

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Tuesday, March 29, 2016.

Mayor Jordan called the meeting to order at 8:01 p.m.

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

ALSO PRESENT were Michael McLaughlin, City Manager; David Moran, Assistant City Manager; Karen Ruff, Associate of the City Solicitor; and Cindy Murray, City Clerk.

Mayor Jordan asked for a moment of silence in memory of the victims of the attacks in Brussels and Pakistan, as well as Prince George's County Police Officer Jacai Colson and Greenbelt residents Martha Patton and Bessie Brickman. Mr. Roberts then led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Ms. Davis requested Item #13 "Resignation from Advisory Group" be removed from the consent agenda. With this change, it was moved by Mr. Putens and seconded by Mr. Herling that the consent agenda be approved. The motion passed 7-0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

Committee Reports: Council accepted the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Report #2016-1 (Partnering with Corvias and Prince George's County to dredge the lake's forebays) and will consider it on the agenda of a future meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Ms. Davis requested "Appointments to Advisory Groups" be added to the agenda as Item 14. With this addition, it was moved by Mr. Putens and seconded by Ms. Mach that the agenda be approved. The motion passed 7-0.

PRESENTATIONS:

Arbor Day Proclamation: In keeping with its designation as a "Tree City USA," Mayor Jordan issued a proclamation in recognition of Arbor Day. Brian Townsend, Horticulture Supervisor, and Charles Jackman and Ethel Dutky, members of the Advisory Committee on Trees, received the proclamation and provided an overview of this year's Arbor Day plans.

Earth Day Proclamation: Mayor Jordan issued a proclamation marking the 46th Anniversary of Earth Day. Brian Townsend received the proclamation and discussed the Earth Day plans and activities.

Proposed FY 2017 City Budget: Mr. McLaughlin presented his proposed FY 2017 budget for the City. In his overview, he advised that owner occupied property assessments were up an average of 14.5% but apartments and commercial property assessments were lower at 4.6% and 5.8%, respectively. He noted that the total growth was 2.9%.

Mr. McLaughlin discussed the key points in the proposed FY 2017 budget: no tax rate increase; Greenbelt's economy; addition of 1.5 positions; funding of 1.9% COLA and merit/step increases; shift in health insurance plan; and an increase in waste collection fees. He also reviewed the proposed work plan for FY 2017 which was influenced by Council's goals.

The Mayor and other Councilmembers thanked him and staff for all the work that went into the preparation of the budget.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS:

Linda Rixon, 22 Ridge Road, requested flowering trees be planted along the train tracks in the area of Lake Artemisia to provide an attractive view for transit riders. Mayor Jordan said staff would refer the suggestion to the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

Bill Orleans, Greenbelt, inquired about past executive sessions of Council regarding annexation and acquisition of real property.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS:

Statement for the Record – Executive Session of March 16, 2016: Ms. Davis moved that in accordance with the General Provisions Article, Section 3-306(c)(2) of the *Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland*, the minutes of tonight’s meeting reflect that Council met in executive session on Wednesday, March 16, 2016, at 9:15 p.m. in Room 201 of the Community Center. Council held this closed meeting in accordance with the General Provisions Article, §3-305(b)(1) of the *Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland*, to discuss a personnel matter.

Vote to close session:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ms. Davis	X			
Mr. Herling	X			
Ms. Mach	X			
Ms. Pope	X			
Mr. Putens	X			
Mr. Roberts		X		
Mayor Jordan	X			

The following staff members were in attendance: Michael McLaughlin, City Manager, and David Moran, Assistant City Manager.

Other individuals in attendance: None

Council took no actions during this session.

Mr. Putens seconded.

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

Mr. Roberts - yes
 Mayor Jordan - yes

Statement for the Record – Executive Session of March 23, 2016: Ms. Davis moved that in accordance with the General Provisions Article, Section 3-306(c)(2) of the *Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland*, the minutes of tonight’s meeting reflect that Council met in executive session on Wednesday, March 23, 2016, at 9:40 p.m. in Room 201 of the Community Center. Council held this closed meeting in accordance with the General Provisions Article, §3-305(b)(1) of the *Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland*, to discuss a personnel matter.

Vote to close session:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ms. Davis	X			
Mr. Herling	X			
Ms. Mach	X			
Ms. Pope	X			
Mr. Putens	X			
Mr. Roberts		X		
Mayor Jordan	X			

The following staff members were in attendance: Michael McLaughlin, City Manager, and David Moran, Assistant City Manager.

Other individuals in attendance: None

Council took no actions during this session.

Ms. Pope seconded.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mayor Jordan reported that the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) began Sunday bus service for Greenbelt this week. He thanked WMATA, Transit Riders United of Greenbelt and everyone that worked on this effort. Ms. Davis mentioned the need to promote the service.

Ms. Mach and Ms. Davis asked about the drop off locations for Drug Take Back Day on April 30 and requested this information be publicized.

Ms. Davis and Ms. Pope thanked the Recreation, Public Works and Fire Departments for their work on the annual Easter Egg Hunt. Ms. Davis also thanked the Public Works Department for its participation in the Greenbelt Elementary School Fair and for trimming the Bradford Pear trees on Hanover Parkway. Ms. Pope also thanked the Public Works Department for clearing of brush at Greenbelt Lake.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

LEGISLATION: None

TRANSPORTATION/LAND-USE CONNECTIONS (TLC) PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION:
Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Mr. Herling moved that Council approve submission of a letter to the National Center for Smart Growth (NCSG) indicating its endorsement for the Greenbelt Senior Mobility and Accessibility Needs and Barriers Study and support for the application for the Transportation Land Use Connection (TLC) program. Mr. Putens seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

COUNCIL REPORTS: Councilmembers commented on their attendance at the following events.

Tree Protection Event at Buddy Attick Park - Mr. Putens
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Clean Air Partners Executive Committee Meeting – Ms. Mach
Prince George’s County Municipal Association (PGCMA) Meeting and Orientation for New Officials – Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis, Mr. Herling and Ms. Mach
Prince George’s County Science Fair – Ms. Mach (Served as a judge for Clean Air Partners)
Celebrating Women Event at Springhill Lake Elementary School – Ms. Mach and Ms. Pope
COG Chesapeake Bay Policy Committee Meeting – Ms. Davis
Maryland Senatorial Candidates Forum – Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis, Mr. Herling and Mr. Putens
Greenbelt Elementary School Spring Fair – Ms. Davis
Anacostia Trails Heritage Area Governing Board Meeting – Ms. Davis
Maryland Municipal League Legislative Committee Conference Call – Ms. Davis
Egg Hunt – Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis, Mr. Herling, Ms. Pope and Mr. Putens
Greenbelt Intergenerational Volunteer Exchange Service – Mayor Jordan and Ms. Davis
Prince George’s County Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Summit – Mayor Jordan

Resignations from Advisory Groups: Ms. Davis moved that Council accept the resignations of Kathleen Shaw from the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability and Oyinkansola Odebo from the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee. Ms. Pope seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Appointments to Advisory Groups: Ms. Davis moved that Council appoint Bernard Robbs and Jeanette Grotke to the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee. Mr. Herling seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

MEETINGS: Council reviewed the upcoming meeting schedule.

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Mach moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Putens seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Mayor Jordan adjourned the regular meeting of Tuesday, March 29, 2016, at 9:53 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 March 29, 2016."

Emmett V. Jordan
Mayor