

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL was held on Monday, April 8, 2024.

Mayor Jordan called the Meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

ROLL CALL was answered by Councilmembers Amy E. Knesel, Danielle P. McKinney, Jenni A. Pompei, Silke I. Pope, Rodney M. Roberts, Kristen L.K. Weaver (virtual), and Mayor Emmett V. Jordan.

ALSO PRESENT were Josué Salmerón, City Manager; Timothy George, Assistant City Manager; Bertha Gaymon, City Treasurer (virtual); Richard Bowers, Police Chief; Terri Hruby, Planning Director; Greg Varda, Recreation Director; Brian Kim, Acting Public Works Director; Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll, Environmental Coordinator; Jamarie Spencer, Public Information Producer; and Bonita Anderson, City Clerk.

Mayor Jordan asked for a moment of silence in honor of Robert “Bob” Hawk, Sr and James “Jimmy” Edward Dobbin.

Ms. McKinney then led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS:

Bob Rand, a resident, requested that the Tribes report be removed from the Consent agenda so the Council could discuss the findings and provide their input.

Bill Orleans, a resident, requested the following: the City Solicitor attend a Council meeting to address Mr. Orleans's concerns that the response to his "Apology" petition did not meet his expectations; the City Council play the recording of the 2023 Franklin Park meeting relative to the discussion at an open Council meeting; information and clarity on the Council's closed meeting to authorize a bonus to the former Interim City Manager; and a statement that Council should not go into Closed sessions so often and make decisions within those sessions, specifically mentioning the recent closed session used for staff realignment. He also complained that the Council does not always provide proper and timely notice to closed meetings.

Hank Myers, a resident, expressed his concern about the termination of a long-time employee and questioned whether the proper procedure was followed, whether the action followed the Code/policies and whether other employees now need to fear for their jobs and their ability to work through retirement.

CONSENT AGENDA: Ms. Pope moved and Ms. Knesel seconded that the consent agenda be approved. The motion passed 7-0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

Stakeholders: The Council approved the stakeholder list.

Acceptance of the DEI Report: Council accepted this report.

Reappointment to Advisory Board/Committee: Council approved the reappointment of Robert Zugby to the Ethics Commission.

Resignation from Advisory Board/Committee: Council accepted the resignation of Sieglinde Peterson from the Ethics Commission.

Approval of Electrical Underground Work for EV Charging Stations: Council authorized the City Manager to execute a contract encompassing the underground powerline installation to future EV Charging Stations.

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

PRESENTATIONS:

Autism Awareness & Acceptance Month Proclamation: Mayor Jordan recognized April 2024 as Autism Awareness & Acceptance Month. Anne Oudemans and Priya Gardner Lemieux were present and provided the City Council with an update on goals to acknowledge the Autism community.

Earth Day Proclamation: Mayor Jordan recognized Earth Day's 54th anniversary. Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll was present and provided an overview of this year's events.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mr. Salmerón has announced a marketing strategy initiative in collaboration with Experience Prince George's and the Washington Business Journal. The goal is to attract more businesses and consumers to the community. He mentioned that the City successfully hosted two DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) town halls, with 150 participants in attendance. A survey was distributed to the attendees. Mr. Salmerón shared that the City will host the NLC (National League of Cities) 100th Year Anniversary Road Show on April 15 at the Municipal Building.

LEGISLATION:

Resolution to Permit Concurrent Membership on Multiple Advisory Boards and Committee Volunteers: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments and introduced the resolution for first reading.

Story Walk Project: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Ms. Pompei moved that Council approve implementing the Story Walk project. Ms. Pope seconded. The motion passed 6-1. (Ms. Knesel)

Authorizing City Manager to Execute Contract with Budget Painting, LLC for painting at Springhill Lake Recreation Center: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Ms. Pope moved

that the City Council approve the purchase of painting services to Budget Painting, LLC, in the amount of \$11,550. Ms. Pompei seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Red-Light Cameras Contract Agreement: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Ms. Pope moved that the City Council authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract for the red-light camera agreement. Ms. Knesel seconded. The motion passed 6-1. (Mr. Roberts)

ARPA Status Update: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Council reviewed the memorandum outlining the progress-to-date summary of activities, allocations, and projects.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES: The Council briefly viewed their list of activities.

Events between March 26 and April 08, 2024

- 26 March: Advisory Committee on Education meeting (Pompi)
- 26 March: Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability meeting (Weaver)
- 27 March: Senior Citizen Advisory Committee meeting (Pope)
- 27 March: Latino Democrats of PCG State of the Cities (Pompi)
- 28 March: PG County Mayors Meeting (Jordan)
- 29 March: Maryland Smarter Cities Coalition meeting (Jordan)
- 30 March: City of Greenbelt Annual Egg Hunt (Jordan, Pompei, Pope, Weaver)
- 30 March: American Legion Easter Egg Event (Pompi, Pope)
- 01 April: PGCMA Legislative Committee Weekly Call (Jordan, Pompei)
- 02 April: USDA Programs, Investments & Innovations to Prevent and Reduce Food Loss and Waste Webinar (McKinney)
- 04 April: Citizen's Police Academy (Knesel, McKinney, Pompei)
- 04 April: Policy that Produces Progress: Model Ordinances and Other Governance Tools to Reduce Food Waste webinar (McKinney)
- 04 April: Meal Planning to Reduce Food Waste webinar (McKinney)
- 06 April: GHI Pet and Family Disaster Preparedness Event (McKinney, Pompei, Pope)
- 06 April: Greenbelt Alliance for Reproductive Freedom Bra & Period Product Drive (Pompi)
- 07 April: New Deal Artist Reception (Pompi)
- 07 April: Greenbelt Museum Open House (Pompi)
- 07 April: CHEARS Spring Three Sisters Garden Planting (Jordan)
- 08 April: PGMCA Legislative Committee Weekly Call (Pompi)

COUNCIL REPORTS: None.

Closed Session: Ms. Weaver moved that the City Council go into a closed session in accordance with Section 3-305(b) (3) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland; 1) to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.

The purpose of this meeting would be to 1) consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.

Ms. Pope seconded.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Knesel - Yes
Ms. McKinney - Yes
Ms. Pompei - Yes
Ms. Pope - Yes
Mr. Roberts - No
Ms. Weaver - Yes
Mayor Jordan - Yes

ADJOURNMENT: The Mayor adjourned the Regular Meeting on April 8, 2024, at 9:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonita Anderson
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 April 8, 2024.

Emmett V. Jordan
Mayor