

WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL

Held on Monday, January 29, 2024

MEETING: City Manager's Quarterly Update

Mayor Jordan started the meeting at 7:30 pm. On site Council Chambers and via Zoom.

- In attendance: Councilmembers Amy E. Knesel, Danielle P. McKinney, Jenni A. Pompei, Silke I. Pope, Rodney M. Roberts, Kristen L. K. Weaver, and Mayor Emmett V. Jordan.
- City Staff: Josué Salmerón, City Manager; Tim George, Assistant City Manager; Bertha Gaymon, City Treasurer; Greg Varda, Director of Recreation; Richard Bowers, Police Chief; Brian Kim, Acting Public Works Director; Dale Worley, Director of IT; Chondria Andrews, PI Officer; Kevin Simpson, Economic Development Manager; Cary Eure, Grants Coordinator (virtual); and Bonita Anderson, City Clerk.
- Others present: Bob Rand, Michael Hartman, Leon Schachter, Bill Orleans and others.
- City Manager: Mr. Salmerón provided a PowerPoint presentation summarizing last quarter highlighting each department's accomplishments.
- Public Works: Mr. Salmerón highlighted restorations of two bus stops, two bridges, and a stage at Old Greenbelt Theater. HVAC projects in key buildings were also completed. The Department maintained waste collection during a recent snow event, and the stage was reinforced.
- Human Resources: Achievements included a new onboarding program, simplified orientation, hiring key positions, and policy revisions for compliance. Progress was made in digitizing files and benchmarking policies against neighboring municipalities.
- Finance Dept: Ms. Gaymon reported that the City's finances are stable, with a budget update showing 76.56% of receipts and 59.33% of expenses. She also noted that state highway revenue will resume this fiscal year.
- Public Information
- Office: Efforts focused on brand consistency, platform enhancements, and an expanded digital reach. A new City website is under discussion for integrated functionality.
- Economic Dev: Thirteen grants totaling \$345,000 and seven grants totaling \$280,000 were issued for local business support. Business outreach and workforce development programs, like "Learn to Earn," were also launched.

Planning and
Community Development: The Department promoted Mr. Cabrera and initiated a traffic study. The Department also facilitated ARPA funded pedestrian improvements, daycare applications, and code enforcement standards.

Police Department: Five (5) candidates started training, and Department earned it's sixth (6) CALEA reaccreditation. Direct patrols yielded (11) handguns and (12) vehicle theft arrests.

Recreation Department: Facility updates are as follows:

- Refinishing Community Center Gym
- Adding pickleball courts
- Successful youth programs
- Financial aid for summer camps
- museum funding campaign

CARES: CARES completed Drumming for Wellness training. They provided resources at local events. ARPA funds depleted, however rental aid, emergency assistance continues with donation support.

Information Technology: The department upgraded City Council computers, connected city buildings via fiber, and prepared for a camera upgrade and city broadband feasibility study.

Grants: Grants Coordinator Cary Eure managed documentation for \$1.6 million in funding for Q2 FY2024.

Each department made notable strides in advancing city services and community engagement.

CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Jordan held a Special Meeting at 10:34 pm.

ROLL CALL:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ms. Knesel	X			
Ms. McKinney	X			
Ms. Pompei	X			
Ms. Pope	X			
Mr. Roberts	X			
Ms. Weaver	X			
Mayor Jordan	X			

Mayor Pro-Tem Weaver motioned Council go into closed session in accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1), (3), (7), and (8) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland (1) to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; 2) to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related to it; 3) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter; and 4) to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation. She noted Council end after session was completed. Ms. Pope seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ms. Knesel	x			
Ms. McKinney	x			
Ms. Pompei	x			
Ms. Pope	x			
Mr. Roberts		x		
Ms. Weaver	x			
Mayor Jordan	x			

The council began the closed session at 10:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonita Anderson

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City Clerk