

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Monday, November 28, 2011.

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 8:01p.m.

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

ALSO PRESENT were Michael P. McLaughlin, City Manager; Robert A. Manzi, City Solicitor and David E. Moran, Acting City Clerk.

Mayor Davis asked for a moment of silence in honor of Greenbelt residents Jane Roberts Stern, Stanley Attick and Charles Fuchs. She then led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

CONSENT AGENDA: Mayor Davis requested that the September 26 and October 24 minutes be removed. Mr. Jordan requested that the minutes of October 17 be removed. It was moved by Mr. Herling and seconded by Mr. Jordan the consent agenda be approved with these changes. The motion passed 7-0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Work Session, March 3, 2011

Work Session, March 16, 2011

Work Session, October 5, 2011

Approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Advisory Committee on Trees, Report #2011-3 (Amendment to Resolution Number 908): Council accepted this report and agreed to consider it on the agenda of a future meeting.

RESIGNATION FROM ADVISORY GROUP

Council accepted Jacquelyn Hair's resignation from the Employee Relations Board.

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

PRESENTATIONS:

Recycle Right Awards: Mayor Davis announced that November 15 was America Recycles Day. Luisa Robles, the City's Recycling Coordinator, explained the Recycle Right Awards program. John Lippert, GreenAces Chair, was also present. Ms. Robles identified the winners. Each winner received new blue recycling bins identifying them as contest winners, as well as prizes awarded by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Mom's Organic Market, and College Park REI.

The winners were:

Alice Mitchell	60-E Crescent Road	Monday City Route
Lori Den	57-C Ridge Road	Tuesday City Route
Angie Evans (not present)	Holy Cross Lutheran Church	Wednesday City Route
Grace Tomantini	36-C Ridge Road	Thursday City Route
Mark Basset	6933 Lady Ann Court	Contractual Route

Municipal Government Month – Proclamation: Mayor Davis stated that November is Municipal Government month. She read a proclamation. Beverly Palau, the City’s Public Information and Communications Coordinator, received the proclamation.

In recognition of the event, it was reported that the City is flying the Municipal Government Works flag outside the Municipal Building. The City had also sponsored many activities that display government in action, including the Community Health and Wellness Fair, the Walk to School Day, the “If I Were Mayor” contest for fourth grade students, FallFest and hosted stream cleaning and electronics recycling events.

75th Anniversary Committee Update: Dave Mills, Chair of the 75th Anniversary Committee, provided an update on the plans for the celebration of the City’s 75th Anniversary in 2012. He reviewed the planned calendar of events and responded to questions from Council.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS: Bill Orleans, Greenbelt resident, stated that a resident should be allowed to contact City employees. He referenced a resident that wanted to speak with the City Solicitor. Mr. Orleans requested that Council instruct senior staff to provide contact information for City staff including senior staff.

Molly Lester, 6 Hillside Road, reiterated a concern she raised on August 16 about the delay in preparation of minutes. She specifically referenced the September 12 minutes. She cited several Open Meetings Compliance Board opinions which referenced the need for timeliness of Minutes. Ms. Lester stated that the public body was ultimately responsible for the preparation of minutes. Mr. Putens referenced a company called “Shorescan” that can take documents, scan them and make them available online.

MINUTES

Regular Meeting, September 26, 2011: Mayor Davis noted several corrections. Some of the corrections required reviewing the video record of the meeting. Mr. McLaughlin suggested that staff revise the minutes and present them at a future meeting.

Work Session, October 17, 2011: Mr. Jordan noted a clarification to these minutes regarding his comments about Beaver Dam Road. With this correction, Mr. Jordan moved that the minutes be approved as corrected. Mr. Putens seconded. The motion passed 7 to 0.

Regular Meeting, October 24, 2011: Mayor Davis noted an addition that should be reflected under Council Reports. With these changes, Mayor Davis moved approval of the minutes. Mr. Herling seconded. The motion passed 7 to 0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: Mr. McLaughlin mentioned the upcoming Festival of Lights celebration and the tree lighting. Mayor Davis also referenced several events, specifically noting the

Greenbelt East tree lighting. Mayor Davis thanked the Public Works department for the improvements along Hanover Parkway.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Mr. Jordan asked about the status of Springhill Lake Recreation Center renovation. Mr. Moran responded that the project was a little behind schedule, but expected to be finished by the end of December.

Mr. Jordan referenced the Prince George's County Municipal Association (PGCMA) Legislative Dinner and noted that Mr. Herling and Mayor Davis had attended as well. Mr. Jordan also reported on a community walk at Chelsea Wood condominiums. Mr. Jordan mentioned maintenance concerns on the right-of-way between Chelsea Wood and Windsor Green and suggested that Council back up the Homeowners Association on it.

Mr. Putens noted that he, Ms. Mach and Mr. Roberts attended the Baltimore Washington Parkway widening feasibility study meeting. He expressed concern that this widening proposal may be a prelude to extending the ICC to the BW Parkway. Mr. Putens also spoke to the cooperation between City and County Police. He noted an incident in Greenbrook Estates where a resident was attacked by masked individuals.

Mr. Herling stated that he, Mr. Roberts and Mayor Davis attended the public meeting on the CSX Intermodal site. He noted that all four of the proposed sites had water issues.

Ms. Mach mentioned the Halloween parade and noted that other Council Members attended as well. She also discussed a Kaboom session in Baltimore which she attended to discuss Playful City USA.

Mayor Davis thanked the staff and vendors for the City's recent health fair. She mentioned the pumpkin carving, Utopia Film Festival and pumpkin walk. She discussed the GEAC meeting. Mayor Davis noted she had sworn in the Magnolia Student Council. She also mentioned the Public Safety Awards at the Greenbelt Legion and a veterans program at the Greenbelt Library. Mayor Davis also referenced a Girl Scout program and the National League of Cities (NLC) conference. She congratulated the Eleanor Roosevelt High School Quidditch team for placing third in the World Cup competition. Mayor Davis thanked Mowatt United Methodist Church for their donation to the Greenbelt Animal Shelter and the GHI Board of Directors for their donation to the City's Emergency Relief Fund. She challenged Council and the community to make donations to the emergency fund as well.

PROPOSED 2012 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Mr. Jordan suggested that appropriate revisions, particularly as it relates to volunteers, to the State Ethics legislation for municipal officials were needed. Mayor Davis suggested this item be moved from the "Other Issues" section to the "State Priorities" section of the program. Mr. Manzi described pre-filed legislation to amend the Ethics law. Ms. Mach suggested that Community Center Kitchen Usage be added under County items. Under "Environmental Initiatives", Council changed the alternative fuel item to an alternative energy item, specifically including electric vehicle charging stations.

With these additions, Ms. Mach moved approval of the 2012 Legislative Program as modified by the Council. Mr. Putens seconded. The motion passed 7 to 0.

OTHER REPORTS:

Ms. Mach reported on the Maryland Municipal League (MML) Fall Conference and stated the focus was on Economic Development and finding the money to do this. She noted that technology often drives Economic Development. She also reported on a “finding the money” session. Next, Ms. Mach reported on the National League of Cities (NLC) sessions she attended. She noted that Maryland was one of nine states that received a grant to have a summit of Mayors on “out of school” time.

Mr. Herling reported on the “Plan Maryland” session at the MML Fall Conference. He also referenced the sessions he attended at the NLC Conference. He particularly liked the opening session and characterized it as very inspiring and reported the speakers stated that municipal officials needed to have courage.

Mr. Jordan stated that Vienna’s Strategic Plan for Economic Development was an excellent example of a small town strategic plan. He agreed that the NLC keynote speakers were excellent.

Mayor Davis reported on the MML Fall Conference. She expressed disappointment with the Ethics session. She also talked about the “show me the money” session and noted the emphasis on using Program Open Space (POS) funds for development projects. Next, she reported on the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Climate and Energy Committee.

MEETINGS: Council reviewed the meeting schedule.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Mach and seconded by Mr. Jordan. The motion carried 7-0. The Mayor adjourned the regular meeting of Monday, November 28, 2011, at 10:18p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David E. Moran
Acting 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 November 28, 2011.

Judith F. Davis
Mayor