

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

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

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; Timothy George, Assistant City Manager; Ronald Covington, City Treasurer; Terri Hruby, Planning Director (virtual); Greg Varda, Recreation Director; Andrew Phelan, Assistant Recreation Director; Dr. Luisa Robles, Sustainability Coordinator; Jamarie Spencer, Public Information Producer; and Bonita Anderson, City Clerk.

Mayor Jordan asked for a moment of silence in honor of Dalisay Lopez, Paul Remenick, and Roger Milton Evans.

Ms. McKinney then led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and Ms. Pope recited the Greenbelt Community Pledge.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS: A significant portion of the meeting focused on a petition from Public Works employees requesting the right to collectively bargain, similar to police officers, with support from union representatives and residents.

Michael Canavan, Trent Leon-Lierman, Frankie Santos Fritz and Bill Orleans, Greenbelt residents, Michael Canavan, on behalf of Public Works employees, read a letter requesting a change to the City Charter (Section 3, Paragraph 22) and City Code (Chapter 13, “Labor Code”) to allow Public Works employees the ability to collectively bargain, similar to the rights currently afforded to City police officers. Several other residents also expressed support for the petition.

CONSENT AGENDA: Ms. Weaver requested that committee reports 10A, B, and C be added to the consent agenda. Ms. Knesel seconded. The consent agenda was approved as amended.

Council thereby took the following actions:

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:

Work Session, May 15, 2024
Work Session, May 22, 2024
Work Session, June 5, 2024
Work Session, July 1, 2024
Work Session, July 10, 2024
Work Session, July 31, 2024
Work Session, August 5, 2024
Work Session, August 7, 2024
Work Session, August 21, 2024
Work Session, September 4, 2024

Work Session, September 18, 2024
Work Session, September 25, 2024
Work Session, October 16, 2024
Work Session, October 23, 2024
Work Session, November 20, 2024
Work Session, December 4, 2024
Work Session, December 18, 2024
Work Session, April 23, 2025
Approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION - REPORT #25-3 - CHARTER REPORT: Council accepted the report.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION REPORT #25-4 - SCHOLARSHIP DONATION 2025: Council accepted the report.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD (CRAB) REPORT #2025-002 - UPDATING THE COMMUNITY QUESTIONNAIRE TO INCLUDE DEMOGRAPHIC QUESTIONS AND "CONTEXT" QUESTIONS: Council accepted the report and discussed it later in the meeting.

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL EVENT AND ONE-TIME SUSPENSION OF FIRE CODE REQUIREMENTS FOR PUMPKIN WALK EVENT – 2025: Council approved the special event permit for the longstanding Pumpkin Walk on October 17, 2025, and the temporary suspension of the fire code that prohibits open flames in the Forest Preserve.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Ms. McKinney moved to approve the agenda. Ms. Pompei seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

PRESENTATIONS:

Peace Month Proclamation: Mayor Jordan proclaimed September as Peace Month in Greenbelt, underscoring the city's commitment to advancing peace and nonviolence through community programs. Daniel Theis from the Peace and Justice Coalition provided an overview of Peace Month activities.

Let's Beat Breast Cancer Proclamation: Mayor Jordan proclaimed September 13th as Let's Beat Breast Cancer Day, with Geraldine Adams discussing the upcoming rally at the Roosevelt Center, which will feature vendors, speakers, and resources focused on breast cancer prevention and healthy lifestyles.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT: City Manager Salmerón provided a comprehensive administrative report highlighting the success of the recent Labor Day festivities and providing updates on several key municipal projects, including the submission of formal comment letters to the USDA regarding the organizational plan. The report confirmed that a meet and greet with the interim superintendent

is scheduled for October 14th and noted that repairs to the indoor pool deck remain on schedule for completion by September 29th. Additionally, the City Manager announced strategic shifts in the EV charging station program, transitioning from a Level 3 station to two dual-port Level 2 stations, alongside the city-wide implementation of Microsoft 365 applications. The session concluded with the Council welcoming new City Treasurer Ronald Covington and discussing the upcoming installation of bike racks at the local co-op.

Ms. Pompei requested that *Collective Bargaining non-managerial employees be added to the agenda for discussion as item #21*. Ms. Knesel seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

LEGISLATION:

A Resolution to Implement "Save As You Throw" (SAYT) Program and Adjust Solid Waste Collection Fees: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Ms. Weaver moved to introduce this resolution for second reading and adoption. John Lippert, chair, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability provided Council a brief summary of the proposed program for implementation with community feedback.

Ms. Pompei 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 resolution was declared passed.

An Ordinance to make a Supplemental Appropriation for Fiscal Year 2026 for the Resident Composting Services Program: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Ms. Pompei moved to introduce this ordinance for first reading and suspension of the rules.

Mayor Jordan 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 moved to introduce this ordinance for second 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	- No
Ms. Weaver	- Yes
Mayor Jordan	- Yes

The ordinance was declared passed.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Authorization for City Manager to Purchase New Fitness Equipment for the Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Ms. Pope moved that Council authorize the City Manager to purchase new Matrix fitness equipment from Johnson Health Tech North America, Inc., for \$46,999.50, for the Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center. Mayor Jordan seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Agreement to Sell Compost Outpost Equipment to Compost Crew: between the City of Greenbelt and Compost Crew, a Bethesda, Maryland corporation. This agreement outlines the terms under which Compost Crew proposes to purchase the shipping containers and other materials from the City. Ms. Pope seconded. The motion passed 6-1. (Mr. Roberts)

Authorize City Manager to Execute Contract for Composting Services: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Ms. Weaver moved that Council approve the agreement between the City of Greenbelt and Compost Crew, regarding the City of Greenbelt's food scraps composting program. Ms. Pope seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Referendum Questions for the 2025 City Council Election: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Ms. Weaver moved that Council approve the proposed revisions to the referendum questions for placement on the November 4, 2025, election ballot. Ms. Pompei seconded. The motion passed 6-1. (Mr. Roberts)

CRAB Recommendation Report for the Community Questionnaire: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Council discussed the Community Questionnaire, which CRAB recommended revising to include questions on racial and gender identity. Council agreed to put the revised questionnaire on the consent agenda for the next meeting on September 24th.

COUNCIL REPORTS: None.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES: Events between August 12 and September 8, 2025

- 13 August: Golden Age club meeting (Pope)
- 14 August: Franklin Park Back to School Bash (Weaver)
- 14 August: Greenbelt Rotary Talk - DisasterAid USA (Weaver)
- 19 August: Back to School Health Fair (Jordan, Weaver)
- 20 August: Community Flood Resilience Plan Meeting (Jordan, McKinney, Weaver)
- 22 August: Greenbriar Volunteer Appreciation Event (Jordan, Knesel, Pompei, Pope)
- 23 August: Prince George's County Housing Justice Coalition (Pompi)
- 25 August: Agenda Planning Meeting with City Manager (Jordan, Weaver)
- 26 August: National League of Cities Board of Directors meeting (Jordan)
- 26 August: Greenbelt Advisory Committee for Environmental Sustainability (Weaver)
- 26 August: Advisory Committee on Education (Pompi)
- 27 August: Prince George's County Fire Chief Meet and Greet (Jordan, Knesel, Pompei)
- 28 August: Greenbelt Rotary Club (Weaver)
- 28 August: Magnolia Elementary School Meet and Greet (Jordan, McKinney, Pompei, Weaver)
- 28 August: Bi-County Business Roundtable meeting (Jordan)
- 29 August: Retirement Luncheon for Bertha Gaymon (Weaver)
- 29 August – 01 September: Labor Day Festival
- 30 August: Sunrise Caribbean Ribbon Cutting (Jordan, McKinney, Pompei, Pope, Weaver)
- 02 September: Public Safety Advisory Committee (Pope)
- 03 September: County Executive Elevate Listening Tour (Jordan, Pompei, Weaver)
- 03 September: Maryland Municipal League Mayors Association Board (Jordan)
- 04 September: U.S. Conference of Mayors P3 Workshop (Jordan)
- 05 September: Memorial Service and Luncheon for former City Manager Jim Giese (Jordan, Weaver)
- 06 September: Prince George's County Municipal Association Board Retreat (Weaver)
- 06 September: Charlestown North End-of-Summer Pool Party (Jordan, Pope, Weaver)
- 06 September: "King Lear" at Greenbelt Arts Center (Weaver)
- 07 September: Artful Afternoon – Nature Photo Scavenger Hunt (Weaver)
- 07 September: Friends of the New Deal Cafe Artist Reception (Pompi, Weaver)
- 07 September: Greenbelt Collaborative Opportunities for Resilience and Enduring Solutions (CORES) Task Force (Weaver)
- 08 September: Agenda Planning Meeting with City Manager (Jordan, Weaver)
- 13 September: GIVES meeting (Pope, Jordan)
- 13 September: Beat Breast Cancer event Pope, Jordan, McKinney, Weaver)
- 20 September: Senior Open Forum (Pope, Jordan, Knesel, McKinney, Weaver, Pompei)
- 20 September: electric vehicle expo (Pope, Jordan)
- 21 September: Sing for Peace (Pope, Jordan, McKinney, Weaver, Pompei)

Collective Bargaining of Non-Managerial Employees: Council discussed a proposal to allow non-managerial city employees to form a union and collectively bargain. Ms. Pompei moved that Council direct staff to begin gathering information rather than drafting an ordinance immediately. Ms. Weaver seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

MEETINGS: Council approved the meetings schedule.

CLOSED SESSION: Ms. 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) and (7) 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; and 2) to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.

The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss the City Manager's Evaluation, annexation, and real property.

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

Ms. Weaver noted that Council would not return to open session.

Council moved into Closed Session at 10:17 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 September 8, 2025.

Emmett V. Jordan
Mayor