

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Monday, November 22, 2010.

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 8:03 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; Robert Manzi, City Solicitor; and Cindy Murray, City Clerk.

Mayor Davis asked for a moment of silence in memory of Greenbelt residents Elaine Cardenas and Shirley Dwyer, former resident Barbara Scheibel, and the Assistant Conductor of the Greenbelt Concert Band Jim Moore. She then led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

CONSENT AGENDA: Ms. Mach requested “Appointments to Greenbelt Middle School Task Force” be removed from the consent agenda. With this change, it was moved by Mr. Putens and seconded by Mr. Jordan that the consent agenda be approved. The motion passed 7-0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Work Session, October 18, 2010

Approved as presented.

EMPLOYEE SPECIAL HOLIDAY: Council assigned this year’s employee special holiday as a floating holiday for employees for use in FY 2011.

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

PRESENTATIONS:

Recycle Right Awards: November 15 was America Recycles Day. Among other activities recognizing the event, the Public Works Department conducted the annual “Recycle Right” contest. Luisa Robles, Recycling Coordinator, presented special recycling bins to the contest winners, as well as a number of prizes awarded by Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Mom’s Organic Market, and College Park REI. The winners of the awards are as follows:

Sharon and Barry Miller	128 Greenhill Road	Monday City Route
Mary and Julia Wade	115 Lastner Lane	Tuesday City Route
Dan Tobocman and Debora DeRuyver	5-B Ridge Road	Wednesday City Route
Liz Pels Nash	23-C Ridge Road	Thursday City Route
Vladimir Tchompalov	7835 Vanity Fair Drive	Contractual

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS: None

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Dale Worley, the City's Information Technology Director, provided an update on the new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system for the Police Department which was successfully launched on November 16. He reported that over 400 calls for service had been received through the new system to date and no problems had developed. Mr. Worley commented that although on-site technical assistance had been provided by the CAD vendor around the clock for the first four days the CAD was operational, the Police Department dispatchers had been very well trained on the use of the system and little assistance was needed.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Ms. Mach reported that she had assisted with the Welcome to Greenbelt packet preparation, along with Mayor Davis.

Mr. Jordan reported on the Prince George's County Municipal Association dinner, which had been attended by all council members.

Mayor Davis commented on the Dedication of Decatur "Green Street" in Edmonston, which she attended with Mr. Jordan. She also commented on the Veterans Day ceremony, which was attended by most council members, and thanked the American Legion for their organization of the event.

LEGISLATION:

A Resolution to Negotiate the Purchase of Enhancer/Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacon Devices for the St. Hugh's Crosswalk on Crescent Road from R.D. Jones' Stop Experts, Incorporated, of Venice, Florida, at a Cost not to Exceed \$22,725.00

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Ms. Pope introduced the resolution for first reading.

AWARD OF PURCHASE – POLICE VOICE LOGGING RECORDER: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Mr. Putens moved that Council approve the purchase of an Eventide Digital Voice Recorder, model VR725 from Teltronic Inc. of Beltsville, Md. at a cost of \$22,327.20 in accord with State of Maryland Bid #050B8800003. Mr. Herling seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD REPORT #10-2 (PROPOSED SMOKING RESTRICTIONS IN PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES): Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Mr. McNeal explained that the PRAB report recommends expanding the prohibition on smoking within City Recreation facilities to include fully enclosed fenced areas such as the outdoor pool, tennis courts, dog park, etc.; prohibit smoking within 25 feet of the entrance of indoor recreation facilities; and prohibit smoking within 25 feet of outdoor park facilities not fully enclosed by a fence such as ball fields, playgrounds, outdoor basketball courts, etc.

Mr. Roberts asked whether the PRAB report included prohibiting smoking in Roosevelt Center. Mr. McNeal and Mr. McLaughlin said no, and explained that the restriction did not apply to any open areas within City owned parks that are at least 25 feet away from designated play spaces within outdoor recreation and park facilities. They also noted that while most of Roosevelt Center is City property, there is a three foot buffer outside the commercial establishments that is private property. Mr. Roberts said he would like to see Roosevelt Center included as a smoke free area. Mr. Herling expressed concern regarding smokers using the three foot buffer to smoke and suggested the idea of prohibiting smoking in Roosevelt Center be referred to PRAB.

Ms. Mach said she supports prohibiting smoking in Roosevelt Center and also suggested smoking be prohibited within 25 feet from the entrance to any City building. She noted that the State currently prohibits smoking within 25 feet of the entrance to State buildings. Mayor Davis suggested staff review this suggestion and report back to Council. She also added that a map be provided to show the exact areas where smoking would be restricted.

Mr. Jordan asked how the smoking prohibition within the proposed recreation and park areas facilities would be enforced. Mr. McNeal explained that individuals would be told to move 25 feet out by where smoking receptacles are located, and if they refuse, the police would be notified and a municipal infraction would be issued. Mr. Putens mentioned the current demands of the Police Department for law enforcement duties, and said he was not in support of using the Police Department for enforcement of smoking prohibitions. He asked that staff review other enforcement options and report back to Council at a later time.

Mr. Roberts asked that Council delay adopting the PRAB report until PRAB had been asked to consider the idea of prohibiting smoking in Roosevelt Center. After discussion, Mayor Davis suggested the report be adopted this evening but added that Roosevelt Center could be included at a later time if necessary.

Ms. Mach moved that Council adopt PRAB Report #10-2, refer to PRAB the idea of prohibiting smoking in Roosevelt Center, and refer to staff the idea of prohibiting smoking within 25 feet of the entrance to all City buildings. Ms. Pope seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Roberts suggested the referral regarding prohibiting smoking in Roosevelt Center also be sent to the Youth Advisory Committee, and Mayor Davis suggested it be sent to the Community Relations Advisory Board as well.

Mr. Love, 3-D Plateau Place, and Joe Murray, 9-Q Research Road, spoke in support of the smoking prohibitions.

PROPOSED 2011 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Mr. Putens and Mr. Roberts discussed the interest in having federal funds for transit services available for use by local governments. Mr. Herling noted the need to have sufficient funding in place for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) to improve transit services.

There was discussion regarding the number of priorities that should be included as legislative priorities. Mr. Herling suggested "Protection of Municipal Funding Sources" could be dropped from the proposed list, as the legislators were already aware Council had passed Resolution #1068 on

August 9, 2010, supporting the efforts of the Maryland Municipal League to reinstate lost funding for municipal governments and to create alternative municipal funding mechanisms. Mr. Jordan, Mr. Roberts and Ms. Pope agreed with Mr. Herling's suggestion and suggested "Transit Service Issues/Wmata Funding" be included as a legislative priority. Mayor Davis and Ms. Mach indicated they were not comfortable with removing Protection of Municipal Funding Sources from the proposed list.

Mr. Putens said Council should include as many priority items as necessary to the legislative list and should not feel the need to restrict the list to a small list of legislative priorities as had been done in past years. He commented that staff could attend the legislative hearings when councilmembers were not available.

Mayor Davis mentioned the proposed "Review Noise Barrier Policy" priority and suggested the increased level of traffic on the Beltway be mentioned in the summary. She also requested new items listed under Other Issues of City Interest be identified as "New Items."

Mayor Davis questioned whether estate sales shops should be included under "Definition of Pawn Shops." Mr. Manzi reviewed the differences between the two types of shops and suggested the County be asked to provide a clear definition for pawn shops and estate sales shops.

Mayor Davis and Mr. Roberts suggested Continued Opposition to the Intercounty Connector be placed back on the City's list of Other Issues. Ms. Mach suggested "Municipal Electric Aggregation" also be placed back on this list.

Doug Love, 3-D Plateau Place, and Joe Murray, 9-Q Research Road, spoke in support of keeping Continued Opposition to the Intercounty Connector on the list under Other Items of City Interest.

Mayor Davis noted Council had received an email from Cary Coppock, 9-D Ridge Road, asking Council to consider the issue of a Maryland bill allowing people registered as Independent to vote for all candidates in the primary elections.

Mr. Jordan moved to approve the proposed legislative program with the following changes:

Under Legislative Priorities

- Include Transit Services Issues (Wmata Funding)
- Include Reestablish Landlord Tenant Commission
- Under Noise Barriers, note increased level of traffic on Beltway
- Change "Modify Definition of Pawn Shops" to "Clarify Definition of Pawn Shops and Estate Sales Shops"

Under Other Items of City Interest

- Include Continued Opposition to the Intercounty Connector
- Include Municipal Electric Aggregation
- Identify New Items listed for 2011

Ms. Pope seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

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

Mr. Herling – Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Metropolitan Development Policy Committee Meeting

Mr. Roberts – COG Transportation Planning Board Meeting
Mr. Roberts requested “Federal Highway Administration Feasibility Study on Widening the Baltimore Washington Parkway” be included on the agenda of the next regular meeting.

Mayor Davis – COG Board of Directors Meeting
COG Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee Meeting
COG Chesapeake Bay Policy Committee Meeting

APPOINTMENT TO GREENBELT MIDDLE SCHOOL TASK FORCE: Ms. Mach moved that Council appoint Natasha Jenkins, David Lange, Janet Mirsky, Rosemary Pezzuto, Beatrice Rodgers, Barbara Simon and David Whaples to the Greenbelt Middle School Task Force. Mr. Putens seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

MEETINGS: Council reviewed the meeting schedule. Mayor Davis requested the City Manager Update and School Board (stakeholder) meetings be moved to “Ready to be Scheduled.”

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, November 22, 2010, at 10:22 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 November 22, 2010."

Judith F. Davis
Mayor