

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held December 8, 2025.

Mayor Jordan called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

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

ALSO PRESENT were Josué Salmerón, City Manager; Jason DeLoach, City Solicitor; Jaime Fearer, Assistant Planning Director; James Wisniewski, Acting Public Information Officer; and Bonita Anderson, City Clerk.

Mayor Jordan asked for a moment of silence in honor of Delores M. Goodall.

Councilmember Fritz then led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and Mayor Pro Tem Weaver recited the Greenbelt Community Pledge.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS:

Michael Hartman, a resident, expressed concerns about the 2026 Independence Day Fireworks display and the renewal of the natural gas supply contract.

Michelle Whitaker, Executive Director of Ranked Choice Voting Maryland, urged the city council to implement Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) in future city elections and provided recommendations, benefits, and timelines for implementing RCV in the 2027 election.

Louise Weismann, a resident, expressed the importance of unionization for Public Works employees and discussed the Charter amendment.

Bill Orleans, a resident, expressed concerns over discrepancies between the agenda and the resolution regarding the scope of collective bargaining and suggested that all city employees should have that right, not just Public Works.

CONSENT AGENDA: Councilmember Fritz moved to approve the Consent Agenda, with the removal of (f) “Authorizing City Manager to Execute Contract with Innovative Pyrotechnic Concepts, LLC for 2026 Independence Day Fireworks Display” add to the agenda as item #22, and (g) “Authorizing City Manager to Execute Contract for Renewal of Natural Gas Supply for City Facilities” add to agenda as item #23, Mayor Pro Tem Weaver seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Report #26-1 (Recommendation to Develop a Dog Park at Northway Fields): Council accepted the report.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Regular Meeting, October 14, 2025
Regular Meeting, October 27, 2025
Charter Meeting, November 10, 2025
Regular Meeting, November 17, 2025
Approved as presented.

Reappointment to Advisory Board/Committee: Council approved the reappointment of James Drake to a new term on the Advisory Planning Board (APB).

Council Letter to PGPCS regarding Community Engagement: Council approved the draft letter to Prince George's County Public Schools to collaborate with the Council on community engagement efforts.

Authorizing City Manager to Execute a Contract with CPJ for Survey Services: Council approved the proposal from Charles P. Johnson & Associates, Inc. (CPJ), for services to prepare metes and bounds descriptions.

Authorizing City Manager to Execute Contract with Innovative Pyrotechnic Concepts, LLC for 2026 Independence Day Fireworks Display: Council approved the contract.

Authorizing City Manager to Execute Contract for Renewal of Natural Gas Supply for City Facilities: Council approved the contract.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Councilmember Pompei requested to move item #15, “Discussion of Charter Amendment for Collective Bargaining”, to item #10 and approve the agenda. Councilmember Fritz requested that the agenda be approved as amended. The motion passed 7-0

PRESENTATIONS:

Proclamation for Human Rights Day: Mayor Jordan declared December 10 as Human Rights Day in the City of Greenbelt.

Statement of Record – Closed Session of November 12, 2025: Mayor Pro Tem Weaver moved that in accordance with the General Provisions Article, Section 3-06(C)(2) of the Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland, the minutes of tonight's meeting reflect that Council met in closed session on Wednesday, November 12, 2025, at 9:56 p.m., in the Council Chambers. Council held this closed meeting in accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1) of the General Provision 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 it has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

The purpose of this meeting is 1) to discuss the City Manager’s Goal Setting.

Vote to close session:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Fritz	X			
Councilmember Knesel	X			
Councilmember McKinney	X			
Councilmember Pompi	X			
Councilmember Pope	X			
Mayor Pro Tem Weaver	X			
Mayor Jordan	X			

Staff members present: Josué Salmerón, City Manager, and Dawane Martinez, Director of Human Resources.

Action taken: Decided on framework for goals, and timeline for next steps.

Councilmember Pompi seconded.

ROLL CALL: Councilmember Fritz - Yes
Councilmember Knesel - Yes
Councilmember McKinney - Yes
Councilmember Pompi - Yes
Councilmember Pope - Yes
Mayor Pro Tem Weaver - Yes
Mayor Jordan - Yes

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

City Manager Salmerón reported on grant awards, including \$150,000 for a facade improvement program and potential funding for solar projects at the Youth Center and Green Ridge House.

Discussion of Charter Amendment for Collective Bargaining: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. The Council discussed two proposed Charter amendments related to collective bargaining rights. Councilmember Pompi supported an amendment extending collective bargaining rights to all City employees, while Mayor Pro Tem Weaver and other Council members initially recommended limiting the amendment to Public Works employees, given their distinct roles and the need for legal guidance on potential impacts across departments. Councilmember Fritz emphasized the importance of addressing the omission of employee unionization rights, and Councilmember Pope recommended proceeding with a first reading focused on Public Works employees. Councilmember Knesel raised concerns about how the

broader amendment could affect Public Works employees, noting that the legal team will review it further and provide clarification.

LEGISLATION:

Charter Amendment: Collective Bargaining Rights for Public Works Employees: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Councilmember Pompi introduced the charter amendment resolution for first reading.

Ordinance: Parking Regulations for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations at the Municipal Building: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Mayor Pro Tem Weaver introduced the ordinance for first reading.

Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Implement Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Fees and Operating Procedures for EV Charging Stations at the Municipal Building: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Mayor Pro Tem Weaver introduced the ordinance for second reading and adoption.

Councilmember Pompi seconded.

ROLL CALL: Councilmember Fritz	- Yes
Councilmember Knesel	- Yes
Councilmember McKinney	- Yes
Councilmember Pompi	- Yes
Councilmember Pope	- Yes
Mayor Pro Tem Weaver	- Yes
Mayor Jordan	- Yes

OTHER BUSINESS:

Approval of Prince George's County Municipal Association (PGCMA) Membership Dues: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Council discussed paying the annual dues for the Prince George's County Municipal Association (PGCMA), with several members expressing concerns about budget transparency and financial management. Councilmember Pompi proposed writing a letter outlining expectations for the organization, which was accepted as a friendly amendment to the motion. Mayor Jordan moved that Council pay the PGCMA membership dues. Councilmember Pompi seconded. The motion passed 6-1. (Councilmember McKinney)

Discussion regarding Cell Phone Service Issues and Scheduling Work Session in January of 2026: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. The City Council discussed scheduling a work session on January 5th to address resident concerns regarding cell service, including a review of service map overlays and potential options to improve coverage. Council expressed general

support for authorizing the City Manager to explore improved service options, including the possible use of small cell towers, and noted that additional discussion would be needed.

Acceptance of the “Traffic Calming Study: Greenbelt Center City”: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. The council reviewed a traffic safety study that analyzed vehicle volumes, speeds, and collision data to prioritize 22 traffic calming projects in Greenbelt's central area. The council accepted the study's recommendations, which include short-term and long-term improvements like speed humps, curb bump-outs, and raised medians, though funding details were not specified. Mayor Jordan moved that Council accept the Study and support the implementation of both the short- and long-term recommendations. Councilmember Pope seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Discussion on Maryland’s \$150 EV Charger Tax and Potential City Response: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. The council discussed Maryland's new \$150 annual fee for public EV charging stations. Mayor Jordan moved that the legislative contractor explore options for exemptions or parity with gas pump fees. Councilmember Pope seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Appointment of Council Members to the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Board and Policy Committees: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. The Council reviewed and adjusted the Council of Governments (COG) committee assignments, with Councilmember Fritz appointed to the Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee and designated as an alternate to the Food and Agriculture Regional Member Policy Committee. All other board and committee appointments from 2025 will remain unchanged for 2026. Councilmember Knesel moved to approve the 2026 appointments, and Mayor Jordan seconded the motion. The motion passed 7–0.

COUNCIL REPORTS: None.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES:

Events between November 18 and December 8, 2025

- 18 – 22 November: National League of Cities City Summit (Jordan, Pope, Weaver)
- 19 November: Transportation Planning Board (Weaver)
- 20 November: Holiday Food Box Distribution (Pompi)
- 21 November: Chesapeake Bay Policy Committee (Pompi)
- 24 November: Metro Washington Council of Governments Audit Committee (Jordan)
- 24 November: Agenda Planning (Jordan, Weaver)
- 25 November: Greenbelt Advisory Committee for Environmental Sustainability (Weaver)
- 25 November: Senior Citizen Advisory Committee meeting (Pope)
- 26 November: Greenbelt Interfaith Holiday Service (Jordan)
- 27 November: Gobble Wobble (Jordan, Pope)
- 29 November: Greenbelt American Legion Post 136 Craft Fair (Jordan)

- 02 December: University of Maryland Smart Cities Roundtable (Jordan)
- 02 December: District 22 Legislative Dinner (Fritz, McKinney, Jordan, Pompei, Weaver)
- 02 December: Council Retreat prep meeting (Pompi)
- 03 December: Via Microtransit briefing (Jordan, Weaver)
- 03 December: Metro Washington Council of Governments Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony (Jordan, Pompei, Weaver)
- 03 December: Metro Washington Air Quality Committee (Weaver)
- 04 December: Greenbelt Rotary Club meeting (Weaver)
- 04 December: American Job Center Community Network Greenbelt Resource Lab Ribbon Cutting (Jordan, Knesel, Pompei, Weaver)
- 04 December: Council Retreat prep meeting (Weaver)
- 05 December: Holiday Tree Lighting in Roosevelt Center (Jordan, Knesel, Pompei, Pope, Weaver)
- 05 December: City Department Door Decorating Contest Judging (Knesel, Pompei, Weaver)
- 05 December: Deco the Halls at the Greenbelt Museum (Weaver)
- 06 December: Winter Wonderland Venture Crew #746, Mowatt Church (Knesel, Pompei, Pope, Weaver)
- 06 December: Beltway Plaza Health Fair (Jordan, Pompei)
- 06 December: Sparkle Mart Craft Fair (Pope)
- 06 December: Recreation Department Pictures with Santa-Elves workshop: (Pope)
- 06 December: Toys for Tots VIP Breakfast Mission BBQ: (Pope)
- 07 December: Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Ladies Auxiliary Post #136 Breakfast with Santa (Pope)
- 07 December: Sparkle Mart Craft Fair and Farmers Market (Jordan, Pompei, Pope, Weaver)
- 07 December: Art Exhibit Reception at New Deal Cafe (Jordan, Weaver)
- 07 December: CHEARS Food Forest workday (Jordan)
- 08 December: Agenda Planning (Jordan, Weaver)

MEETING LIST: Council reviewed and approved the revised meeting schedule.

Authorizing City Manager to Execute Contract with Innovative Pyrotechnic Concepts, LLC for 2026 Independence Day Fireworks Display: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Council discussed the fireworks display contract with a \$2,000 cost increase, noting that the show would include more shells despite the elimination of a water-based feature. Councilmember Pompei moved that Council authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with Innovative Pyrotechnic Concepts, LLC for \$22,000. Councilmember Knesel seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Authorizing City Manager to Execute Contract for Renewal of Natural Gas Supply for City Facilities: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Council discussed the contract.

Councilmember Fritz moved that the Council authorize the City Manager to execute a contract for the renewal of the natural gas supply for city facilities at a rate of 58.58 cents per therm. Councilmember Pope seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

CLOSED SESSION: Mayor Pro Tem Weaver moved that Council move into closed session in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, in accordance with the General Provisions Article 3-305(b)(1), (7), and (8) 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 it has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individual; 2) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter; and 3) to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

The purpose of this meeting is 1) to discuss personnel matters; 2) to obtain legal advice on a legal matter; and 3) to consult with staff about pending or potential litigation.

Councilmember Pope seconded.

ROLL CALL: Councilmember Fritz	- Yes
Councilmember Knesel	- Yes
Councilmember McKinney	- Yes
Councilmember Pompei	- Yes
Councilmember Pope	- Yes
Mayor Pro Tem Weaver	- Yes
Mayor Jordan	- Yes

Mayor Pro Tem Weaver noted that Council would not return to open session.

Council moved into Closed Session at 10:53 p.m.

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 December 8, 2025.

Emmett V. Jordan
Mayor