



REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held October 8, 2007.

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 8:09 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 Celia W. Craze, Director, Planning and Community Development, and Acting City Manager; Robert A. Manzi, City Solicitor; and Kathleen Gallagher, City Clerk.

Mayor Davis asked for a moment of silence in memory of resident and former Greenbelt police officer John C. Krob; resident Mary Virginia Haker; former residents Hattie Elizabeth Thigpen Anderson, Barbara Tanen, and Joseph E. Wilkinson, who served on the City's Park & Recreation Advisory Board for 30 years; and former resident and Greenbelt Pioneer Werner Steinle. She then led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

CONSENT AGENDA: Ms. Mach asked to remove the minutes of the work session of September 17, 2007, from the consent agenda. Mr. Herling asked to remove item #19 (Appointment to Advisory Group). It was then 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

- Interview, October 1, 2007
- Work Session, October 1, 2007
- Approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Advisory Committee on Education, Report #1-07 (Paperclips Project Referral): Council received this report and agreed to consider it, together with the report from the Community Relations Advisory Board, on a future agenda.

Advisory Committee on Trees, 8/30/2007 Communication (Use of CMA Instead of Salt for Deicing): Council accepted this report and referred it for staff review prior to further discussion.

Park & Recreation Advisory Board, Report #07-2 (Disability Connection-Recognition Group Request): Council accepted this report from the board and approved the recommendation to grant recognition group status to the Disability Connection.

DESIGNATION OF VOTING DELEGATE AND ALTERNATES FOR NLC CONGRESS OF CITIES: Council designated Mayor Davis as the voting delegate, Mr. Putens as the first alternate, and Ms. Mach as the second alternate for the business meeting of the National League of Cities 2007 Congress of Cities in New Orleans in November.

REAPPOINTMENTS TO ADVISORY GROUPS : The City Council appointed Brian Gibbons to a new term on the Advisory Planning Board and Edward Hickey to a new term on the Public Safety Advisory Committee.

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

PRESENTATIONS

Prince George's County Beautification Awards: This year, at the County Beautification Awards Ceremony on September 26, four awards were made for Greenbelt sites. The City was recognized for Buddy Attick Park and the entrance medians on Southway. The Greenbelt Service Center and the Old Greenbelt Citgo also received awards for their landscaping. Bill Novick was present to receive the award from the Mayor on behalf of the Greenbelt Service Center. Bill Phelan accepted on behalf of Public Works.

Donation for Lake Clean-Up Work: Mayor Davis presented an envelope with \$45 in cash representing the proceeds from a lemonade stand run by a number of young people in Maplewood Court.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS: Mayor Davis said a resident named Eugenia Kalnay had asked that the City consider banning plastic bags. Council directed that the question be referred to the Recycling & Environment Advisory Committee.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS: Ms. Mach asked that the name of the organization mentioned in the September 17, 2007, work session minutes be stated correctly as the National Agricultural Research Alliance-Beltsville. With that correction, she moved, with a second from Mr. Putens, that the minutes be approved. The motion carried 5-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mr. Herling announced the Utopia Film Festival would be held October 27 and 28.

Mr. Putens asked if Council could get a report on the e-mail that had been sent out about activities at the Skateboard Park this weekend. Ms. Craze said the Recreation Department was investigating, and there would be a report for Council by the end of the week.

Ms. Mach mentioned Schrom Fest, Artful Afternoon, the new Greenbelt Museum exhibit and the increasing synergy between the museum and the local arts community. She said the City had been notified that it was one of the finalists to be a charter member of Playful Cities USA, but the official announcement would not be made until the National League of Cities conference in

New Orleans, where there will also be a “playground build.”

Mayor Davis said all of Council attended the Greener Greenbelt charrette and that there had been a high level of participation. She thanked the City Clerk and the Recreation Department for their work on the Advisory Group Appreciation Dinner. She also commented on Walk to School Day and Schrom Fest.

LEGISLATION

.A Resolution to Negotiate the Purchase of Grass and Landscape Maintenance Services with the Brickman Group of Lanham, Maryland

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Mr. Putens introduced the resolution for second reading and moved its adoption. Mr. Herling seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Herling - yes

Ms. Mach - yes

Mr. Putens - yes

Mr. Roberts - yes

Mayor Davis - yes

The resolution was declared adopted (Resolution No. 1024, Book 8).

A Resolution to Negotiate the Purchase of General Contracting Services for Construction and Renovation Work at the Public Works Facility with Gardiner & Gardiner General Contractors, LLC, of Crofton, Maryland, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$4.2 Million

The Mayor read the agenda comments. Mr. Herling introduced the resolution for second reading and adoption. Mr. Putens seconded the motion.

Ms. Mach asked how soon the project could start. Ms. Craze replied that Gardiner & Gardiner was eager to begin and expected to mobilize within about ten days.

At Mr. Herling’s request, Ms. Craze went through Mr. McLaughlin’s memo regarding possibilities for how the project could be fully funded. She also clarified that the current resolution was only to approve the contract and that any specifics of where the monies would come from to fund the project would return to Council as needed for approval later. She said Mr. McLaughlin’s memo was merely offering suggestions. She added that there was no intention of diverting funding from any other capital projects to support this one. In answer to a question from Mr. Roberts, Ms. Craze said there might be a need for a bond issue in the future to support this and other projects.

Mr. Herling asked if this project would also include the restrooms for Buddy Attick Park. Ms. Craze said that, yes, this contract did include the extension of the utilities for the restrooms.

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

The resolution was declared adopted (Resolution No. 1025, Book 8).

A Resolution to Amend the Charter of the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Education (ACE), Adopted by Resolution Number 806, to Provide Further Definition of ACE Activities and Core Schools and to Correct the Designation of Appointment Terms

The Mayor read the agenda comments. Ms. Mach introduced the resolution for first reading.

Mayor Davis recognized Jeff Morisette, the chair of the Advisory Committee on Education (ACE). In response to the Mayor's question about the change in appointment terms, Ms. Gallagher explained that although ACE's charter said members' terms were for two years, in practice it was three years, like those of most of the other board and committees. This change would make the charter consistent with practice. The Mayor asked Mr. Morisette how the committee would decide how many schools it could deal with. He replied that with the revision the core schools would be defined as being only those to which students were assigned and any other schools located within the corporate limits of the City. He said it was the opening of the Turning Point Charter School that brought the question to the fore.

AWARD OF PURCHASE , PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT - FRONT-END LOADER
: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Mr. Putens made a motion that Council approve the purchase of a Case 621D front-end loader and attachments from Folcomer Equipment Corporation of Upper Marlboro in accord with WSSC contract #004904 at a cost of \$119,313. Ms. Mach seconded the motion, which carried 5-0.

AWARD OF PURCHASE –MOBILE DATA COMPUTERS FOR POLICE VEHICLES :
The Mayor read the agenda comments. Mr. Roberts moved the staff recommendation to purchase ten Toughbooks as replacement laptops from Pelican Mobile on state bid #DBM-0106-RADEQ at a projected cost of \$64,000. Dale Worley, Information Technology Manager, was present to answer questions. Mr. Putens asked if this was really the best the City could do on prices. Mr. Worley said this was the going price and was what the county police were currently paying. He said Motorola makes a similar product with a comparable price. Mr. Putens said he thought he had seen better prices listed. Mr. Worley responded that although the base price was around \$3,000, the necessary add-ons—for example, the mounting and options for air cards to communicate wirelessly—bring the price up substantially. Mr. Putens said he was not convinced that just because there was a bid, that was necessarily the best price the City could get. He asked Mr. Worley if the City had talked with anyone else or just gone with the bid. Mr. Worley said he had not talked with anyone else but that he could not address what had occurred before he was hired.

Mr. Herling offered to second the motion for purposes of discussion. He asked if any other jurisdiction was trying to negotiate a new bid. Mr. Worley said he could find out.

Mayor Davis noted that since the original total number of laptops cited in the agenda comments was 44, the number that would be taken care of through this purchase was just a fraction of the total. She reviewed the information that was in the backup memo and noted that there was a further question that had not been part of the staff recommendation or motion regarding using funds from 2006 and 2007 Department of Justice grants that were currently targeted for in-car cameras to cover the cost of four Toughbooks over and above the ten included here. She said this needed further explanation as well. After some discussion of procedure, Mr. Roberts made a motion, seconded by Mr. Herling, that the action on this item be postponed until the October 22 regular meeting, assuming the needed information could be acquired by then. Ms. Mach emphasized the need to work within the framework of the December 31 deadline on the grant. The motion carried 5-0.

COMMUNITY SURVEY - DEMONSTRATION OF WEB VERSION : Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Beverly Palau, Public Information and Communications Coordinator, demonstrated the on-line version of the survey. She confirmed that only one questionnaire per computer could be returned on line. She said staff was looking into the option of having laptop computers available at the polling places in 2009 for people who wished to complete it that way.

UPDATE ON OPTIONS FOR BUDDY ATTICK PARK RESTROOMS : The Mayor read the agenda comments. Ms. Craze said she wanted to get direction from Council on several design options and showed a number of slides giving examples of different components. She said staff recommended a structure with an overhang but no privacy screen, wood-appearing sides and a shake or architectural shingle roof. In response to a question from Ms. Mach, she said that there was little difference among the various options in terms of maintenance or durability. Since the structure currently under consideration is smaller, Mr. Roberts asked if this affected site selection. Ms. Craze said staff was not suggesting changing the previously selected site, which is where the old basketball court used to be. Council agreed with the staff recommendation on having an overhang but no privacy screen, and the Mayor noted that the other specific aspects of the structure would return to Council later for approval.

APPOINTMENTS TO ADVISORY GROUPS : It was moved by Mr. Herling and seconded by Ms. Mach that Council appoint Elizabeth Hammett and Bobby Rudd to the Youth Advisory Committee and Bob Rudd to the Employee Relations Advisory Board. The motion carried 5-0.

MEETINGS: Council reviewed the schedule of upcoming meetings. It was agreed to remove November 7 from the calendar for scheduling.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn the meeting was then made by Ms. Mach and seconded by Mr. Putens. The motion carried 5-0. The Mayor adjourned the regular meeting of October 8, 2007, at 9: 45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Gallagher
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 8, 2007. "

Judith F. Davis
Mayor