



REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held October 24, 2005.

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 8:00 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 P. McLaughlin, City Manager; David E. Moran, Assistant City Manager; Robert A. Manzi, City Solicitor; and Kathleen Gallagher, City Clerk.

Mayor Davis asked for a moment of silence in honor of residents Terrence K. O'Driscoll and Teresa B. Scullen, and former resident Martha E. Chester. She then led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

CONSENT AGENDA: Mayor Davis asked to remove the minutes from the regular meeting of October 10 from the consent agenda. Ms. Mach asked to remove item #14 (Resignations from Advisory Group). It was moved by Mr. Putens and seconded by Mr. Herling that the consent agenda be approved as amended. The motion passed 5-0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

- Work Session, October 5, 2005
- Work Session, October 10, 2005
- Work Session, October 17, 2005

Approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Park & Recreation Advisory Board, Report #05-4 (Revision of Recognition and Contribution Group Policy): Council approved the board's plan to work with the Arts Advisory Board to review and make recommendations regarding the City's policy on recognition and contribution groups, particularly with regard to eligibility.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Ms. Mach added a resignation, a transfer, and an appointment to an advisory group to the agenda as three items. It was then moved by Mr. Putens and seconded by Mr. Herling that the agenda be approved as amended. The motion passed 5-0.

PRESENTATIONS: Mayor Davis announced that Mayor Brayman from College Park would be arriving later to make his presentation.

America Recycles Day – Proclamation: Mayor Davis read a proclamation declaring November 15 to be America Recycles Day in Greenbelt. Neal Barnett, chair of the

Recycling & Environment Advisory Committee, received the proclamation and described plans for the City's upcoming "Recycle Right" competition.

National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week – Proclamation: The Mayor presented a proclamation to Animal Control Officer Susie Hall declaring the first week in November to be National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week. Ms. Hall updated Council on progress with the City's new animal shelter facility.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS: None.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Regular Meeting, October 10, 2005: Mayor Davis made several clarifications and corrections to this set of minutes. It was moved by Mr. Putens and seconded by Mr. Herling that the minutes be approved as amended. The motion passed 5-0.

Executive Session, October 10, 2005: Mr. Roberts moved that the minutes of the executive session of the City Council held Monday, October 10, 2005, be approved as presented. He further requested that the minutes of this meeting reflect that the Council met in executive session at 7:20 p.m. in the 1st-floor conference room of the Municipal Building. Council held this closed meeting in accordance with Section 10-508 (a)(7) of the State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland to consult with counsel for legal advice on matters regarding the annexation of land in Greenbelt West. Mr. Putens seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL:

Mr. Herling - yes
Ms. Mach - yes
Mr. Putens - yes
Mr. Roberts - yes
Mayor Davis - yes

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mr. McLaughlin announced that the Fall Fest at Schrom Hills Park had been rescheduled to October 29 because of rain. He also announced that this was the 20th anniversary of Mr. Manzi's becoming City Solicitor, whereupon Council expressed amazement and congratulated him. At the Mayor's request, Mr. McLaughlin also provided an update regarding Recreation Department donations following Katrina.

Ms. Gallagher announced that absentee voting was underway, and she reminded everyone that this year for the first time any qualified voter could choose to vote using an absentee ballot rather than coming to the polls. She also announced that a demonstration voting machine was available in the Municipal Building. In response to questions from Council, she also enumerated the polling places and hours and the deadline for applying for an absentee ballot. Mayor Davis announced that after the polls closed, a reception would be held by the candidates at the Fire Station to wait for the election returns.

Mr. Herling reviewed the schedule for the upcoming film festival planned by GATE for Veterans Day weekend.

Mr. Putens gave a reminder that the American Legion had asked for a Greenbelt flag.

Ms. Mach and Mayor Davis reported on the Maryland Municipal League fall meetings.

Mayor Davis also thanked staff for its work in preparing for the Health Fair on October 14. She reported on an October 18 briefing for municipalities by the Council of Governments (COG) and Prince George's County regarding programs available to them through COG membership or through the county. She noted that the Prince George's County Municipal Association legislation reception and the Candidates Forum at Green Ridge House had also been held on October 18.

LEGISLATION: None.

APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR LICENSE – HILTON GARDEN INN: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Martin Schaffer, attorney for the Hilton Garden Inn, and owner Jay Shah were both present to answer questions. Mr. Shah said they anticipate opening in mid-February. It was moved by Mr. Putens and seconded by Ms. Mach that Council take no position on the application. The motion passed 5-0.

NEW LEASE – ADULT DAY CARE FACILITY: The Mayor read the agenda comments. LaWonne Booker, CEO of To God Be the Glory Adult Care Centers, was present to address Council. Ms. Booker said that having only a six-month lease would present problems for them in terms of getting credit and in terms of leasing needed equipment. She said they are doing well, with a new director with good experience and a waiting list of 12 applicants. Mayor Davis said the City had some concerns at the time of the transition but that what Ms. Booker said about the problems of a short-term lease made sense. She said she would be willing to agree to a one-year lease with a work session to review how things are going in about six months. Mr. Roberts asked Ms. Booker if going to a one-year lease would work for them. She said it would and that she liked the idea of the six-month review. Ms. Mach made a motion that Council approve a new lease with a one-year term, with review at approximately six months before its expiration. Mr. Herling seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

COLLEGE PARK CITY COUNCIL – MARCH TO REBUILD ROUTE 1: College Park Mayor Stephen Brayman appeared to share his city's disappointment with the state's Draft Consolidated Transportation Program. Despite the high priority for College Park of the improvements to Route 1, which should now be at the engineering and design phase, this item was not funded in the draft plan. Furthermore, College Park opposes the "campus connector" route, which was funded at a level of \$1 million. He asked the City Council and Greenbelt citizens to join College Park in a march in support of funding for Route 1 on Saturday. He said what they need is not the connector road, but access, a traffic management plan, and pedestrian safety efforts. Council thanked him and asked him to stay for discussion of the next agenda item.

MDOT DRAFT CONSOLIDATED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM, FY 2006-2011: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Terri Hruby, Assistant Planning Director, was present to discuss the response to be made. The Mayor asked if the letter

could be revised to include College Parks's priorities on support for the Route1 project and opposition to the University of Maryland connector road. Mr. Roberts asked if more funding for beltway sound barriers could be included. Mr. Herling suggested adding language to improve "The Bus" in Prince George's County. Ms. Mach asked to use the "Purple Line" language, rather than the "BiCounty Transit" language, regardless of the preferences of the current administration.

It was understood that, given the agreement reached with Greenbelt Station, no opposition would be stated to the full interchange at Greenbelt Metro Station. It was moved by Mr. Putens and seconded by Ms. Mach that, with that exception, and in addition to the points Councilmembers added above, the City's positions of last year should otherwise be reiterated regarding the City's objection to the widening and extension of MD 201 and its support for the Purple Line (Bi-County Transit Study). The motion passed 5-0.

ADVISORY GROUP ACTIONS: The following motions were approved 5-0: a motion from Mr. Putens, seconded by Ms. Mach, to accept the resignation of Andrew Mangum from the Youth Advisory Committee; and motions from Ms. Mach, seconded by Mr. Putens, to transfer Kilolo Ajanaku from the Youth Advisory Committee to the Advisory Committee on Education and to appoint Paul Sciubba to the Advisory Committee on Education.

MEETINGS: Council reviewed the meeting schedule.

COMMENTS FROM 35TH COUNCIL: Councilmembers variously reflected on the events of the last couple of years, thanked the citizens for the opportunity to serve, and encouraged all residents to vote on November 8.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Mach and seconded by Mr. Putens. The motion carried 5-0. The Mayor adjourned the regular meeting of October 24, 2005, at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Gallagher
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 24, 2005.@"

Judith F. Davis
Mayor