

## **REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held May 26, 2026.**

Mayor Jordan 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, Mayor Pro Tem Kristen L.K. Weaver, and Mayor Emmett V. Jordan.

**ALSO PRESENT** were Josué Salmerón, City Manager; Timothy George, Assistant City Manager; Bertha Gaymon, Acting City Treasurer; Rick Bowers, Police Chief (virtual); Christal Batey, Assistant Director of CARES and GAIL; Dr. Luisa Robles, Sustainability Coordinator; Greg Varda, Director of Recreation; Cynthia Brown, Aquatic Coordinator; and Bonita Anderson, City Clerk.

Mayor Jordan asked for a moment of silence in honor of former resident Martha Tompkins Folk.

Councilmember McKinney led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Councilmember Knesel recited the Greenbelt Community Pledge.

### **PETITIONS AND REQUESTS:**

Judith “J” Davis (Resident Expression of Appreciation): Thanked the City Council for nominating him for a Maryland Municipal League award. He also raised operational budget inquiries regarding WMATA reimbursement amounts, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) fund usage, and commercial property tax rates.

Mark Sherman (Electoral Structure Suggestion): Suggested implementing a ward system for future City Council representation across municipal districts.

Andy Zmidzinski (Enforcement Concerns): Raised concerns regarding stop sign camera enforcement, highlighting a lack of physical maps for residents and questioning the active technical involvement of traffic engineering.

Michael Hartman (Information Request): Requested additional information regarding the specific sidewalk assessment criteria and fund reallocations included in the Citylogix contract.

David Waples (Fiscal Policy Concerns): Urged the Council to mitigate the financial impacts of tax increases on older residents and advocated for aggressively building up the City’s commercial tax base.

Louise Weissman (Program Management Concerns): Expressed strong concerns regarding the management of JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) initiatives through the Human Resources department rather than via open, citywide communication channels.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** It was moved by Councilmember Pope and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Weaver to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion passed 7-0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Board of Elections Report #2026-03 (FY27 Budget Request): Council accepted the report.

Reappointment to Advisory Board/Committee: Council approved the reappointment of Stanley Zirkin to a new term on the Advisory Committee Advancing Public Safety (ACAPS).

Resignation from Advisory Board/Committee: Council accepted the resignation of Dr. Charles Jackman from the Advisory Committee on Trees (ACT). In accordance with City Charter restrictions limiting simultaneous board service, Council also accepted Stanley Zirkin's resignation from the Employee Relations Board (ERB) with regret.

Authorization for City Manager to Approve Contract with Citylogix for Sidewalk Assessment and Fund Reallocation: Council approved the purchase and fund reallocation.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** It was moved by Councilmember Pope and seconded by Mayor Jordan that the agenda be approved as presented. The motion passed 7-0.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

Older Americans Month Proclamation: Mayor Jordan proclaimed May as Older Americans Month, highlighting this year's theme, "Champion Your Health." Christal Batey, Assistant Director of CARES and GAIL, was present to accept the proclamation.

Greenbelt Recycles & Composts Week Proclamation: Mayor Jordan presented a proclamation declaring Greenbelt Recycles and Composts Week. Dr. Luisa Robles, Sustainability Coordinator, accepted the proclamation.

Water Safety and Drowning Prevention Awareness Month Proclamation: Mayor Jordan presented a proclamation declaring May as Water Safety and Drowning Prevention Awareness Month. Greg Varda, Director of Recreation, and Cynthia Brown, Aquatic Coordinator, were present to accept the proclamation.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:** City Manager Salmerón directed Council to the weekly administrative report outlining updates for city operations. He highlighted several key initiatives: the official launch of a Facade Improvement Grant program for Roosevelt Center businesses, measurable progress on recovering expiring bond funds, the implementation details of the new RFID technology for municipal trash collection tracking, and the framework for the upcoming Citylogix sidewalk assessment project, which will map and evaluate conditions and ADA compliance across 38 miles of city sidewalks, with completion anticipated by fall.

## LEGISLATION:

FY 2027 Budget Adoption: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. He summarized the proposed FY 2027 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 Mayor Pro Tem Weaver and seconded by Councilmember Pompei to approve the FY 2027 revenue changes from \$41,748,149 to \$42,008,895, a difference of \$260,746. The motion passed 7-0.

It was moved by Councilmember McKinney and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Weaver to maintain the FOGT subsidy of \$25,000 for six months. The motion passed 5-2. (Councilmembers Fritz and Pompei opposed.)

It was moved by Mayor Jordan and seconded by Councilmember Pope to approve the General Government changes from \$5,484,494 to \$5,481,922, a decrease of \$2,572. The motion passed 7-0.

It was moved by Councilmember Pompei and seconded by Councilmember Fritz to approve the Planning and Community Development changes from \$1,429,251 to \$1,434,129, an increase of \$4,878. The motion passed 7-0.

It was moved by Councilmember Pope and seconded by Councilmember Knesel to approve the Public Safety changes from \$14,363,506 to \$14,393,849, an increase of \$30,343.

It was moved by Councilmember Fritz and seconded by Councilmember Pope to approve the Public Works changes from \$5,527,242 to \$5,514,037, a decrease of \$13,205. The motion passed 7-0.

It was moved by Councilmember Knesel and seconded by Councilmember Pompei to approve the Greenbelt CARES changes from \$1,726,046 to \$1,862,223, an increase of \$136,178. The motion passed 7-0.

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Weaver and seconded by Councilmember Pope to approve the Recreation and Parks changes from \$8,955,738 to \$8,972,073, an increase of \$16,334. The motion passed 7-0.

It was moved by Mayor Jordan and seconded by Councilmember Pope to approve the Miscellaneous – Grants & Contributions changes from \$373,640 to \$377,430, an increase of \$3,790. The motion passed 7-0.

It was moved by Mayor Jordan and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Weaver to approve the Non-Departmental changes from \$1,440,400 to \$1,525,401, an increase of \$85,001. The motion passed 6-1. (Councilmember Fritz opposed)

It was moved by Mayor Jordan and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Weaver to approve the Total General Fund changes from \$41,741,246 to \$41,976,990, an increase of \$235,746. The motion passed 7-0.

Non-Monetary Requested Changes

It was moved by Councilmember Pompei and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Weaver to approve the Non-Monetary Requested Changes. Councilmember Fritz moved to remove #7 “ Eliminate the DEI Officer role in its current format as a Grade 15 position and retain the full DEI funding allocation for a future role and programming to be defined by Council.” Councilmember Pope seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Mayor Pro Tem Weaver moved to approve Non-Monetary Requested Changes 1 through 6 and 8. Councilmember McKinney seconded. The motion passed 5-2. (Councilmembers Fritz and Pope opposed.)

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 and the Public Utility Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2027, Beginning July 1, 2026, and Ending June 30, 2027: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Mayor Jordan introduced the ordinance for first reading and moved to suspend the rules to allow for a second reading and immediate adoption. Councilmember Pompei seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL TO SUSPEND THE RULES:

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

Mayor Jordan introduced the ordinance for second reading and adoption. Councilmember Pompei seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL TO ADOPT ORDINANCE:

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

The ordinance was declared passed.

EXTENSION OF MEETING: Mayor Jordan moved to extend the meeting until 10:00 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Weaver seconded. The motion passed 6-1. (Councilmember Pompei opposed.)

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Greenbelt Station Central Park Planter Project**: Council reviewed a proposal submitted by Greenbelt Station residents regarding planter locations, a maintenance plan, a budget, and a purchasing approach. Mayor Jordan moved that Council refer the project to PRAB. Councilmember Pope seconded. The motion failed 2-5. (Councilmembers Fritz, Knesel, McKinney, Pompei, and Mayor Pro Tem Weaver opposed.)

Councilmember McKinney moved to approve the homeowners' association (HOA) installing the planters. Mayor Pro Tem Weaver moved to approve the HOA installing and maintaining the planters under a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the City. Councilmember Pompei seconded. The motion passed 6-1, with Mayor Jordan opposed.

**State Highway Administration "Don't Block the Box" Striping at Greenbelt Road and Hanover Parkway Request Letter**: Mayor Jordan discussed a neighborhood bottleneck and weekday gridlock impacting travelers and students heading to the B/W Parkway north ramp. Mayor Jordan moved to direct staff to draft a letter to the State Highway Administration requesting priority implementation of westbound "Don't Block the Box" striping at State Route 193 and Hanover Parkway over the summer. Councilmember Pope seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

**Council Reports: - NOT GOING BACK: Current & Former AANHPI Elected Officials of Prince George's County Condemn Racist Remarks by Maryland Delegates Against Colleague Delegate Chao Wu**: Councilmember Fritz presented a nonpartisan sign-on letter featuring 11 current and former AANHPI elected officials from Prince George's County standing in solidarity with Delegate Chao Wu against xenophobia and discrimination. He expressed his support for the letter.

**COUNCIL ACTIVITIES**: Councilmembers reported on their activities and events between May 12 and May 26, 2026.

- 12 May: Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission Standpipe Project Update (Jordan, Pompei)
- 12 May: Virtual Debrief with State Legislators & RCV Maryland (Weaver)
- 13 May: National League of Cities Transportation and Infrastructure Services committee (Weaver)
- 13 May: MWCOG board meeting (Jordan)
- 14 May: Greenbelt Rotary Club (Weaver)
- 14 May: Community Relations Advisory Board (Pompei)
- 14 May: GHI Annual Meeting (Jordan)
- 15 May: Bike to Work Day (Jordan, Weaver)

- 15 May: Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Chesapeake Bay Policy Committee (Pompi)
- 15 May: Legislative Update (Jordan, Pompi)
- 15 May: Artist Talk – Community Center (Jordan)
- 16 May: Greenbelt Job Fair (Jordan, Pompi, Weaver)
- 16 May: Greenbelt Chess Club – Outdoor Chess (Jordan)
- 18 May: Greenbelt Assistance in Living (GAIL) Program 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Jordan, Weaver)
- 18 May: Agenda Planning with City Manager (Jordan, Weaver)
- 20 May: Meeting with Councilmember Tim Adams (Fritz, Jordan, Pompi)
- 20 May: Advisory Committee for Education Student Awards (Fritz, Jordan, Knesel, McKinney, Pompi, Pope, Weaver)
- 20 May: Metro Washington Air Quality Committee (Weaver)
- 20 May: Transportation Planning Board (Weaver)
- 20 May: Park and Recreation Advisory Board (Weaver)
- 20 May: NLC Advisory Board Mtg - (Jordan)
- 21 May: Four Cities Meeting (Fritz, Jordan, Knesel, McKinney, Pompi, Pope, Weaver)
- 22 May: Springhill Lake Elementary School Career Day (Jordan, Pompi, Weaver, Pope)
- 22 May: Councilmember Tim Adams Senior Luncheon (Jordan, Knesel, McKinney, Pompi, Pope, Weaver)
- 22 May: American Legion Auxiliary National President Dinner (Jordan, Pope, Weaver)
- 25 May: Memorial Day Commemoration at the American Legion (Jordan, McKinney, Pompi, Pope, Weaver)

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mayor Pro Tem Weaver and seconded by Councilmember Pope. The motion carried 7-0. Mayor Jordan adjourned the regular meeting of May 26, 2026, at 10:01 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 May 26, 2026.

Emmett V. Jordan  
Mayor