

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Monday, July 11, 2011.

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 8:02 p.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 McLaughlin, City Manager; David E. Moran, Assistant City Manager; John Shay, City Solicitor; and Cindy Murray, City Clerk.

Mayor Davis asked for a moment of silence in memory of Greenbelt residents Lee Fendlay and Blanche T. van-Berckel-Ebeling Koning. She then led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

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

Council thereby took the following action:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Park and Recreation Advisory Board, Report #2011-2 (Smoking Policy at Roosevelt Center): Council accepted this report and will consider it on the agenda of a future meeting.

Park and Recreation Advisory Board, Report #2011-3 (Greenbelt Soccer Alliance, Inc. Residency Requirement): Council accepted this report and will consider it on the agenda of a future meeting.

Youth Advisory Committee, Report #2011-1 (Smoking Policy at Roosevelt Center): Council accepted this report and will consider it on the agenda of a future meeting.

75th Anniversary Committee, Report #2011-3 (Committee Update): Council accepted this report.

APPOINTMENT TO ADVISORY GROUP: Council appointed Jamie Phillips to the Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mr. Jordan requested “Economic Development Work Group” be added to the agenda. With this addition, it was moved by Mr. Putens and seconded by Mr. Jordan that the agenda be approved. The motion passed 7-0.

PRESENTATIONS: None

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS: None

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS: None

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mr. McLaughlin announced the first public meeting on the Feasibility Study of Widening the Baltimore Washington Parkway was scheduled for Wednesday, July 20, at Meade Middle School in Laurel.

Mayor Davis requested a work session be scheduled to discuss vacant properties in Roosevelt Center and possible future uses.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Ms. Mach reported she had participated in a conference call with KaBoom regarding City playground agreements with homeowner's associations.

Mr. Herling reported he had met with representatives of Greenbelt Access Television regarding an animation project meeting for the 75th Anniversary celebration.

Mr. Jordan congratulated the Greenbelt Lady Angels who recently won the M-3 International Championship title for the third time.

Ms. Pope noted her attendance at the Greenbelt East Advisory Committee meeting with Mr. Jordan.

Mayor Davis commented on the donation drive held at the Greenbelt Animal Shelter by Girl Scout Troop 4816. She thanked them for their support of the shelter.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

LEGISLATION:

A Resolution to Negotiate the Purchase of Braden Field Tennis Court Resurfacing Services from Tennis Courts, Inc. of Aylett, Virginia, at a Cost of \$117,868

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Mr. Herling introduced the resolution for second reading and moved that it be adopted. Ms. Pope seconded.

Mr. Putens requested the status of this project be included in the weekly report.

ROLL CALL:	Mr. Herling	-	yes
	Mr. Jordan	-	abstained
	Ms. Mach	-	yes
	Ms. Pope	-	yes
	Mr. Putens	-	yes
	Mr. Roberts	-	yes
	Mayor Davis	-	yes

Mr. Jordan noted his association with the Greenbelt Tennis Association.

The resolution was declared adopted (Resolution No. 1081, Book 8).

A Resolution to Repeal Resolution Number 1065 and Establish Service Charges for Garbage, Trash, and Recycling Collections in the City of Greenbelt, Maryland Effective July 1, 2011

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Ms. Mach introduced the resolution for second reading and moved that it be adopted. Mr. Putens seconded.

ROLL CALL:	Mr. Herling	-	yes
	Mr. Jordan	-	yes
	Ms. Mach	-	yes
	Ms. Pope	-	yes
	Mr. Putens	-	yes
	Mr. Roberts	-	yes
	Mayor Davis	-	yes

The resolution was declared adopted (Resolution No. 1082, Book 8).

An Ordinance to Award the Issue of \$3,844,000 City of Greenbelt Refunding Bonds of 2011, Authorized by Ordinance No. 1312 Passed on June 20, 2011; Prescribing the Form, Maturity, Interest Rate and Provisions for Payment and Redemption of Said Bonds; Confirming the Covenants of the City to Provide for the Levy and Collection of Taxes Sufficient for the Prompt Payment of the Maturing Principal of and Interest on Said Bonds; Further Providing for the Use of the Proceeds of the Bonds; and Providing for the Execution and Delivery, and all Other Details with Respect to the Sale and Delivery of Said Bonds

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Ms. Mach moved to waive the bidding procedures and allow the refunding of the City's debt through a negotiation process. Mr. Herling seconded. The motion passed 6-1. (Roberts)

Mr. Herling introduced the ordinance for first reading and moved suspension of the rules in order to allow second reading and passage of the ordinance tonight. Mr. Putens seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL:	Mr. Herling	-	yes
	Mr. Jordan	-	yes
	Ms. Mach	-	yes
	Ms. Pope	-	yes
	Mr. Putens	-	yes
	Mr. Roberts	-	no
	Mayor Davis	-	yes

Mr. Herling introduced the ordinance for second reading and moved that it be adopted. Mr. Putens seconded.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Herling - yes
Mr. Jordan - yes
Ms. Mach - yes
Ms. Pope - yes
Mr. Putens - yes
Mr. Roberts - no
Mayor Davis - yes

The ordinance was declared adopted (Ordinance No. 1316, Book 12)

A Resolution to Repeal Resolution 1066 and to Establish Admission Fees and Pass Rates for the Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center, effective July 11, 2011

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Mr. Putens introduced the resolution for first reading and moved suspension of the rules in order to allow second reading and passage of the ordinance tonight. Ms. Mach seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Herling - yes
Mr. Jordan - yes
Ms. Mach - yes
Ms. Pope - yes
Mr. Putens - yes
Mr. Roberts - yes
Mayor Davis - yes

Mr. Putens introduced the resolution for second reading and moved that it be adopted. Ms. Mach seconded.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Herling - yes
Mr. Jordan - yes
Ms. Mach - yes
Ms. Pope - yes
Mr. Putens - yes
Mr. Roberts - yes
Mayor Davis - yes

The resolution was declared adopted (Resolution No. 1083, Book 8)

A Resolution to Authorize the Negotiated Purchase of Certain Goods and Services from Various Vendors as Enumerated Herein When Total Fiscal Year Purchases from Each Vendor Exceed Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000)

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Mr. Jordan introduced the ordinance for first reading.

FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD, REPORT #2011-1 (FOREST PRESERVE SIGNAGE)

Mr. Roberts moved that Council approve the entrance/identification and regulatory signage as recommended by the Forest Preserve Advisory Board (FPAB) in their Report #2011-1. Mr. Jordan seconded.

Mr. Herling suggested the signage include a City phone number for individuals who may want further information on the forest preserves. Ginny Mudrock, chair of the FPAB, said the FPAB preferred to direct individuals to the City website. She said including the website on the signage could be considered.

The motion passed 7-0.

FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD, REPORT #2011-3 (NAMING THE FOREST PRESERVE)

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Mr. Roberts moved that Council accept the recommendation of the Forest Preserve Advisory Board in their Report #2011-3 to officially name the four distinct forest preserve areas defined in the City Code as the following: North Preserve – Greenbelt Forest Preserve, North Woods Tract; South Preserve – Greenbelt Forest Preserve, Hamilton Woods Tract; Boxwood Preserve – Greenbelt Forest Preserve, Boxwood Tract; and Belle Point Preserve – Greenbelt Forest Preserve, Belle Point Tract. Mr. Jordan seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Council thanked Ms. Mudrock and all the members of the FPAB for their work on both reports.

REQUEST FROM MARYLAND UNITED FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE TO SUPPORT THEIR REQUEST FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO OVERTURN THE “CITIZENS UNITED” VS. THE FEDERAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION U.S. SUPREME COURT DECISION

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. There was discussion regarding the Maryland United for Peace and Justice (MUPJ) request that Council take a position in support of a Constitutional Amendment to overturn the Supreme Court decision on the “Citizens United” case that would address concerns of election campaign contributions by corporations.

Mayor Davis and Mr. Putens said they did not recommend Council take an official position on national issues of this type unless they have a direct municipal impact. Mayor Davis also questioned whether a constitutional amendment, which would be a lengthy process, was the proper approach for this change.

Mr. Herling said he believed each individual is impacted by this Supreme Court decision. Mr. Roberts agreed.

Mr. Herling moved that Council support the request by MUPJ. Mr. Roberts seconded. The motion failed.

Ms. Mach commented that the decision could have a potential impact on the City but expressed concern regarding support of a constitutional amendment for the change. Ms. Mach said her preference would be to send a letter stating the decision should be changed, by any options available, but did not recommend specifically stating support of a constitutional amendment.

Doug Love and David Abraham, members of MUPJ, agreed that constitutional amendments can be a slow process but noted there were no other options available.

Mr. Jordan moved that Council table the item until the next meeting and requested Council review the request and determine what options for change to this Supreme Court decision were available. Mr. Herling seconded. The motion passed 6-1. (Roberts)

CB-15-2011 – PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY STORMWATER LEGISLATION

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Ms. Hruby commented that the amendments made to CB-15-2011 maintain the half-inch standard for redevelopment projects to 2016, then applies a slightly higher standard of .75 inches until 2019, at which time a 1 inch standard will become effective. Since Council’s 2.7 inch recommended requirement for redevelopment projects is not under consideration, she suggested Council support the 1 inch standard for redevelopment projects to be effective immediately, but maintain their 2.7 inch standard as the long term goal.

Mayor Davis suggested an incentive be offered for developers who exceed the minimum requirements.

Mr. Jordan noted the District of Columbia requirement is 1.2 inch, and federal buildings located there are held to this standard. He suggested that since the County Council is not likely to accept the City’s 2.7 inch recommendation, perhaps consideration should be given to recommending a 1.2 inch standard since the County is trying to attract federal buildings to the area. Ms. Hruby noted federal requirements are 1.7 inch for all federal buildings.

Mr. Roberts said he supported staying with the City’s recommendation of 2.7 inch, the same standard as Montgomery County.

Ms. Mach suggested that since Council’s previous recommendation of 2.7 inch was not under consideration by the County at this point, that Council should maintain its previous recommendation of 2.7 inch as a long term goal, but support the 1 inch standard which appears to have the support of environmentalists and County Council members. She moved that Council support a 1 inch minimum at this time but indicate that the previous recommendation of 2.7 inch should be considered in the future. The motion failed.

Mr. Putens moved that Council transmit a letter to the County Council Chair Ingrid Turner reiterating its opposition to CB-15-2011, and reaffirming its position for the need for strong stormwater regulations for both new development and redevelopment (retention of 2.7 inches of stormwater through environmental site design), and reemphasizing the need for municipal referral/review of stormwater plans from concept to technical approvals. Mr. Roberts seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

PROGRAM OPEN SPACE (POS) FY 2012 ANNUAL PROGRAM

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Mr. Putens moved that Council approve the City’s FY 2012 Program Open Space Annual Program as proposed by staff; including transfer of monies from the Buddy Attick Park Master Plan Improvements Project to the 12 Court Hillside Road Playground Improvement Project to reflect what is programmed for in the City’s approved FY 2012 capital project fund. Ms. Mach seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

OTHER REPORTS: Council provided information from the following meetings they had recently attended.

Ms. Mach, Mr. Herling, Mr. Jordan, Ms. Pope and Mayor Davis commented on the Maryland Municipal League (MML) Conference. Mr. Herling and Mr. Jordan congratulated Mayor Davis for

being nominated as MML President Elect. Ms. Mach reported on the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee meeting and Ms. Pope reported on the National League of Cities Small Cities Conference. Mr. Roberts noted he had been the master of ceremonies at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Commuter Connections Awards Program at the National Press Club.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WORK GROUP

Mr. Jordan expressed the need for the City to be more proactive in the area of economic development in order to attract new businesses and retain current business. He suggested Council form a work group of a few members to review the ideas of public private partnerships as well as outreach and communication, and report back to the entire Council at the August meeting.

Mr. Herling and Ms. Pope indicated they would be willing to participate in this workgroup.

Mayor Davis and Mr. Putens expressed concern with forming a formal work group of a few members, noting the requirements of the State's Open Meeting law. They suggested a work session of the entire council be scheduled to discuss the issue. Mr. Roberts agreed.

After further discussion, Council agreed to schedule a work session on Economic Development, and invite representatives from Prince George's County Economic Development Office, the Baltimore Washington Corridor Chamber, as well as representatives from several municipalities. It was also suggested that members share any ideas regarding the subject with other members through email.

MEETINGS: Council reviewed the upcoming meeting schedule.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn the regular meeting was made by Ms. Mach and seconded by Mr. Putens. The motion passed 7-0.

Mayor Davis adjourned the regular meeting of Monday, July 11, 2011, at 10:42 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 July 11, 2011."

Judith F. Davis
Mayor