

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Monday, May 23, 2016.

Mayor Jordan called the meeting to order at 8:02 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; and Karen Ruff, Associate of the City Solicitor.

Mayor Jordan asked for a moment of silence in memory of Greenbelters who passed away since the last meeting. Ms. Davis then led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: It was moved by Ms. Pope and seconded by Ms. Mach that the consent agenda be approved. The motion passed 7 to 0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

Minutes:

Work Session, March 30, 2016
Regular Meeting, April 25, 2016
Work Session, April 27, 2016
Work Session, May 2, 2016
Approved as presented.

Committee Reports:

Community Relations Advisory Board, Report #2016-2 (Council Referral – Request from Elizabeth Barber to Repurpose a Newspaper Vending Box): Council accepted this report and will consider it on the agenda of a future meeting.

Advisory Committee on Trees, Report #2016-3 (Large Willow Oak by Crescent Road near the Greenbelt Library and Greenbelt Community Center): Council accepted this report. No further action is necessary.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: It was moved by Ms. Pope and seconded by Mr. Herling that the agenda be approved. The motion passed 7 to 0.

PRESENTATIONS:

Memorial Day Poppy Presentation: Mayor Jordan announced that the American Legion Post 136 will hold its commemoration of Memorial Day on Monday, May 30, in honor of those who have died in combat while serving in the armed forces. Members of the American Legion Post 136 Auxiliary explained the history of the Memorial Day poppy symbol and presented poppies to Council and the audience. Ms. Bird presented a boutonniere and commemorative coin to the Mayor.

Peace Month Proclamation: Mayor Jordan read a proclamation to recognize June as Peace Month. Alexander Barnes Sr. received the proclamation on behalf of the Prince George's Peace and Justice Coalition. Mr. Barnes described the upcoming activities for Peace Month.

Paradyme Management Presentation: Viraj Gandhi, Chief Executive Officer, and Diana Hunter, Office Manager, for Paradyme Management, presented a check to Council for the replacement of ten (10) computers for the Computer Lab at Springhill Lake Recreation Center.

Mr. Gandhi stated that community involvement is a part of Paradyme's mission statement. Mayor Jordan expressed the City's appreciation. Julie McHale, Director of Recreation, thanked Paradigm for their support.

ACE Student Awards: Mayor Jordan introduced Melinda Brady and Janet Mirsky, members of the Advisory Committee on Education (ACE). Ms. Brady explained the purpose of the ACE Outstanding Student Awards, gave an overview of ACE's other activities, and described the gifts and certificates to be presented tonight. She said this was the 16th consecutive year that the ACE Awards had been presented and thanked the City Council for its support over that period.

Ms. Brady recognized Susan Breon, Jon Gardner, Veronica Martin-Frederick, Don Rich, Sudhanshu Sinha and Elsie Waynes, ACE members; Councilmember Mach, ACE Council liaison; Rosalind Ceasar, ACE staff liaison; State Senator Paul Pinsky and Delegates Tawanna Gaines, Anne Healey and Alonzo Washington; and Ingrid Harrison representing County Council Member Todd Turner. She also recognized the principals and parent-teacher association representatives from Greenbelt Elementary School, Magnolia Elementary School, Springhill Lake Elementary School, Dora Kennedy French Immersion School, Greenbelt Middle School and Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

The following 2016 award recipients were recognized, and gifts and citations were presented from ACE, the City Council, the County Council and the General Assembly.

Greenbelt Elementary School	Kevin Mayo and Samantha Stewart
Springhill Lake Elementary School	Mohammad Arik Chowduhry and Najaah Miles
Magnolia Elementary School	Christopher Fernandez and Emely Contreras
Greenbelt Middle School	Maximiliano Gonzalez and Elizabeth Adejumo
Dora Kennedy French Immersion School	Dean Mills and Audrey Versteegen
Eleanor Roosevelt High School	Zuha Sadeed and Scott Candey (absent)

Maryland State Delegate Scholarship Award: Delegate Healey presented Eleanor Roosevelt High School senior Sophie Bernheisel with a Maryland State Delegate Scholarship Award.

Legislative Wrap-Up – 22nd District Delegation: State Senator Paul Pinsky and Delegates Tawanna Gaines, Anne Healey and Alonzo Washington provided an update on the 2016 General Session.

Senator Pinsky indicated that the Governor had implemented reductions in fees which resulted in cuts to agencies and a reduction in services to the citizens. This also meant fewer protections for the public.

Delegate Healey stated that several bills were passed, including the geographic education funding formula and a bill requiring that replacement of the Harry Nice Bridge be prioritized. She also noted the passage of HB 1123 allowing everyone in Greenbelt to pay the same Maryland National Capital Park & Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) property tax rate.

Delegate Gaines reported that a bill passed to mandate funding for a new Prince George's Hospital. She indicated that this year she had to include budget language to protect Youth Service Bureau funding.

Delegate Washington indicated that legislation requiring pay equity for women passed. He also discussed the Justice Reinvestment Act which will reduce sentencing for small, non-violent drug offenses and will save the State money.

Ms. Davis asked about Highway User Revenues and the work group that had been formed. She asked if there would be municipal representation. Delegate Healey discussed the Maryland Municipal League (MML) priority bill noting the Maryland Association of Counties (MACO) opposition to the bill. She indicated the bill would be studied during the interim.

Mr. Roberts asked about the bill restricting the use of antibiotics in farm animals and hoped it would pass in the future. Senator Pinsky indicated the bill would be re-introduced.

Mayor Jordan noted that several members of the Delegation were recognized at the Prince George's County Municipal Association (PGCMA) meeting. Mayor Jordan asked about WMATA funding, particularly for infrastructure. Senator Pinsky indicated Maryland had been good about paying its share and that the problem had been the District of Columbia and Northern Virginia. Delegate Healey did not believe a dedicated funding source was needed, but that other jurisdictions needed to make it a priority.

Mayor Jordan thanked the Delegation for their efforts.

Renard Brown asked Delegate Healey about the "democracy amendment" that would overturn Citizens United decision and why it had not come out of the House Committee. Delegate Healey responded that the House had passed the bill in an amended form last year, but there was not agreement between the House and Senate. She noted the concern was about a runaway constitutional convention.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Proposed FY 2017 Budget: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. He then announced the meeting was recessed for the public hearings at 10:15 p.m.

Bill Orleans observed that Franklin Park had received a large abatement. He requested the index number for the Tax Court case brought by the owners of Franklin Park. He also requested funding for renovation of a particular bus shelter. Ms. Davis noted bus shelter locations would be discussed later this summer

There was no other public comment on the proposed budget.

Constant Yield Tax Rate: Mayor Jordan announced that a notice had been published in accordance with State law. There was no testimony from the general public. Mayor Jordan announced that the City's tax rate would be set at the June 6, 2016, regular meeting in the Council Room of the Municipal Building.

No public comment was received.

The meeting reconvened at 10:24 p.m.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS:

Bill Orleans asked for clarification of Executive Sessions held by Council on acquisitions of property. He requested release of the Minutes from these meetings. He also wanted clarification in general terms about the Executive Sessions held on annexation.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS:

Statement for the Record – Executive Session of May 18, 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, May 18, 2016, at 7:41 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), (7) and (8) of the *Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland*, to discuss: 1) a personnel matter; 2) consult with legal counsel to obtain legal advice regarding an annexation matter; and 3) consult with legal counsel to obtain legal advice regarding potential litigation.

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 for 3-305(b)(1): None

The following staff members were in attendance for 3-305(b)(7): Michael McLaughlin, City Manager; John Shay, City Solicitor; Karen Ruff, Associate of the City Solicitor; Celia Craze, Director of Planning and Community Development; and Cindy Murray, City Clerk.

The following staff members were in attendance for 3-305(b)(8): Michael McLaughlin, City Manager; John Shay, City Solicitor; Karen Ruff, Associate of the City Solicitor; Julie McHale,

Director of Recreation; Joe McNeal, Assistant Director of Recreation; and Cindy Murray, City Clerk.

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	-	abstain
	Ms. Pope	-	yes
	Mr. Putens	-	yes
	Mr. Roberts	-	yes
	Mayor Jordan	-	yes

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mr. McLaughlin reported on the Memorial Day ceremony on May 30 at 11:00am at the memorial on Centerway and also listed upcoming Greenbelt Day weekend activities.

Mr. Putens noted reports on summer camp registration. He asked for a breakdown of residents vs. non-residents. Mr. McLaughlin responded this would be provided at the end of the summer.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

LEGISLATION:

Resolution to Amend Resolution 2032, A Resolution to Purchase Certain Goods and Services from Various Vendors as Enumerated Herein When Total Fiscal Year Purchases from Each Vendor Exceed Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000)

Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Dale Worley, Information Technology Director, discussed the existing cameras which were pan/tilt/zoom cameras. He indicated that current technology allowed a 180 degree view providing better coverage of Roosevelt Center.

Mayor Jordan noted that Council charged the Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) with making recommendations regarding a city-wide security camera program.

Mr. Putens asked about the location of the three cameras. Mr. Worley described the three proposed locations.

Ms. Davis noted that this Resolution was needed because the cost would go over \$10,000 and Convergent needed to be added to the City's Negotiated Purchase Resolution. She asked about a maintenance contract with Convergent. Mr. Worley indicated that staff was exploring this.

Mr. Roberts asked about the procurement process to select this vendor. Mr. Worley described the process used to select Convergent Technologies. Mr. Roberts suggested training for IT staff so they could install these cameras.

Mayor Jordan asked about Convergent's experience with other municipalities. Mr. Worley indicated they had done Federal contracts and their work had been acceptable.

Mr. Herling introduced the resolution for first reading and moved suspension of the rules in order to allow second reading and passage of the resolution tonight. Ms. Mach seconded the motion.

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

Mayor Jordan asked about timeline for installation. Mr. Worley responded that the cameras should be installed and working in 30 days.

Ms. Pope asked which vendors other municipalities use. Mr. Worley responded that several other municipalities had provided information about their camera vendors and he would be researching these vendors. He stressed he wanted to move quickly because the Roosevelt Center cameras were inoperable.

Mr. Herling introduced the resolution for second reading and moved that it be adopted. Mr. Putens seconded.

Mr. Herling asked about monitoring the cameras. Mr. Worley responded that most cameras were monitored at Police Dispatch. The cameras at the Aquatic & Fitness Center were monitored by staff there.

Ms. Davis stressed that cameras are not watched constantly and they would not keep bad things from happening. Mayor Jordan agreed and did not want to create a false sense of security.

Mayor Jordan asked about the Police body camera pilot project. Mr. Worley responded that the camera vendor would provide a cloud storage solution.

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

The resolution was declared adopted (Resolution No. 2041, Book 8).

APPROVAL OF PEPCO VEGETATION MANAGEMENT WORK (ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TREES, REPORT #2016-2, PEPCO REQUEST FOR TREE REMOVALS): Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Richard Fink, Superintendent of Parks, indicated Pepco proposed 41 trees be removed. He noted staff and the Advisory Committee on Trees (ACT) agreed that 35 of these be removed and 6 trees (white pines along Edmonston) not be removed. Mr. Fink described the trees being recommended for removal and showed several representative pictures. He stated that many of these trees were dead or showing signs of decay.

Ms. Pope asked if the white pines along Edmonston Road would be pruned. Mr. Fink responded the City would prune these trees.

Ms. Davis asked about Pepco funding for tree replacement. Tami Watkins, Pepco, indicated that once work was completed, Pepco would work out the replacement with the City. Mr. McLaughlin responded that staff was still working this matter out with Pepco.

Mayor Jordan asked if any tree work would take place on private property. Ms. Watkins responded there was not work on private property associated with this project.

Ms. Pope moved the recommendation of staff and the ACT. Ms. Davis seconded.

Mr. Putens asked if any of the six pines needed to be trimmed immediately. Mr. Fink did not believe there was an immediate need, but indicated he would check further.

Mayor Jordan asked about the status of the Pepco/Exelon merger. Ms. Watkins responded that the company was still Pepco and vegetation management/reliability work would remain the same.

Mr. Putens stated that since Pepco was doing more vegetation management and reliability work there had been a reduction in power outages.

The motion passed 6 to 1 (Roberts). Mr. Roberts explained that instead of allowing tree removals the power lines should be moved underground.

COUNTY LEGISLATION CB-25-2016 URBAN AGRICULTURE: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Mayor Jordan reported that he had been contacted by Council Woman Lehman's office regarding this bill.

Mr. McLaughlin indicated that staff believed the bill was broad and suggested clarifying language that would make it clear this bill did not apply to individual/home gardens.

Ms. Davis did not believe that Council needed to act tonight. She suggested language be included that gardeners need to follow municipal pesticide policies. Ms. Davis moved that Council postpone their consideration of CB-25 until June 6. Mr. Herling seconded.

Ms. Mach was interested in the concept. She did not believe CB-25 needed to include information about pesticide policies since municipal approval was required.

Mr. Roberts thought it was okay to include individuals in the bill.

Mr. McLaughlin suggested Council could indicate general support but raise their questions.

The motion failed 6-1. (Davis)

Ms. Mach moved that Council indicate they are generally in support CB-25-2016 but wanted more information before making a final determination. Mr. Pope seconded. The motion passed 7 to 0.

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

Bill Signing for HB 1123 – Ms. Davis and Mr. Putens

Tandem Bike Experience – Ms. Davis

Welcome Bag Stuffing – Ms. Davis and Mr. Putens

Bike to Work Day – Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis and Mr. Putens

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Chesapeake Bay Policy Committee Conference Call – Ms. Davis

Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department Awards Banquet – Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis, Ms. Pope, Mr. Putens and Mr. Roberts

Delegate Alonzo Washington's Table Talk – Mayor Jordan and Ms. Davis

Community Foundation "Explore your Greenbelt" Co-Op Wide Tasting Event – Ms. Davis, Mr. Putens and Ms. Mach

Celebration of Spring – Mayor Jordan, Ms. Mach, Mr. Herling, Ms. Pope, Mr. Putens and Ms. Davis

Springhill Lake Recreation Center Computer Lab Ribbon Cutting – Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis, Ms. Pope, Ms. Mach, Mr. Putens and Mr. Herling

Friends of the Greenbelt Museum (FOGM) Volunteer Appreciation Dinner – Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis and Ms. Pope

St. Hugh's Sodality 4th Annual Tea honoring Volunteers – Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis, Ms. Mach and Ms. Pope

Animal Shelter Kitten Shower – Ms. Pope

Memorial Service for Mayor James Walls – Mr. Herling

Prince George's Arts & Humanities Budget Hearing – Mr. Herling

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Transportation Planning Board – Mr. Herling

Prince George's County Municipal Association – Mayor Jordan and Mr. Herling

Mayor Jordan referenced the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Homelessness Report provided at a recent Board of Directors meeting.

MEETINGS: Council reviewed the upcoming meeting schedule.

Ms. Davis moved that Council schedule an Executive Session in accordance with the General Provisions Article, Section 3-305(b)(1) of the *Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland*, on June 1 to discuss a personnel matter. Mr. Herling seconded.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Davis - yes

Mr. Herling - yes
Ms. Mach - yes
Ms. Pope - yes
Mr. Putens - yes
Mr. Roberts - no
Mayor Jordan - yes

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

Mayor Jordan adjourned the regular meeting of Monday, May 23, 2016, at 11:50p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David E. Moran
Assistant City Manager

"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 May 23, 2016."

Emmett V. Jordan
Mayor