability - Mr. Byrd

Park and Recreation Advisory Board - Mr. Jordan

Public Safety Advisory Committee - Ms. Pope

Senior Citizens Advisory Committee - Ms. Pope

Youth Advisory Committee - Mr. Roberts

Anacostia Trails Heritage Association - Ms. Davis

Approval of this item on the consent agenda will confirm these appointments for the next Council term. (DEM)

16. Appointment of Council Members to Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Boards and Committees

Reference: Chart, MWCOG 2018 Solicitation for Appointments

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is soliciting appointments to COG's policy boards and committees for 2018. Council discussed these appointments at a work session on December 18 and tentatively agreed to the following appointments for 2018:

Board of Directors - Mayor Jordan

Alternate - Ms. Davis

8:00 pm

<u>Work Session – Roosevelt Center Merchants Association (CC)</u>	<u>Wed.</u>	<u>01/10</u>	<u>8:00 pm</u>
<u>No Meeting (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)</u>	<u>Mon.</u>	<u>01/15</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Work Session – WSSC – Boxwood Waterline Replacement (CC)</u>	<u>Wed.</u>	<u>01/17</u>	<u>8:00 pm</u>
<u>Interview Advisory Board</u>	<u>Mon.</u>	<u>01/22</u>	<u>7:45 pm</u>
<u>Regular Meeting</u>	<u>Mon.</u>	<u>01/22</u>	<u>8:00 pm</u>
<u>Work Session – National Park Service (CC)</u>	<u>Wed.</u>	<u>01/24</u>	<u>8:00 pm</u>
<u>Work Session – WSSC (stakeholder)</u>	<u>Mon.</u>	<u>01/29</u>	<u>8:00 pm</u>
<u>Work Session – Dog Park</u>	<u>Wed.</u>	<u>01/31</u>	<u>8:00 pm</u>
<u>Work Session – City Manager Update</u>	<u>Mon.</u>	<u>02/05</u>	<u>8:00 pm</u>
<u>Work Session -Bureau of Engraving and Printing Proposed Relocation to the BARC Campus (CC)</u>	<u>Wed.</u>	<u>02/07</u>	<u>8:00 pm</u>
<u>Regular Meeting</u>	<u>Mon.</u>	<u>02/12</u>	<u>8:00 pm</u>
<u>No Meeting (Ash Wednesday)</u>	<u>Wed.</u>	<u>02/14</u>	<u>-</u>

<u>No Meeting (Presidents' Day)</u>	<u>Mon.</u>	<u>02/19</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Work Session – Civic Association (CC)</u>	<u>Wed.</u>	<u>02/21</u>	<u>8:00 pm</u>
<u>Regular Meeting</u>	<u>Mon.</u>	<u>02/26</u>	<u>8:00 pm</u>
<u>Work Session – Rental Apartments (stakeholder).(CC)</u>	<u>Wed.</u>	<u>02/28</u>	<u>8:00 pm</u>