

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Monday, September 27, 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 Donna Costa Leonard and James Cockburn, and former resident Nettie Ida Granims. 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:

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS:

Interview, September 13, 2010
Regular Meeting, September 13, 2010
Approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Public Safety Advisory Committee, Report #2010-1 (Lockdown/Emergency Plan for Community Center): Council accepted the report and will consider it on the agenda of the next meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Ms. Mach requested "Appointments to Advisory Groups" be added as Item #17. It was moved by Mr. Putens and seconded by Mr. Jordan that the agenda be approved as amended. The motion passed 7-0.

PRESENTATIONS: None

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS: None

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS: None

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mr. McLaughlin announced the City will host a visit from a group of visitors from Greendale, Wisconsin tomorrow.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Ms. Mach commented on the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Clean Air Partners meeting, the Green Ridge House (GRH) annual picnic, Greenbelt Intergenerational Volunteer Exchange Service (GIVES) quarterly meeting, the Greenbelt East Advisory Committee (GEAC) picnic, the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee (SCAC) Forum, Greenspring Multicultural Day and the Greenbelt Solar meeting.

Mr. Putens commented on the GEAC picnic, the SCAC Forum, and the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department annual crab feast.

Mr. Jordan noted his attendance at the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Legislative Conference, the Prince George's County Municipal Association meeting, the GIVES quarterly meeting, the GEAC picnic, and the Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) and Community Relations Advisory Board (CRAB) joint meeting

Ms. Pope commented on the GEAC picnic, the PSAC and CRAB joint meeting, and the Greenbelt Middle School groundbreaking ceremony.

Mayor Davis noted her attendance at the Sustainable Maryland meeting, the Baltimore Washington Partners for Forest Stewardship meeting, the COG Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee meeting, the Blue Ribbon Commission on Maryland Transportation Funding meeting, the Prince George's County Beautification awards ceremony, the SCAC Forum, the Greenbelt Middle School groundbreaking ceremony, the GRH picnic, the GEAC picnic, the Greenspring Multicultural Day, the Blessing of Animals ceremony at Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church and the Greenbelt Solar meeting, that was also attended by Ms. Mach. She also reported she had testified on behalf of Council in support of County Bill 80.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

LEGISLATION:

A Resolution to Negotiate the Purchase of a Cathodic Protection System for the Underground Gasoline Storage Tank at the Greenbelt Police Facility from J. D. Rellek Co., Inc., of Glen Burnie, Maryland, at a Cost of \$11,350

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Mr. Jordan introduced the resolution for first Reading.

TRANSFER OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Jim Kuhn, Senior Vice President of Growth and Technology for Joe's Crab Shack, explained the history of the restaurant chain and said he expected the Greenbelt location to be open in February or March of 2011 with seating for 230 customers in the existing building. He added they are developing plans to expand the restaurant in the spring with an outdoor deck and playground for children.

Mr. Kuhn described the restaurant as upscale and family friendly, with a nightly closing of 10:00 p.m. He added that all of the restaurants in their chain are required to participate in two service projects per month within their local communities.

Council thanked Mr. Kuhn and wished the restaurant success. Mayor Davis suggested Mr. Kuhn review the plans for the restaurant with both the Police Department and Planning and Community Development Department.

It was moved by Mr. Roberts and seconded by Mr. Putens that Council take no position on the transfer of alcoholic beverage license from The House Bar & Grill LLC, t/a William's American Bistro, to Joe's Crab Shack – Maryland, Inc. The motion passed 7-0.

LOCAL AND BI-COUNTY LEGISLATION: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

There was discussion regarding HB 558 that allows the liquor board to issue an entertainment permit. Mayor Davis questioned whether the City should request review of security plans when applications are submitted for events in the City. Mr. Moran said he expected the plans would be submitted to the Police Department for review.

Mr. Ray Stevens, representing the New Deal Café, expressed concern regarding the possible impact of the new legislation on the New Deal Café. Mayor Davis said the intent of the legislation was to control one time entertainment events, such as rave type parties. Mr. Manzi commented that the bill was poorly drafted and very vague, but he did not believe it was applicable to liquor license holders such as the New Deal Café. After further discussion, Council requested Mr. Manzi contact the Liquor Board for clarification on the bill.

Mayor Davis commented that HB 558 is very new and suggested staff review and monitor it closely over the next year. If there are issues identified that need to be addressed, it could be recommended in the next legislative sessions.

Mr. Roberts proposed that the City request legislation to allow municipalities direct access to funds currently used for TheBus service if they wish to provide their own intra-city transportation service. He stated that the City could better utilize these funds than the County currently does. Mr. Roberts requested Mr. Moran check and determine if this would be a County or State level issue. Mayor Davis suggested Mr. Roberts write down the specifics of his proposal and she would take it to the next meeting of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Maryland Transportation Funding. She also expressed concern regarding the City operating this type of transportation system.

Mr. Putens said he would support legislation for municipalities to access State funds for transportation service to allow them to address “specific transportation service issues” within their community but would not support any funds being taken away from the County for operation of TheBus. Mr. Jordan and Mr. Herling expressed support of this proposal. Mayor Davis mentioned this issue is being discussed on the Blue Ribbon Commission on Maryland Transportation Funding. Mr. McLaughlin said staff would determine if this is a local bill or State bill, and if it is determined to be a State bill, it would be included as part of the proposed legislative program.

GREENBELT LIBRARY: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Mr. Roberts expressed concern whether renovations to the Greenbelt Library would be complete in November and said the agreement with the Library for their temporary location in the Community Center will expire on November 5th. He questioned whether the agreement could be extended beyond the November 5th deadline if necessary.

Mayor Davis noted the agreement with the Library had already been extended twice. Mr. McLaughlin mentioned the programming difficulties associated with extending the deadline in the past, but said he would discuss the issue with Community Center staff and report back to Council.

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

Mr. Jordan – National League of Cities Leadership Conference

Mr. Herling – Envision Prince George’s Meeting

Ms. Mach – Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Air Quality Committee Meeting

Mr. Roberts – COG Transportation Planning Board meeting

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES: Ms. Mach moved that Council appoint James Johnson to the Public Safety Advisory Committee and Michael Hartman to the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability. Mr. Putens seconded. The motions passed 7-0.

MEETINGS: Council reviewed the meeting schedule.

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

Mayor Davis adjourned the regular meeting of Monday, September 27, 2010, at 10:13 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 September 27, 2010."

Judith F. Davis
Mayor