



**REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL HELD
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1999**

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 8:10 p.m.

ROLL CALL was answered by Edward V.J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts, Alan Turnbull, Thomas X. White and by Judith F. Davis, Mayor.

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

Mayor Davis observed a moment of silence for Joseph Leo Miller and Richard Hensel. Then, she led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

CONSENT AGENDA: Mr. Putens moved approval of the consent agenda. Mr. Turnbull seconded. The motion passed 5 to 0.

COUNCIL THEREBY TOOK THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:

MINUTES:

- Work Session, July 26, 1999
- Interviews, October 5, 1999
- Work Session, October 5, 1999
- Interviews, October 11, 1999
- Regular Meeting, October 11, 1999
- Special Meeting. October 18, 1999
- Work Session, October 19, 1999
- Regular Meeting, October 25, 1999
- 4-Cities Meeting, October 28, 1999
- Work Session, November 8, 1999
- Charter Meeting, November 8, 1999

Approved as presented

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PRAB Report #99-4: Council accepted this report and noted that funds for ballfield lights are included in the FY2000 Capital Projects budgets.

CRAB Report: Council accepted this report.

RESPONSE TO WMATA INQUIRY TO ABANDON PORTION OF CHERRYWOOD LANE: Council directed that the city restate its previous position that abandonment is premature at this time and approved the draft letter.

APPLICATION FOR WETLAND PERMIT - MD 201 & RT. 212: Council formally approved the letter drafted on behalf of the City by ESA and sent on November 1, 1999.

ROCKVILLE RADAR PROGRAM - REFERRAL TO PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: Council referred this matter to the Public Safety Advisory Committee for its review and comment.

AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN PRESERVATION EASEMENT ON COMMUNITY CENTER: Council authorized the Mayor to sign the easement on behalf of the City.

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL HOLIDAY: Council granted each classified employee a personal holiday which they can use through June 30, 2000.

REAPPOINTMENTS TO ADVISORY GROUPS: Council reappointed the following individuals for three year terms and directed staff to prepare reappointment letters.

Sheldon Goldberg Advisory Planning Board

Joyce Chestnut Advisory Planning Board

Joseph Griffith Employee Relations Board

RESIGNATION FROM ARTS ADVISORY BOARD: Council accepted Ms. Holland's decision with regret and directed that the appropriate letter of appreciation be drafted for the Mayor's signature.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mr. Putens added an appointment to ACE. With that change, Mr. Turnbull moved that the agenda be approved. Mr. Putens seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS:

GOVERNOR'S CITATION: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Richard Castaldi, Director of Intergovernmental Relations for the State of Maryland, presented citations from Governor Glendening. The citations honored George Rogala & Kenny Gray, Aquatic and Fitness Center staff, for their efforts during this past summer's drought to conserve water.

CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Jeffrey Williams, City Treasurer, accepted the award.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS: There were none.

MINUTES:

Executive Session, October 18, 1999: Mr. Roberts moved that the minutes of the Executive Meeting of the City Council held Monday, October 18, 1999 be approved as presented. He further requested that the minutes of this meeting reflect that the Council met in Executive Session at 8:34 p.m. in the Municipal Building Council Room, and that Council held this closed meeting in accordance with Section 10-508 (a)(4) of the State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland (1995 Replacement Volume) to consider a preliminary matter for a business to locate, expand or remain in the State of Maryland. Mr. White seconded.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Putens - yes

Mr. Roberts - yes

Mr. Turnbull - yes

Mr. White - yes

Mayor Davis - yes

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: Mr. McLaughlin reported that the theater marquee issues had been resolved and that fabrication of the sign was proceeding. He hoped that a departure would be on Council's January agenda with installation in late January or early February. He announced that a "The Bus" kick off would probably be held in January. Mr. McLaughlin announced that Mr. Ferguson was leaving to take a position in Rockville.

Mr. McLaughlin announced a meeting between the Metroland developers and CCRIC. Mr. White expressed concern about the term "task force" when referring to this meeting.

Mr. White reported on the last Metro Area Sector Group meeting. He stated that one phase was over and now it proceeded to hearings. Mr. White suggested the City would need to defend the elements it likes in the plan. Mr. Roberts expressed serious concerns about the sector plan.

Mayor Davis reported that New Carrollton was supporting acquisition of the Jaeger tract. Ms. Davis stated that the Census Bureau was recruiting workers for the upcoming Census. Mayor

Davis reported on the Snow Rodeo. She referenced a meeting with State officials on "Telework America"

Mayor Davis reported on the transportation oversight meeting and a Y2K meeting. She noted the successful employee health fair and thanked Ms. Harris, the city's Human Resources Officer, for her efforts. Mayor Davis commented on the LGIT Law Enforcement symposium. She referenced the Beltway Plaza Holiday Parade and thanked the Lions Club for conducting the toy drive.

Mayor Davis represented the City at the County Executive's prayer breakfast and also noted a program at Greenbelt Elementary. She exhibited a brochure on Greenbelt that had been prepared by a student.

A RESOLUTION TO AMEND RESOLUTION 899, A RESOLUTION TO PURCHASE CERTAIN GOODS AND SERVICES FROM VARIOUS VENDORS WHEN TOTAL FISCAL YEAR PURCHASES FROM EACH VENDOR EXCEED TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$10,000)

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Mr. Putens introduced the above titled Resolution for first reading and suspension of the rules. Mr. Roberts seconded.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Putens - yes

Mr. Roberts - yes

Mr. Turnbull - yes

Mr. White - yes

Mayor Davis - yes

Mr. Putens introduced the above titled resolution for second reading and adoption. Mr. Turnbull seconded.

Mr. White asked if the City was exposing itself to any liability. Mr. Manzi reported that the contract with Streetgard had been terminated. Mr. Roberts asked about Streetgard's status. Chief Craze responded that the City had withheld some of the payment to Streetgard and could proceed to finish implementing the system utilizing those funds.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Putens - yes

Mr. Roberts - yes

Mr. Turnbull - yes

Mr. White - yes

Mayor Davis - yes

The Resolution was declared adopted. (Resolution No. 904. Book No. 7)

REQUEST FROM GREENBELT NEW YEAR: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Earl Keppler appeared on behalf of the Greenbelt New Year (GNY) Committee. Mr. Keppler told a story about the turnaround of the Chrysler Corporation. He noted that similarly GNY was hoping to improve the quality of its program.

Mr. Roberts asked how many tickets had been sold so far. Mr. Kepler responded that 4 had been sold, but noted GNY had not really begun selling and would begin on December 1.

Mr. Putens liked the calendar of events and believed the event would be successful.

Mr. White asked about the school program. Mr. Kepler reported that the schools would be selling tickets and GNY would make contributions to the school.

There was discussion about the entertainment budget. Patti Brothers noted that the acts listed in the report had already been booked. Mr. White expressed concern about GNY overreaching.

Mr. Putens stated that the approach [of different sites] was an excellent idea.

Mr. Turnbull believed the sumo wrestling was an good idea. He asked about the cost figures and what the Committee was hoping to recover. Mr. Turnbull requested clarification on whether this was a grant or loan guarantee. Mr. Kepler responded it was the GNY's hope to repay the money, but it needed to know it was available.

Mr. Roberts stressed that the city was providing a safe night for Greenbelt families and was inclined to give the benefit of the doubt to GNY.

Mr. Roberts moved approval of GNY's request for an additional \$8,000, including \$1,000 for New Deal Café entertainment. Mr. Putens seconded.

Mayor Davis believed GNY would be successful. Mr. Putens indicated he was confident GNY would make it happen.

The motion passed 5 to 0.

POLICY ON DRIVEWAY APRONS: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Mr. Putens indicated a desire for the city to pay for maintenance costs associated with the aprons.

Mr. Roberts believed the City should be responsible for structures in the city right-of-way. He did not believe the argument that WSSC had a policy similar to the City's was a good one.

Mr. Turnbull believed a driveway was there for the benefit of the property owner and served no public purpose.

Mr. White noted that most municipalities cover the cost of aprons. He also believed the WSSC example was not valid. He indicated support for maintaining driveway aprons at a single width.

Mayor Davis ask about potential cost estimates. Ms Craze estimated about \$10,000 per year.

Mr. Putens was not in favor of only doing a single apron, since some developments in Greenbelt had double width driveways.

Mr. Turnbull believed that there was a serious equity issue because only a few residents would benefit from the program.

Mr. Roberts believed this was part of the city's responsibility and would help maintain a well-kept community.

Mayor Davis asked if \$10,000 would be enough to cover double width aprons and entrances to townhouse and condominium developments. Ms. Craze believed initially a larger amount would be needed.

Mr. White believed there could be some accommodation to go beyond single width. He wanted Council to proceed cautiously.

Mr. Putens stated that the City needed to be involved to maintain consistency and be done properly.

Mr. Turnbull expressed concern about a program where the city was bearing the cost for individual property owners.

Bob Snyder of 12-A Hillside, commented on extensive utility work which had been done by WSSC.

Charles Kendall believed the City should be responsible for the aprons and he did not believe it was a big issue.

Mr. White moved that Council direct staff to prepare a program for the maintenance and repair of residential aprons within the city right-of-way that would: handle both single and double width aprons, make the program fair and equitable and provide options for an assessment program. Mr. Putens seconded. Mr. Turnbull requested that the proposal include which neighborhoods are eligible and that the cost estimates be firmed up.

The motion passed 5 to 0.

SWITCH TO STATE CONTRIBUTORY PENSION SYSTEM: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Mr. White asked if the City's plan to allow the 2% employee contribution to come from the employee's contribution to the deferred compensation program would cause a problem in the City's plan. Mr. Williams responded no.

Mr. Turnbull was supportive of the program, but believed the city should charge interest on the advance to cover the deficiency.

Mr. White moved that City Council authorize staff to proceed with the arrangements for the city to opt into the MSRA contributory pension plan including provisions to allow employees to use 2% of their deferred compensation match and the city paying the "deficiency," in exchange for an agreement to deduct the cost from their payroll over a 12 month period. Mr. Putens seconded. The motion passed 5 to 0.

2000 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

There was considerable discussion of the program and various items. Council arrived at a consensus on the program and Mr. Putens moved that Council pursue the following initiatives for the 2000 legislative session:

STATE ITEMS:

- Oppose Public Funding of Beltway Ramps at Greenbelt Metro Station
- Disposition/Protection of Inter-County Connector (ICC) Right-of-Way
- Allow Municipal Aggregation of Electric Customers
- Prohibit Zoning by Text Amendments
- Full Planning and Zoning Authority for the City of Greenbelt

COUNTY ITEMS

- Lack of Public Input/Review on County's Priority Transportation Listing
- School Resource Officer Reimbursement/Funding
- Restore Payment by County of Half of COG Membership Dues for Municipalities

FUNDING ITEMS

- Restoration of 1937 Fire Truck
- Renovation of Jaycees Clubhouse
- Greenbelt East Youth Center

- Renovations to Springhill Lake Recreation Center
- Additional Mother & Child Statue Renovations
- Restoration of Reliefs on Community Center

ALERT ITEM

- Funding for Fire House Renovations
- Anacostia Trails Heritage Area Plan

OTHER ISSUES

- Increase Investment Requirement to Obtain BLX Liquor License
- Use of Traffic Enforcement Technology to catch speed limit violations

Mr. Turnbull seconded. The motion carried 5 to 0.

ANACOSTIA TRAILS HERITAGE AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Council made several minor changes to the document.

Mr. Putens moved approval of the draft, with the understanding that it will likely be modified prior to submittal on November 29. Mr. Turnbull seconded. The motion passed 5 to 0.

COMPLAINT ABOUT BUS STOP ON SOUTHWAY AT CRESCENT ROAD: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Several Council members expressed concern about the loss of parking that would be caused by staff's proposal to prohibit parking in 3 spaces between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Council discussed other alternatives to solve the problem.

Mr. Turnbull moved that matter be referred to staff for additional consideration. Mr. White seconded. The motion passed 4 to 1 (Davis)

APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL MEMBERS TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Mr. Putens moved the following appointments for the 1999-2001 term:

Advisory Planning Board - Mr. White

Arts Advisory Board - Mr. Roberts

Community Relations Advisory Board - Mr. Putens

Park and Recreation Advisory Board - Mr. Turnbull

Advisory Committee on Education - Mr. Putens

Assisted Living Task Force - Mayor Davis

Public Safety Advisory Committee - Mr. Putens

Recycling Advisory Committee - Mr. Turnbull

Youth Advisory Committee - Mr. Roberts

Friends of the Greenbelt Museum Board (FOGM) - Mayor Davis

Greenbelt Access Television Board (GATE) - Mr. White

Council should also designate appointments to the various Council of Governments (COG) boards and committees. The following designations were made in 1997:

Board of Directors - Mayor Davis

Alternate - Mr. Turnbull

Human Services & Public Safety - Mr. Putens

Metropolitan Development - Mr. Turnbull

Alternate - Mr. White

Transportation Planning Board - Mr. Roberts

Air Quality - Mr. White

Chesapeake Bay - Mayor Davis

Environment & Public Works - Staff Representative

Mr. Roberts seconded. The motion passed 5 to 0.

APPOINTMENT TO ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION: Mr. Putens moved that Andrew Levin be appointed to the Advisory Committee on Education. Mr. White seconded. The motion passed 5 to 0.

MEETINGS: Council scheduled an Executive Session for December 15. The Y2K Public Information Meeting was moved to December 9. Council scheduled work sessions for January 12, 19 and 26.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Turnbull moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Putens seconded. The motion carried 5 to 0. Mayor Davis adjourned the regular meeting of November 22, 1999, at 12:28 a.m. on November 23, 1999

Respectfully Submitted,

David E. Moran, CMC

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 22, 1999."

Judith F. Davis

Mayor