

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Monday, October 25, 2010.

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 McLaughlin, City Manager; David E. Moran, Assistant City Manager and Robert Manzi, City Solicitor.

Mayor Davis asked for a moment of silence in memory of Greenbelt residents Margaret Smith and Magdalena “Martha” Marlow, and former residents Barbara Brubaker and Steve Hooper. 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 consent agenda be approved. The motion passed 7-0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

RENEWAL OF FIRE DEPARTMENT LEASE: Council renewed the lease with the Fire Department and authorized the City Manager to sign the lease on the City’s behalf.

REAPPOINTMENT TO ADVISORY GROUP: Council re-appointed Brian Gibbons to serve on the Advisory Planning Board.

RESIGNATION FROM ADVISORY GROUP: Council accepted Trina Coore’s resignation from the 75th Anniversary Committee.

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:

AMERICA RECYCLES MONTH – PROCLAMATION: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments and issued a proclamation indicating that America Recycles Day will be celebrated on Monday, November 15. Megan Hughes, a member of the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, accepted the proclamation. Mr. McLaughlin noted the upcoming “win with your bin” contest.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS: There were none.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: There were no reports

COUNCIL REPORTS: Ms. Pope commented on the Maryland Municipal League (MML) Fall Conference. Mr. Roberts referenced a Council of Governments (COG) Transportation Planning Board meeting. Mr. Jordan attended a County hearing on The Bus restructuring as well as a Prince George’s County Municipal Association (PGCMA) meeting and Fall Fest. He also noted the MML Fall Conference. Mr. Putens reported on the Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) candidate’s forum. Mr. Herling noted the stream clean-up in Empirian Village, specifically the Campfire USA participation. He also attended the MML Fall Conference. Ms. Mach mentioned the ACE forum and

encouraged people to vote on November 2. She also noted the City Health Fair and the Mandan Road playground build. Mayor Davis also attended The Bus hearing and the ACE forum. She too encouraged residents to vote. Mayor Davis referenced the shredding event and the stream clean up. She thanked the Recreation Department, Public Works Department and the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department for a successful Fall Fest. She thanked Ms. Murray for the Advisory Group appreciation dinner. Mayor Davis commented on the Pumpkin Walk and the recent breakfast meeting with Rushern Baker and Angela Alsobrooks in Laurel.

PROPOSED PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY TRANSIT RESTRUCTURING PLAN: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Terri Hruby, Assistant Director of Planning, was present to answer Council's questions. Mayor Davis asked about an education campaign and when the routes would take effect. Ms. Hruby commented the changes would take effect on December 18 or thereabouts. She indicated that the County can't begin the publicity until the changes are approved. Mayor Davis asked that something be added to the letter encouraging an education campaign. Mr. Herling agreed and didn't want further ridership decreases due to a lack of education.

Mr. Roberts expressed opposition to The Bus service cuts that were part of the proposed plan. He indicated that Greenbelt's low performance was due to poor service by the County (lack of information about routes and timetables, following to close behind a Metrobus, etc.).

Mr. Jordan stated that hearing participants had asked for additional stops along Greenbelt Road and Crescent Road for the 15X Route. He believed the restructuring would make the routes more efficient, but noted the need for a greater span of service.

Mr. Herling asked about a condition related to knowing when and where the busses are going. Ms. Hruby responded there were conditions related to better marketing and an education plan about the route changes.

Mr. Putens asked about the route that went to the Social Security Office on Forbes Boulevard. Ms. Hruby responded that "The Bus" would no longer drive into the office park. Mr. Putens suggested the letter include a request for more signage at bus stops. Mayor Davis and Ms. Mach agreed that more signage was needed.

Mr. Jordan suggested the Council work further on this letter since there was time before the comment period closed. Mayor Davis encouraged Council to send changes to Ms. Hruby. Staff agreed to share a revised draft with Council before sending the letter.

Mayor Davis noted that students could still ride The Bus from 2-7pm. However, WMATA has discontinued this practice on their bus routes.

Bill Orleans asked if there had been any further response from WMATA to the City's letter to them. Mr. McLaughlin responded that there was a recent letter from Mr. Benjamin on the City's long term concerns, but did not address the shorter term concerns. Mr. Orleans commented that the Veolia strike had concluded. He wondered how much tax money went to support this prolonged contract negotiation.

Council agreed to consider a revised letter at their next regular meeting on November 8.

UPDATE ON CB-80-2010 (COUNTY STORMWATER LEGISLATION): Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Council discussed attendance at the County Council hearing on October 26.

Ms. Mach moved that City Council reaffirm its conditional support for CB-80-2010, as amended. Mr. Jordan seconded.

Bill Orleans stated that he had heard that all of the bad features of CB-79 had been incorporated into CB-80. Ms. Hruby stated that this was not the case. She indicated that CB-80 still had the same water quality standards and noted that the only major concession was modifications to the grandfathering provisions.

The motion passed 7 to 0.

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

- Mr. Roberts - Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Transportation Planning Board
Empirian Village Stream Clean-up
Pumpkin Walk
- Ms. Mach - MML Fall Conference
Kaboom Playground Build in the District of Columbia
- Mayor Davis - COG Board of Directors meeting
Meeting with MD Secretary of Transportation
MML Legislative Committee
MML Fall Conference
- Ms. Pope - MML Fall Conference

MEETINGS: Council reviewed the 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, October 25, 2010, at 9:40p.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 October 25, 2010."

Judith F. Davis
Mayor