

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held April 13, 2026.

Mayor Pro Tem Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL was answered by Councilmembers Frankie S. Fritz, Amy E. Knesel, Danielle P. McKinney, Jenni A. Pompei, Silke I. Pope, and Mayor Pro Tem Kristen L.K. Weaver. Mayor Emmett V. Jordan was absent due to travels.

ALSO PRESENT were Josué Salmerón, City Manager; Chief Richard Bowers, Greenbelt Police Department; Terri Hruby, Director of Planning and Community Development; and Shaniya Lashley-Mullen, Deputy City Clerk.

Mayor Pro Tem Weaver asked for a moment of silence in honor of Chris Dwyer, Linda Fuchs Gehrman, and former resident John P. Waters, Jr. Councilmember Pompei then led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Councilmember Fritz recited the Greenbelt Community Pledge.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS:

- Michael Canavan, on behalf of Public Works employees, asked the Council to recognize a collective bargaining agent once most employees have demonstrated their support through signed authorization cards.
- Michael Hartman, a Greenbelt resident, expressed his appreciation for the Council, City staff, and Chief Bowers for their recognition of the seriousness of the concerns expressed by the Greenbelt Resistance Network.
- Emily White and Anna Fernandez, Greenbelt Parks and Recreation employees, request that the City recognize a collective bargaining group from the Recreation Department, also through cards and not through an election.
- Christine Wilkin, on behalf of the Greenbelt Resistance Network. Stated they submitted a list of questions that have been answered, so they turned it into a petition with 115 signatures. Expressing concerns regarding the data that is stored on the cameras or stored on the cloud, how it is being accessed, transparency, auditing and the use of AI.
- Diana McFadden, a Greenbelt resident, expressed how grateful she was for the City's Police Department. She expressed her concerns related to the purpose of the surveillance.
- Dr. Lois Rosado, a Greenbelt resident, said that she supports Public Works staff with going forward with check cards and not having another election. She also expressed concerns with putting up more speed cameras in the west.
- John Berry expressed concerns about misinformation regarding staff not knowing what they are signing if they sign a check card and stated that he has been working with Jackson Lewis.

CONSENT AGENDA: Councilmember McKinney moved to remove Meetings from the consent agenda and add it to the agenda for further discussion. It was moved Councilmember Pompei and seconded by Councilmember Knesel to approve the consent agenda as amended. The motion passed 6-0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Advisory Planning Board By Laws Adopted January 7, 2026: Council accepted the bylaws.

Reappointment to Advisory Board/Committee: Council approved the reappointment of Janet Mirsky to a new term on the Advisory Committee on Education (ACE).

Resignation from Advisory Board/Committee: Council accepted Kim Kash resignation from the Charter Review Taskforce.

Approval of CivicPlus Payments for 12 Products including Agenda Management and Website Services: Council approved the payment.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: It was moved by Councilmember Knesel and seconded by Councilmember Fritz that the agenda be approved. The motion passed 6-0

PRESENTATIONS:

National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week Proclamation: Mayor Pro Tem Weaver declared the second week of April as National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week to highlight the vital role of communication personnel in police and safety department. Chief Bowers and two Communication Specialist accepted the proclamation on behalf of the Communication Unit.

Animal Control Appreciation Week Proclamation: Mayor Pro Tem Weaver proclaimed the week of April 12th – 18th, as Animal Control Appreciation Week, and Patricia Fillnan accepted the proclamation on behalf of the Animal Control Officers.

Arbor Day Proclamation: Mayor Pro Tem Weaver proclaimed April 24th as Arbor Day. Lori Thiele, Maintenance Worker IV, and Dr. Charles Jackman were present to accept the proclamation, and shared updates on upcoming events.

Earth Day Proclamation: Mayor Pro Tem weaver proclaimed April 22nd as Earth Day. Kevin Caroenter-Driscoll, Environmental Coordinator, attended to accept the proclamation and shared updates on upcoming events.

License Plate Reader Camera (LPRC) Presentation: Mayor Pro Tem Weaver read the agenda

comments. Chief Bowers provided a PowerPoint presentation providing an overview of the City's License Plate Reader (LPR) Camera Program. The presentation included background information on the purpose and functionality of the cameras, data integrity measures, and established guidelines governing the access, use, and retention of collected data. Chief Bowers emphasized safeguards to ensure responsible use and compliance with applicable policies and regulations. He responded to questions and concerns raised by members of the public regarding privacy, data security, and operational oversight. Chief Bowers also provided an informational overview of other traffic enforcement and surveillance systems utilized throughout the City, including red light cameras, speed cameras, stop sign cameras, and other fixed surveillance cameras. He outlined their general locations, enforcement objectives, and role in promoting public safety and traffic compliance.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: Mr. Salmerón reported on the Geospatial Roadmap Plan, the Little League Baseball game, Public Art; and the upcoming Budget Work Sessions. He provided the Council with an update on the progress on the Pepco overbilling resolution. Mr. Salmerón advised that the EV charging station will be installed, however the parking lot to the Community Center and the Prince George's County Memorial Library will be closed overnight starting tomorrow night for excavation work.

PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Pro Tem Weaver read the agenda comments. She then announced the meeting was recessed for the public hearing at 9:36 pm. Mr. Salmerón stated that a public utility tax would allow the City to tax the operating property of public utilities. The tax, which the utility companies, not the City residents, would pay, would apply to land, buildings and other properties, such as telephone poles, wires, used by the utilities for their operations.

- Lore Rosenthal, a Greenbelt resident, inquired who is getting tax and will this increase the residents tax rate.

- Bill Orleans, a Greenbelt resident, inquired why the tax rate was less than the Town of Bladensburg.

Mr. Salmerón stated that the City's proposes \$2.50 Utility Tax aligns with similar taxes in other municipalities and does not directly impact the residents of the City. There were no additional public comments regarding the proposed Utility Tax. The public hearing on this matter concluded at 9:46 pm.

LEGISLATION

A Resolution to Repeal and Reenact with Amendment Resolution Number 2109 to Adopt Standing Rules for the Council of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland: Mayor Pro Tem Weaver read the agenda comments. Mayor Pro Tem Weaver introduced the resolution for second reading and adoption. Councilmember Pompi seconded the motion. There was a discussion.

ROLL CALL: Councilmember Fritz	-	Yes
Councilmember Knesel	-	Yes
Councilmember McKinney	-	Yes

Councilmember Pompei	-	Yes
Councilmember Pope	-	Yes
Mayor Pro Tem Weaver	-	Yes
Mayor Jordan	-	Absent

The resolution was declared passed.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Amended Declaration of Covenants for 7010 Greenbelt Road (Greenbelt Crossing): Mayor Pro Tem Weaver read the agenda comments. Councilmember Pompei moved that the Council approve the revised agreement for the Land Records of Prince George’s County. Councilmember Knesel seconded the motion. There was a discussion. The motion passed 6-0.

Discussion: Proposed Charter Amendment Regarding Collective Bargaining Rights: Mayor Pro Tem Weaver read the agenda comments. The Council discussed a proposed Charter amendment regarding collective bargaining rights for City employees. The amendment would cover full-time, non-exempt, non-managerial, non-confidential employees, with three specific bargaining units: sworn police officers, Public Works employees, and all other departments. Councilmember Fritz raised questions about how "full-time" status would be determined, particularly for employees who work variable hours. Mr. Salmerón stated that the 500-hour threshold used by the Maryland State Retirement system could serve as a basis for defining full-time status, and Mayor Pro Tem Weaver noted this would need to be further defined in the City Code rather than the Charter. Mr. Salmerón noted that both the labor attorneys and City Solicitor would need to review the proposed language, “all non-exempt, non-managerial, and non-confidential employees,” before a final vote could be taken.

Discussion: Collective Bargaining Ordinance: Mayor Pro Tem Weaver read the agenda comments. The Council discussed proposed changes to the City Charter regarding labor relations and employee organization rights. They reviewed amendments to the Code that would clarify the City Council's role in voluntary recognition of unions through card check processes, with Councilmember Pompei proposing specific language amendment to Section 13-237 (C2), from “City” to “City Council.”

Councilmember Fritz raised concerns about the no-strike provision in Section 13-239, arguing that it should be limited to public safety employees rather than applying to all City workers, as it creates an unfair disparity compared to private sector employees. The discussion highlighted the need to balance public safety considerations with workers' rights to collective bargaining and strike actions.

The Council discussed progress in language related to part-time and non-confidential employees in the collective bargaining code. Mr. Salmerón explained that the team is working to determine whether to exempt specific positions or classify confidential employees, with a focus on positions in Human Resources, Finance, Information Technology, and the City Manager's office. Trent Leon, Laurel Hill Road, suggested changing "may" to "shall" to ensure the labor commissioner presents the option to the City Council rather than making the decision

themselves, in Section 13-237(C2). Ms. Davis, Greenbelt East, emphasized the importance of treating Public Works employees with respect, noting their role as first responders, and Mr. Orleans, a Greenbelt resident, stressed the inherent right of all workers to organize and strike. Councilmember Knesel acknowledging delays in implementing changes due to legal complications but assuring the public that due diligence was being taken.

Council Referral to the Board of Elections Regarding Ranked Choice Voting: Mayor Pro Tem Weaver read the agenda comments. Mayor Pro Tem Weaver moved to send a referral to the Board of Elections on Ranked Choice Voting to Implement Ranked Choice Voting for the 2027 Municipal Elections. Councilmember Pompei seconded the motion. There was a discussion. The motion passed 6-0.

Letter of Support for an Act Concerning Immigration Detention Facilities in the County: County Bill CB-031-2026: Mayor Pro Tem Weaver read the agenda comments. Councilmember Pompei moved that the Council send a Letter of Support for Prince George's County Council Bill CB-031-2026, An Act Concerning Immigration Detention Facilities. Councilmember Fritz seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-1 (Councilmember Pope abstained).

Meetings: Councilmember McKinney moved that the Council recess in July during the weeks of July 20th and July 27th. She also moved that the Council recess in August during the weeks of August 17th and August 24th. Councilmember Pope seconded. There was a discussion. The motion passed 6-0.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES:

Events between March 24 and April 13, 2026

- 24 March: Greenbelt Advisory Committee for Environmental Sustainability (Weaver)
- 24 March: Cemetery Master Plan Community Meeting (Pompi)
- 25 March: County Councilmember Adams Tour of Greenbelt (Fritz, Jordan, Weaver)
- 25 March: Higher Achievement Program Tour at Greenbelt Middle School (McKinney, Pompei)
- 25 March: County Council District 4 Listening Session (Knesel, Weaver)
- 26 March: Woman's History Month Celebration at Springhill Lake Elementary School (McKinney, Pompei, Pope, Weaver)
- 31 March: Senior Citizen Advisory Committee (Pope)
- 31 March: Geospatial Roadmap meeting (Pompi)
- 02 April: Greenbelt Rotary Club (Weaver)
- 02 April: Charter Review Task Force (Fritz, Weaver)
- 03 April: Greenbelt Police Department vs. Youth Soccer Match at Springhill Lake Recreation Center (Jordan, Pope, Pompei, Weaver)
- 03 April: Underwater Egg Hunt (Pope)
- 04 April: Annual Egg Hunt, Buddy Attick Park (Jordan, Fritz, Pompei, Pope, Weaver)
- 06 April: Agenda Meeting with City Manager (Jordan, Weaver)

- 07 April: Advisory Committee Advancing Public Safety (Pope)
- 09 April: Greenbelt Rotary Club Presentation – Venture Crew (Weaver)
- 09 April: Greenbelt Homes, Inc. Town Hall (Pompi)
- 11 April: Greenbelt Youth Baseball Little League Baseball Opening Day and Ribbon Cutting for Braden Field (Knesel, McKinney, Fritz, Pompi, Pope, Weaver)
- 11 April: Dedication of “Joy” Public Sculpture (Knesel, McKinney, Fritz, Pompi, Pope, Weaver)
- 11 April: Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Auxiliary Gala (Knesel, McKinney, Fritz, Pompi, Pope, Weaver)
- 12 April: Artful Afternoon (Pompi, Weaver)
- 13 April: National League of Cities Transportation and Infrastructure Services committee (Weaver)
- 13 April: Agenda Planning with City Manager (Weaver)

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilmember. Pompi and seconded by Councilmember. Knesel. The motion carried 6-0. Mayor Pro Tem adjourned the regular meeting of April 13, 2026, at 11:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shaniya Lashley-Mullen
Deputy 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 13, 2026.

Kristen L.K. Weaver
Mayor Pro Tem Weaver