

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held on June 2, 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; Bertha Gaymon, City Treasurer; Cary Eure, Grants Coordinator (virtual); Dr. Luisa Robles, Sustainability Coordinator (virtual); Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll; Dr. Caitlin McGrath, Greenbelt Cinema Executive Director ; Jamarie Spencer, Public Information Producer; and Bonita Anderson, City Clerk.

Mayor Jordan asked for a moment of silence in honor of those who passed since the last meeting.

Ms. McKinney then led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Ms. Pompei read the Greenbelt Community Pledge.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS: There were no formal petitions and requests received requiring immediate Council action.

CONSENT AGENDA: Ms. Weaver moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Pope seconded. The motion passed with a vote of 7-0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Board of Elections Report #2025-01 (Referral on Council Elections with Ranked Choice Balloting): Council accepted the report.

MEETINGS: Council approved the meetings schedule.

STAKEHOLDER LIST: Council approved the stakeholders list.

Departure 22-006-DPLS, Maryland Trade Center – 3: Council adopted the recommendations of the Advisory Planning Board.

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

PRESENTATIONS:

Pride Month Proclamation: Mayor Jordan proclaimed June 2025 as Emerald City Pride Month.

Small Cities Month Proclamation: Mayor Jordan presented a proclamation recognizing June as Small Cities Month. Councilmember Silke I. Pope, a member of the NLC Small Cities Steering Committee, accepted the proclamation.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS:

Statement of Record – Closed Session of May 7, 2025: Ms. 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, May 7, 2025, at 9:10 p.m., in the Municipal Building Library. Council held this closed meeting in accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1), and (8) 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; and 2) To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

The purpose of this meeting: 1) To address personnel matters over which this public body has jurisdiction, and 2) To consult with staff, consultants, or individuals about pending or potential litigation.

Vote to close session:

	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			

Staff member present: Josué Salmerón, City Manager.

Other individuals were in attendance: None.

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

Statement of Record – Closed Session of May 27, 2025: Ms. 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 Tuesday, May 27, 2025, at 9:13 p.m., in the Council Chambers. Council held this closed meeting in accordance with Section 3-305(b)(7) of the General Provision Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland; 1) To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter.

The purpose of this meeting: 1) To obtain legal advice on an annexation matter.

Vote to close session:

	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			

Staff member present: Josué Salmerón, City Manager; Terri Hruby, Planning Director; and Todd Pounds, City Solicitor (virtual).

Other individuals were in attendance: None.

Action taken: Gave staff direction to gather further information about annexation opportunities.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

Mr. Salmerón announced several upcoming initiatives and updates, including scheduled community events such as Coffee with a Cop and the City Health Fair, the recent transfer of all City-issued cellular phones to T-Mobile, submission of a legislative action request to the Maryland Municipal League (MML), the launch of the new City website, and the kickoff of summer events at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center.

LEGISLATION:

FY 2026 Budget Adoption: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. He summarized the proposed FY 2026 budget and the process leading to its adoption. Council reviewed the final list of changes outlined in a memorandum from the City Manager and Treasurer.

It was moved by Ms. Weaver and seconded by Ms. Pope to approve the listed changes to the proposed budget. The motion passed 7-0.

Council discussed the Miscellaneous – Grants, Advisory Boards and Contributions – Page 242.

It was moved by Ms. Pompei and seconded by Ms. Weaver to appropriate funding in the amount of \$30,000 to “The SPACE.” The motion passed 6-1. (Mayor Jordan)

It was moved by Ms. Weaver and seconded by Ms. Knesel to appropriate \$5,000 in funding to the Greenbelt Refugee Aid Committee. The motion passed 6-1. (Mr. Roberts)

It was moved by Ms. Weaver and seconded by Ms. Pope to appropriate \$3,000 to New Deal Café Arts FONDCA and \$3,300 to GATe. The motion passed 7-0.

It was moved by Ms. Weaver and seconded by Ms. Knesel to appropriate \$25,000 to the Reparations Commission. The motion passed 7-0.

It was moved by Ms. Weaver and seconded by Ms. Pompei to reduce the revenue by \$50,000 to pursue a pilot of the save-as-you-throw proposal and to continue the food scraps program. The motion passed 7-0.

Ms. Gaymon read into the record that the revenue amount is \$40,171,600; expenses are \$40,149,100; with a balance of \$22,500.

An Ordinance to Adopt the General Fund, Building Capital Reserve Fund, Cemetery Fund, Debt Service Fund, Replacement Fund, Special Project Fund, Green Ridge House Fund, Capital Projects Fund, Community Development Block Grant Fund, and Greenbelt West Infrastructure Fund Budgets for the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, to Appropriate Funds and Establish Real Estate and Personal Property Tax Rates for the Fiscal Year 2026 Beginning July 1, 2025, and including June 30, 2026: 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	- Yes
Ms. Weaver	- Yes
Mayor Jordan	- Yes

Ms. Weaver introduced the ordinance for second reading and adoption. Ms. Knesel 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. (Ordinance No. 1403)

OTHER BUSINESS:

Fleet and Equipment Electrification Plan: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Mr. George and Mr. Carpenter-Driscoll presented the City's strategic plan to transition to electric vehicles and equipment. Ms. Pompei moved that Council accept the plan. Ms. Pope seconded. The motion passed 7-0. Council accepted the plan as policy guidance for future implementation.

Policy Exemptions for Greenbelt Cinema Operations: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Council discussed the Greenbelt Cinema's request for modifications. Dr. McGrath provided Council with an overview of the modifications. Ms. Weaver moved **that Council allow the Greenbelt Cinema to reduce the required general liability insurance coverage from \$2 million to \$1 million; remove the fidelity bond requirement, which is covered by the existing Directors & Officers coverage, and allow them to apply for the waivers of the amusement and admissions tax.** Ms. Pompei seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Contract Award – Community Flood Resiliency Plan: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Mr. Carpenter-Driscoll provided a timeline of the plan. Ms. Weaver moved that Council authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with Limno Tech to complete a Community Flood Resiliency Plan for the City, not to exceed a cost of \$75,000 as provided through grant funding. Ms. Knesel seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Authorization for Rental Assistance Grants: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

It was moved by Ms. McKinney and seconded by Ms. Pompei to authorize the City Manager to allocate up to \$30,000 in FY25 grant funds for community organizations providing rental assistance. The motion passed 7–0.

Authorization for Food Safety Workforce Development Grant: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. It was moved by Ms. McKinney and seconded by Ms. Pope to authorize up to \$6,000 in FY25 grant funds for a food safety training workforce development program. The motion passed 7–0.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES: Events between May 28 and June 2, 2025

- 28 May: Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (Weaver)
- 29 May: Mental Health Awareness Month Film Screening (Jordan)
- 30 May: Cookies at the Bridge (Jordan)
- 31 May: Baha’i Regional Convening (Jordan)
- 31 May: Greenbelt Intergenerational Volunteer Exchange Services (GIVES) board meeting (Jordan)
- 01 June: Artful Afternoon (Jordan)
- 01 June: Roosevelt High School Dance Performance (Jordan)
- 01 June: New Deal Cafe Board Meeting (Jordan)
- 02 June: Greenbelt Animal Shelter re-opening (Jordan, McKinney, Pompei, Pope, Weaver)

ADJOURNMENT: The Mayor adjourned the regular meeting of June 2, 2025, at 10:34 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 June 2, 2025.

Emmett V. Jordan
Mayor