

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL was held on Monday, October 28, 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, and Mayor Emmett V. Jordan.

ALSO PRESENT were Josué Salmerón, City Manager; Rick Bowers, Police Chief; Timothy White, Deputy Police Chief; Jaime Fearer, Assistant Planning Director; Brian Kim, Acting Public Works Director; Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll, Environmental Coordinator; Brian Kennell, Acting Information Technology Director; Jamarie Spencer, Public Information Producer; and Bonita Anderson, City Clerk.

Mayor Jordan asked for a moment of silence in honor of Greenbelt residents Maura Warner and Kathleen Susan Hurtt.

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

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS:

Michael Hartman, a resident, requested that Council recognize Disability Employment Awareness Month.

Bill Orleans, a resident, requested the Memorandum from the Diversity Equity Inclusion Action Team in regard to Councilmember Roberts.

Stephanie O'Brien, a resident, raised a similar concern to Mr. Orleans's petition: To allow the residents the opportunity to view documents related to the agenda item concerning Councilmember Roberts.

CONSENT AGENDA: Ms. Weaver moved to remove the meeting minutes for November 27, 2023, and December 11, 2023. Mayor Jordan requested that item #26, "Approval of Buddy Attick Park Outdoor Pavilions Contract," be moved to item #16, and that item #16, "Unbecoming Conduct of a Councilmember per Standing Rules," be moved to item #20. Ms. Pope seconded the motion. Mr. Roberts then requested that item #16 be deferred to the next council meeting to allow him time to consult with legal counsel. Ms. Pope seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda as amended. The motion passed 5-2, with Ms. Pompei and Ms. Weaver voting against.

Council thereby took the following actions:

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Work Session, July 25, 2022
Work Session, August 10, 2022
Work Session, August 24, 2022
Work Session, August 29, 2022
Work Session, November 21, 2022

Work Session, December 19, 2022
Approved as presented.

Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Contract with Charles P. Johnson and Associates to Prepare a Storm Drain Base Map: Council approved the contract.

Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Contract with Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. for Engineering Associated with Approved Ped/Bike ARPA Funds for Sidewalk Completion along Hanover Parkway: Council approved the contract.

Approval for the Purchase of Police Radios: Council approved the purchase.

STAKEHOLDERS LIST: Council approved the stakeholder list.

Reappointment to Advisory Board/Committee: Council approved the reappointment of Jacob Chesnutt and Lola Skolnik to the Park and Recreation Advisory Board.

Approval of FY2025 Vehicle Replacement: Nissan Leaf Vehicle: The Council approved the purchase of a Nissan Leaf S Electric Vehicle for \$25,030.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mayor Jordan moved to adjust the agenda by relocating item #17, “Memorandum of Understanding with the United States Marshals Service Fugitive Task Force,” to item #14, and item #21, “Approval of ARPA – Information Technology Equipment and Licensing,” to item #19. Ms. Pope seconded the motion to approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

PRESENTATIONS:

Ethan Sweep, Community Liaison from Congressman Glenn Ivey’s Office, presented updates to the Council on the Service Academy nominations and the Community Project Funding Grant program.

America Recycles Month Proclamation: Mayor Jordan proclaimed November 15 as America Recycles Day. Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll accepted the proclamation and provided an overview of this year's activities and events.

Military Families Month Proclamation: Mayor Jordan recognized November as Military Families Month.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS: None.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mr. Salmerón announced the success of both the Annual Public Safety Awards Dinner and the Annual Advisory Boards and Committees Dinner, noting that each event was well attended. He highlighted the positive response to the weekend activities, including Wild Rumpus and kayaking at Buddy Attick Park. Additionally, Mr. Salmerón reported that staff received 75 proposals for the City’s web design project, which will be presented to Council on November 18. He also mentioned

the installation of new fencing around the Buddy Attick Park and Springhill Lake Recreation playgrounds, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony scheduled for this Saturday. Mr. Salmerón further announced that the kickoff meeting to establish a schedule for community engagement in the Armory Feasibility Study has taken place. Road resurfacing work is ongoing in Roosevelt Center and other areas of the City. Finally, he noted that the FY 2024 audit process is underway.

LEGISLATION:

An Ordinance of the City Council of The City of Greenbelt Authorizing by Deed the Acquisition and Ownership of 7100 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt, Maryland: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Ms. Pompei introduced the ordinance for first reading and suspension of the rules.

Ms. Pope seconded.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Knesel	- Yes
Ms. McKinney	- Yes
Ms. Pompei	- Yes
Ms. Pope	- Yes
Mr. Roberts	- Yes
Ms. Weaver	- Yes
Mayor Jordan	- Yes

Ms. Pompei introduced the ordinance for second reading and adoption.

Ms. Pope seconded.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Knesel	- Yes
Ms. McKinney	- Yes
Ms. Pompei	- Yes
Ms. Pope	- Yes
Mr. Roberts	- Yes
Ms. Weaver	- Yes
Mayor Jordan	- Yes

The ordinance was declared adopted (Ordinance No. 1396, Book 12)

An Ordinance Of The Council Of The City Of Greenbelt, Maryland To Make A Supplemental Appropriation In The General Fund In The Amount Of Fifty-Thousand And One Dollars (\$50,001) For The Acquisition And Ongoing Maintenance Of Certain Real Property Known As 7100 Greenbelt Road (Tax Id No. 21-2363638), Greenbelt, Maryland: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Ms. Weaver introduced the ordinance for first reading and suspension of the rules.

Ms. Pompei seconded.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Knesel	- Yes
Ms. McKinney	- Yes
Ms. Pompei	- Yes

Ms. Pope	- Yes
Mr. Roberts	- No
Ms. Weaver	- Yes
Mayor Jordan	- Yes

Ms. Weaver introduced the ordinance for second reading and adoption.

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

The ordinance was declared adopted (Ordinance No. 1397, Book 12).

Discussion of the Removal of Armrests on City Benches: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Ms. Pompei raised concerns about the armrests on benches around the city center, particularly near the Municipal Building, the Community Center and the library. She expressed concerns about the armrests being a deterrent for unhoused individuals and questioned their necessity. Ms. Pompei moved that Council authorize staff to remove the center armrests on city benches. Ms. Knesel seconded. The motion passed 5-2. (Mayor Jordan and Ms. Pope)

Memorandum of Understanding with the United States Marshals Service Fugitive Task Force: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Chief Bowers presented a proposal for a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the United States Marshals Service Capital Area Region Fugitive Task Force, which focuses on reducing regional violence by identifying, investigating, and apprehending fugitives and serious criminal offenders.

Ms. Pope moved that Council approve the MOU with the US Marshals Service Capital Area Region Fugitive Task Force. Ms. McKinney seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

7 Hillside Road Sight Distance Issue and Parking Removal: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Ms. Fearer discussed the removal of three parking spaces at a bus stop and two approaching spaces at the corner of Hillside Road and Woodland Way, citing limited visibility around the crosswalk and insufficient roadway space for safe access to the bus stop. There was a discussion about which spaces should be removed. Mayor Jordan moved that Council approve the removal of three (3) on-street parking spaces to provide sufficient space of at least 20 feet for the marked crosswalk connecting the inner pathway just south of the subject driveway and to make the existing bus stop near the corner of Woodland Way and Hillside Road accessible. Ms. Knesel seconded. The motion passed 4-3. (Ms. McKinney, Ms. Pope, and Mr. Roberts)

Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Contract with VMP Construction Company, Inc. for Installation of Raised Crosswalks: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Ms. Fearer explained

the contract with VMP Construction Company for installing raised crosswalks, with a budget cap of \$20,000, funded by the American Rescue Plan Act, to support pedestrian and bicycle master plan improvements. She also mentioned the potential for additional raised crosswalks in other areas, with a current focus on the Center City traffic calming study. Ms. Weaver moved that Council authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with VMP not to exceed \$20,000 to install raised crosswalks.

Approval of Buddy Attick Park Outdoor Pavilions Contract: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Mr. Carpenter-Driscoll presented the concept plans for the Buddy Attick Pavilion, recommending two ADA-compliant pavilions—one 20 by 20 ft. and the other 20 by 30 ft.—located at strategic areas within the park, with estimated rental revenue of \$15,000 to \$20,000 annually. He described potential impacts on the nearby picnic area and the construction timeline. Ms. Weaver moved that Council authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with Sparks at Play, LLC, for the pavilions' construction at a total cost of \$218,423.34. Ms. Pope seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Community Center Chillers & Boiler Replacement Project: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Mr. Kim discussed the replacement of the Community Center's chillers and boilers, which are approximately 29 years old, noting that the existing cooling system will remain operational for one more season due to the time required for engineering and equipment procurement. Mayor Jordan moved that Council authorize the City Manager to execute contracts with Shapiro and Duncan and CPJ at a total cost of \$1,068,745, using American Rescue Plan Act funding, with an additional contingency of \$168,000 for equipment and labor procurement. Ms. Knesel seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Approval of ARPA - Information Technology Equipment and Licensing: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Mr. Kennell explained the lifespan of the equipment, noting that the equipment will be used to maintain the City's technological needs throughout the budget year. Ms. Knesel moved that Council approve the purchase of IT equipment and licensing at a cost of \$100,021.61, using American Rescue Plan Act funding. Ms. Pompei seconded. The motion passed 6-0. (Mr. Roberts was not present during the vote)

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES: Events between October 15 and October 28, 2024

- 15 October: Greenbelt Business Alliance networking breakfast (Weaver)
- 15 October: Beltsville Volunteer Fire Department public meeting (Weaver)
- 16 October: Transportation Planning Board meeting (Weaver)
- 16 October: CCI Health Clinic ribbon cutting (Jordan, Knesel, McKinney, Pompei, Pope, Weaver)
- 16 October: Advisory Planning Board meeting (McKinney)
- 16 October: Youth Advisory Board meeting (McKinney)
- 17 October: Greenbelt Rotary Club (Weaver)
- 17 October: Prince George's Community Federal Credit Union ribbon cutting (Jordan, Pompei, Weaver)
- 17 October: Prince George's County Municipal Association meeting (Jordan, Pompei, Weaver)

- 18 October: Utopia Film Festival Opening Dinner and Awards (Jordan, Knesel, McKinney, Pompei, Pope, Weaver)
- 18 October: Standing Fire Protection Briefing (Jordan)
- 18 October: Pumpkin Carving in Roosevelt Center (Jordan, McKinney, Weaver)
- 18 October: Council of Governments Food and Agriculture Regional Member Policy Committee DC Farm Tour (Jordan, McKinney)
- 19-20 October: Utopia Film Festival Screenings Awards (Jordan, Knesel, McKinney, Pompei, Pope, Weaver)
- 19 October: Greenbelt Homes Incorporated Bicycle Committee meeting (Jordan, Pompei, Weaver)
- 19 October: Public Safety Recognition Dinner (Jordan, Knesel, McKinney, Pompei, Pope, Weaver)
- 19 October: Pumpkin Walk in the North Woods (Weaver)
- 20 October: HUG WALK - Help Unite Greenbelt with a Little Kindness (Jordan, McKinney, Pope)
- 20 October: Advisory Boards and Committees Recognition Dinner (Jordan, Knesel, McKinney, Pompei, Pope, Weaver)
- 21 October: NASA Goddard Cherry Tree Planting (Jordan, McKinney, Weaver)
- 22 October: Greenbelt Advisory Committee for Environmental Sustainability meeting (Weaver)
- 23 October: National Women's Small Business Month Beltway Hardware Spotlight with Maryland Comptroller Brooke Lierman (Jordan, Knesel, Pompei, Weaver)
- 24 October: Four Cities Meeting (Jordan, Knesel, Pope, Weaver)
- 24 October: Greenbelt Rotary Club meeting (Weaver)
- 25 October: Standing Fire Protection Briefing (Jordan, Pompei, Weaver)
- 25 October: Chesapeake Bay Policy Committee Anacostia River Boat Tour (Pompi)
- 25 October: Cookies at the Bridge (Jordan, Pope, Weaver)
- 25 October: Wild Rumpus (Jordan, Pope, Weaver)
- 25 October: Trunk or Treat and Pumpkin Carving at Beltway Plaza (Jordan, Knesel, Pompei, Pope, Weaver)
- 26 October: Electronics and Styrofoam Recycling (Pope, Weaver)
- 26 October: Greenbelt Lake Kayak Tour (Jordan, Knesel)
- 27 October: Greenbelt Station Halloween event (Jordan, Knesel, McKinney, Pompei, Pope, Weaver)
- 27 October: Greenbelt Community Church Concert and Spaghetti Dinner (Jordan, Knesel, Pompei, Pope)
- 27 October: Honkin' Halloween in Roosevelt Center (Knesel, Pompei, Weaver)

COUNCIL REPORTS: None.

MEETINGS:

Closed Session: Ms. Weaver moved that the City Council go into closed session, according to Section 3-305(b)(1)(8) and (10) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland; 1) to discuss the appointment, 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 consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation; and 3) 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.

The purpose of this meeting is 1) to address personnel matters over which this public body has jurisdiction; and 2) to consult with staff about pending or potential litigation; and 3) to discuss the deployment of fire staff.

Ms. Pope seconded.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Knesel	- Absent for the vote
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 October 28, 2024, at 10:28 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 October 28, 2024.

Emmett V. Jordan
Mayor