



REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL
held Monday, January 12, 2009.

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 8:19 p.m.

ROLL CALL was answered by Councilmembers Konrad E. Herling, Leta M. Mach, Rodney M. Roberts, Edward V. J. Putens and Mayor Judith F. Davis.

ALSO PRESENT were Michael McLaughlin, City Manager; John Shay, City Solicitor; David E. Moran, Assistant City Manager; Cindy Murray, City Clerk; Ken Hall, Director of Public Works; Carolyn Clemens, Assistant Director of Public Works; Lesley Riddle, Superintendent of Parks and Grounds; and Luisa Robles, Recycling Coordinator.

Mayor Davis asked for a moment of silence in memory of residents Galen Andrews, Ursula Hollwig Schmid, Rev. Booker Hughes and Pearl Siegel and former residents Philip Brent Beard, Pearl Marie Keeney and Marie Sansone D’Aiuto. She also wished Wayne Williams a speedy recovery. She then led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

CONSENT AGENDA: Mayor Davis asked to remove the minutes of December 8, 2008, from the consent agenda. It was moved by Mr. Putens and seconded by Mr. Herling that the consent agenda be approved as amended. The motion passed 5-0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Work Session, November 17, 2008
Interview, December 8, 2008
Work Session, December 15, 2008
Work Session, January 5, 2009
Approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, Report #08-2 (Annual Open Forum Report): Council accepted this report.

Recognition Group Applications – Greenbelt Farmers Market and Greenbelt Community Gardens: Council approved recognition group status be granted to these groups.

RESIGNATIONS FROM ADVISORY GROUPS: Council accepted with regret the resignations of April Vega from the Arts Advisory Board and Marion Holland from the Recycling and Environment Advisory Committee.

REAPPOINTMENT TO ADVISORY GROUP: Council appointed David West to a new term on the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mayor Davis requested Change to Tree Ordinance be added as Item #15. It was moved by Mr. Putens and seconded by Mr. Herling that the agenda be approved as amended. The motion carried 5-0.

PRESENTATIONS:

Keep Prince George's County Beautiful Awards: On December 14, 2008, Keep Prince George's County Beautiful held its annual awards program at Prince George's Community College. An award was presented to the Public Works Department for outstanding contributions in the areas of recycling, resource recovery, litter pick-up and community cleanups. In addition, the Public Works Department received two prestigious Golden Trowel Awards for receiving beautification awards for five consecutive years. Mayor Davis presented the awards to Ken Hall, Carolyn Clemens, Lesley Riddle and Luisa Robles from the Public Works Department and Ed James, Mary Chapman and John Lippert from the Recycling and Environment Advisory Committee (REAC).

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS: Chris Shuman, 1-E Gardenway, said that WSSC had not been responsive to requests for the removal of a large amount of mud and debris left behind by work crews after the repair of a water line break in the court last week. Mr. Shuman also reported the shredded paper vandalism is continuing in various areas of the city.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS:

Executive Session of December 1, 2008: Mr. Roberts moved that the minutes of the executive session of the City Council held Monday, December 1, 2008, be approved as presented. He further requested that the minutes of this meeting reflect that the Council met in executive session at 6:20 p.m. in the Council Room of the Municipal Building. Council held this closed meeting in accordance with Section 10-508 (a)(7) of the State Government Article of the *Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland* to consult with legal counsel. Mr. Herling seconded the motion.

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

Executive Session of December 3, 2008: Mr. Roberts moved that the minutes of the executive session of the City Council held Wednesday, December 3, 2008, be approved as presented. He

further requested that the minutes of this meeting reflect that the Council met in executive session at 7:40 p.m. in the Senior Classroom of the Community Center. Council held this closed meeting in accordance with Section 10-508 (a)(7) of the State Government Article of the *Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland* to consult with legal counsel. Mr. Putens seconded the motion.

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

Executive Session of December 16, 2008: Mr. Roberts moved that the minutes of the executive session of the City Council held Tuesday, December 16, 2008, be approved as presented. He further requested that the minutes of this meeting reflect that the Council met in executive session at 8:08 p.m. in the Council Room of the Municipal Building. Council held this closed meeting in accordance with Section 10-508 (a)(7) of the State Government Article of the *Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland* to consult with legal counsel. Ms. Mach seconded the motion.

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

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Regular Meeting, December 8, 2008: Mayor Davis asked to correct the minutes of the December 8, 2008, regular meeting to indicate she had recommended the idea of a City sponsored event honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. be referred to the Community Relations Advisory Board for their review. With these changes, the minutes were approved 5-0 on a motion by Mr. Putens, seconded by Ms. Mach.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: Mr. McLaughlin provided an update on the Greenbelt GeoCache site, the New Year celebration and a WSSC repair to a broken water line in Boxwood.

Mr. McLaughlin presented 5 year service pins to Ms. Mach and Mr. Herling, 15 year service pins to Mr. Roberts and Mayor Davis, and a 25 year service pin to Mr. Putens.

Mayor Davis and Ms. Mach noted their attendance at the Council of Governments (COG) annual luncheon, the Prince George's County Municipal Association meeting, the Prince George's Elected Municipal Womens meeting, the Women in Government Service meeting and the Prince George's County Board of Education Awards ceremony at High Point High School where the City received an award from Rosalind Johnson for participation in the Truancy Walk. Ms. Mach

also noted she had attended an Explorations Unlimited meeting, the reception for county environmentalists sponsored by County Councilmembers Dernoga, Campos and Olson, and the COG Air Quality meeting where she was elected vice-chair.

Ms. Mach mentioned County Councilmember Turner's newsletter indicated the specifications and designs on the new Greenbelt Middle School are complete and available for review. A follow up community meeting on the school construction is scheduled for Tuesday, February 10th, 7:00 p.m., at the Berwyn Heights Town Center.

Mayor Davis noted she had attended the Eleanor Roosevelt High School SADD induction ceremony, Senator Pinsky's Town Hall meeting and the Transit Riders United of Greenbelt (TRU) meeting. She also noted she had been reelected secretary/treasurer of the COG Corporation.

Mayor Davis congratulated Michael Lanier from the Greenbelt Police Department, Officer Michael Young from the Greenbelt Park Police Station and Michael Robinson from the Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad for the awards they received at the Public Safety Awards Dinner hosted by the Greenbelt American Legion in December.

Mayor Davis mentioned the upcoming National Day of Service honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

LEGISLATION: None

RECYCLING & ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT – COMMITTEE NAME CHANGE: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Mr. Lippert, REAC Chair, explained the committee was broadening its purpose to include sustainability and environmental issues.

Mayor Davis moved the new committee name of GreenACES be accepted. Ms. Mach seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

CHANGE TO TREE ORDINANCE - REFERRAL TO ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TREES:

Mayor Davis reported she had received several inquiries regarding expanding the tree ordinance to include trees on private property. She moved that the idea be referred to the Advisory Committee on Trees for review. Mr. Roberts seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Lippert, 45 Lakeside Drive, expressed concern regarding liability issues.

Mr. Goldberg, 7848 Jacobs Drive, said a tree ordinance that covered trees on private property also would be very helpful to homeowners' organizations.

Mr. Roberts mentioned landscaping issues on private property should also be considered.

MEETINGS: Council reviewed the meeting schedule. Mayor Davis noted a hearing on the County Transportation Master Plan is scheduled for January 27, 2009 at the County Administration Building. Ms. Mach noted a County School Board Hearing regarding the search for a new superintendent is scheduled for January 14, 2009, 7:30 p.m. at High Point High School.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Mach and seconded by Mr. Herling. The motion carried 5-0. The Mayor adjourned the regular meeting of Monday, January 12, 2009, at 9:38 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 January 12, 2009."

Judith F. Davis
Mayor