



REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL
held Monday, March 9, 2009.

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 8:07 p.m.

ROLL CALL was answered by Councilmembers Konrad E. Herling, Leta M. Mach, 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 Cindy Murray, City Clerk. Robert Manzi, City Solicitor, arrived at 8:25 p.m.

Mayor Davis asked for a moment of silence in memory of residents Esther Smith Webb, Ronald Sweeney, Patricia Parker, David “Jose” Jaquith, and Brandon Dwyer, and former resident Judy Reilly. She then led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

CONSENT AGENDA: It was moved by Mr. Putens and seconded by Mr. Herling that the consent agenda be approved. The motion passed 5-0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

- Work Session, February 7, 2009
- Work Session, February 18, 2009
- Interview, February 23, 2009
- Regular Meeting, February 23, 2009
- Legislative Dinner, February 24, 2009
- Approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Park & Recreation Advisory Board, Report #09-1 (Recognition Group Request): Council accepted this report and agreed to add it to the agenda of the March 23, 2009 regular meeting.

RESIGNATION FROM ADVISORY GROUP: Council accepted with regret the resignation of Debra Payne from the Advisory Committee on Education.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: It was moved by Ms. Mach and seconded by Mr. Herling that the agenda be approved as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

PRESENTATIONS: None

Introduction of New Staff: Mr. McLaughlin introduced Mary Johnson, the new Human Resource Officer; Lauren Derise, the new half-time Animal Control officer; and Wesley Adams, a new Community Development Inspector. Councilmembers welcomed the new City staff members.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS

Mary Babbitt, 9166 Edmonston Road #102, reported that Empirian Village had removed the glass storefront to her building which left the entranceway and stairway exposed to the weather. This created a dirty entranceway which was often wet and slippery. She asked Council for their assistance in having the storefront restored. Mayor Davis asked Mr. McLaughlin to refer Ms. Babbitt's concerns to the Department of Planning and Community Development to determine if there was any action the City could take on this issue. She thanked Ms. Babbitt for bringing her concern to the Council.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mr. McLaughlin announced the March edition of the Greenbelt Bulletin was complete and would be mailed to all residents this week. He thanked Ms. Palau for her efforts in creating the Bulletin. Mr. McLaughlin also announced the City is now video streaming live which enables residents to view council meetings live, or view previous council meetings, through the city website. He said a demonstration would be provided to Council at a future meeting.

Mr. McLaughlin reported the City will receive approximately \$109,000 from the Byrne Grant Program for replacement of police radios and a \$950,000 federal grant from Congressman Hoyer to be used for a new police computer aided dispatch and records management system.

Mayor Davis announced the City will also receive a \$30,000 technical assistance grant from the Council of Government's Transportation/Land-Use Connections Program (TLC) to be used for the bicycle and pedestrian master plan.

Ms. Mach and Mr. Roberts commented on Rabbi Cohen's 10th Anniversary Celebration at Mishkan Torah.

Mayor Davis commented on the ribbon cutting ceremony for the first visit of the Governor's Wellmobile, an important part of the Backpack to Health Initiative at Springhill Lake Elementary School. She also thanked Ms. Batey and the community partners who had made this program possible.

Mayor Davis congratulated Florence Holly on the celebration of her 100th birthday recently and asked that a congratulatory card be sent on behalf of Council and the City.

LEGISLATION

A Resolution to Negotiate the Purchase of Home Modifications and Assessment Services from Strategies for Independent Living, LLC of Takoma Park, Maryland at a cost of \$40,000

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Mr. Mach introduced the resolution for first reading.

STATE LEGISLATION: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Mr. Putens moved that Council oppose House Bill 1239. Mr. Herling seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

PROPOSAL ON COUNCIL GOALS: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

After discussion, Council recommended Goal #5 be changed to “Preserve and Enhance Greenbelt’s Legacy as a Planned Community” and a bullet point “Continue to Tell the Greenbelt Story” added, and Goal #8 be changed to “Maintain and Improve Fiscal Sustainability.” With these changes, Mr. Roberts moved to approve the Visioning Goals and the brochure for publication. Ms. Mach seconded. The motion passed 5-0. Mr. McLaughlin and Council thanked Ms. Palau for making the brochure such a colorful and attractive document.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mayor Davis moved that Council conduct an Executive Session in accordance with Section 10-508 (a) (7) of the State Government Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland to consult with legal counsel. Mr. Putens seconded.

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

MEETINGS: Council reviewed the meeting schedule.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn the regular meeting was made by Ms. Mach and seconded by Mr. Herling. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Davis adjourned the regular meeting of Monday, March 9, 2009, at 8:53 p.m. Council then moved into Executive Session in the Library.

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 March 9, 2009."

Judith F. Davis

Mayor