



REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Monday, October 26, 2009

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL was answered by Councilmembers Konrad E. Herling, Leta M. Mach, Edward V. J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts and Mayor Judith F. Davis.

ALSO PRESENT were Michael McLaughlin, City Manager; David E. Moran, Assistant City Manager; Robert Manzi, City Solicitor; and Cindy Murray, City Clerk.

Mayor Davis asked for a moment of silence in memory of Greenbelt residents Kay Moomey and Rafeal Martin, former resident Dr. Waldir Pedersoli, and retired Greenbelt Police Sgt. Gerald “Jerry” Potts. She then led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

CONSENT AGENDA: It was moved by Mr. Putens and seconded by Mr. Herling that the consent agenda be approved. The motion passed 5-0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Regular Meeting, September 14, 2009
Work Session, October 5, 2009
Work Session, October 7, 2009
Approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Advisory Planning Board Report No. 09-02 (Prince George’s County Stormwater Management Ordinance): Council accepted this report and agreed to place it on the agenda of a future meeting.

Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability Report No. 2009-5 (Prince George’s County Stormwater Management Ordinance): Council accepted this report and agreed to place it on the agenda of a future meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mr. McLaughlin requested “New Mixed Use Zone” be added to the agenda as Item #12. It was moved by Mr. Putens and seconded by Mr. Herling that the agenda be approved as amended. The motion passed 5-0.

PRESENTATIONS:

America Recycles Month Proclamation: Mayor Davis read and presented to Luisa Robles, the City's Recycling Coordinator, a proclamation recognizing November as America Recycles Month. Ms. Robles recapped some of the City's recent recycling projects and explained the new efforts to increase recycling in City facilities and also in the business community. She also noted that Green ACES and the Public Works Department would once again conduct their annual "Recycle Right" contest to recognize good work on the part of a household on each of the City's four recycling routes and one contractual route.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS:

Ms. Bonnie Brant, 2-F Northway, questioned whether a voter could select one candidate on the ballot and write in the name of the same candidate six times as a "write in" candidate and have the vote count as seven votes for the candidate in the upcoming City Council election on November 3rd. Mr. Manzi explained that what Ms. Brant had described was cumulative voting, which is not allowed under the City Charter. He noted that "write in" votes for a candidate are not counted if the candidate is already listed on the ballot.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mr. McLaughlin announced that FallFest was scheduled for Saturday, October 31st.

Mayor Davis, Mr. Putens, Mr. Herling and Ms. Mach reported on the Maryland Municipal League Fall Conference and the different ways municipalities are dealing with reduction in revenues. Mr. Herling and Ms. Mach also commented on the Utopia Film Festival.

Mayor Davis commented on the City Health and Wellness Fairs, the Council of Governments Board meeting, the Trinity Assembly of God 75th Anniversary celebration, the Greenbelt Community Foundation Tea, the City Advisory Board Appreciation Dinner, and the Pumpkin Walk. She thanked the Police and Parking Enforcement officers for their response to the recent fire in Empirian Village. Mayor Davis also thanked Empirian Village Management for their prompt response in relocating the displaced residents, and residents and local churches for their donations to these residents.

legislation: None

Maryland Department of Transportation Capital Program Tour & FY 2010-2015 Draft Consolidated Transportation Plan: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Mayor Davis moved that staff prepare a letter to the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Transportation restating the City's opposition to the Intercounty Connector and the widening and extension of MD 201, and support for the Purple Line Study, the full interchange at Greenbelt Station, US 1 Improvement project, increased funding for sound barriers and the dedication of funds towards improving transit in the region. Mr. Putens seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. McLaughlin said that Planning Department staff will attend the Consolidated Transportation Plan meeting scheduled for November 4th at the Greenbelt State Highway Administration.

NEW MIXED USE ZONE: Mr. McLaughlin reported that staff has been closely monitoring the progress of CB-055-2009 on a new Mixed Use Zone but the legislation had not yet been finalized. He noted that the bill is currently scheduled for hearing on November 17th.

Mr. Putens moved that a letter be sent to County Councilmember Ingrid M. Turner requesting a deferral in the hearing of the bill until a final version is in place and has been adequately reviewed.

Mr. Herling seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

MEETINGS: Council reviewed the meeting schedule.

FINAL COMMENTS: Since this was the last meeting of the 37th Council, Councilmembers reflected on the events of the last two years, thanked their colleagues and staff, and thanked the residents for the opportunity to serve.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn the regular meeting was made by Ms. Mach and seconded by Mr. Putens. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Davis adjourned the regular meeting of Monday, October 26, 2009, at 9:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Murray
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 October 26, 2009."

Judith F. Davis
Mayor