

WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL/LEGISLATIVE DINNER held Tuesday, December 13, 2016, at Greenbelt Marriott, for the purpose of discussing the City's legislative priorities and other legislative matters.

PRESENT WERE: 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.

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Michael McLaughlin, City Manager; David E. Moran, Assistant City Manager; Karen Ruff, Associate of the City Solicitor; and Cindy Murray, City Clerk.

ALSO PRESENT WERE: State Delegates Anne Healey and Tawanna Gaines; County Council Member Todd Turner; and County School Board Member Lupi Grady.

The meeting began at 7:15 p.m.

Mayor Jordan welcomed the legislators. He said the purpose of the gathering was for the City to discuss its legislative priorities for 2017.

The following City priority issues were reviewed.

SUPPORT FBI HEADQUARTERS IN GREENBELT: Support bringing the new FBI Headquarters to Greenbelt.

The legislators expressed their support. It was noted that a decision on the FBI site location is expected in March 2017.

GREENBELT ROAD STREETScape IMPROVEMENTS: Fund the SHA Streetscape Improvement Program on Greenbelt Road (MD 193).

Council Member Turner reported this project is #2 on the County's project planning priority list.

UPDATE ON THE GREENBELT LAKE DAM PROJECT:

Mr. McLaughlin explained that the first phase of this project (Lake Drain Repair) is underway but due to unforeseen site condition, as well as overall market conditions, the cost for the entire project is now estimated at \$1.8 million. He said the City cannot afford a project of this magnitude without substantial funding assistance. Mr. McLaughlin said the City is continuing to work with Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) and Charles P. Johnson & Associates (CPJ) to redesign the project and identify ways to reduce these escalating costs. He mentioned assistance from the legislators may be needed to advocate on the City's behalf with MDE to either amend the project requirements or provide State funding for the project.

Delegate Gaines said she would like to attend a meeting with the City, MDE and CPJ on the project site to discuss the project.

PROTECT MUNICIPAL FUNDING SOURCES: Implement a legislative strategy that will protect Youth Service Bureau funding.

Mayor Jordan said that the Governor's Office of Children, Youth and Families initially denied funding to certain Youth Service Bureaus (YSB) this year. After a significant advocacy effort by

many, including State legislators, this funding was restored to Greenbelt and most other YSB's.
CHILDREN LIVING IN GREENBELT STATION SHOULD ATTEND GREENBELT SCHOOLS:
Children living in the new community of Greenbelt Station are assigned to Berwyn Heights Elementary, Greenbelt Middle School and Parkdale High School. These students should be attending schools located in Greenbelt.

Mayor Jordan explained that in 2004, the County Council approved CB-33-2004 which included an appropriation for an addition at Duval High School. CB-33 included language stating the County's intent that all high school age children in Greenbelt would attend Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

Ms. Mach noted that the City supports its schools by providing grant programs, after-school reading and science clubs, awards programs and other assistance. She said school children living in Greenbelt Station attending schools outside the City do not receive these benefits.

Mayor Jordan advised that Council has met with Kevin Maxwell, CEO for Prince George's County Schools, as well as Johndel Jones-Brown, Director of Pupil Accounting and School Boundaries.

Council stressed the importance of the children in Greenbelt Station being assigned to Greenbelt schools. Ms. Mach said the Pupil Accounting and School Boundaries Office was not aware of the CB 33 agreement and the mistake (assignment of children to non-City schools) needs to be corrected.

After discussion, Council Member Turner suggested the exact number of children in Greenbelt Station attending Berwyn Heights Elementary and Parkdale High School be determined and suggested the City request these children be reassigned "administratively" to Greenbelt schools. He mentioned the tedious process of going through a boundary change matter.

The following Other Items of Interest were discussed:

- *Inadequacy of Elementary School Capacity at Franklin Park*
- *Need to Address Affordable/Workforce Housing & Discrimination Based on Source of Income*
- *Increase School Resource Officer Funding*
- *Maryland Municipal League Priorities*
- *Prince George's Municipal Association Proposed Priorities (subject to membership approval)*
- *Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Priorities*
- *National League of Cities Priorities*

The meeting ended at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Cindy Murray
City Clerk*