



MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION/LEGISLATIVE DINNER held Thursday, December 13, 2001, at the Greenbelt Marriott, for the purpose of discussing the City's legislative priorities for 2002.

Mayor Davis convened the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

PRESENT WERE Council members Edward V. J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts, Alan Turnbull and Thomas X. White, and Mayor Judith F. Davis.

STAFF PRESENT WERE Michael P. McLaughlin, City Manager; Robert A. Manzi, City Solicitor; David E. Moran, Assistant to the City Manager; and Kathleen Gallagher, City Clerk.

ALSO PRESENT WERE State Senator Leo Green; State Delegates Mary Conroy, James Hubbard, and Joan Pitkin; and County Councilwoman Audrey Scott. Delegate Conroy left at about 9:30 p.m.

Mayor Davis welcomed the legislators and thanked them for attending. The following legislative priorities were identified and discussed:

State Issues:

- Bond Bill for Addition to Springhill Lake Recreation Center
- Full Planning and Zoning Authority for Municipalities
- Opposition to Funding of Beltway Ramps at Metro Station
- Bond Bill for Renovation of Greenbelt Theatre

Joint State/County Issue:

- Funding for Acquisition of Jaeger Tract

County Issues:

- Use of Special Interest Legislation
- Adequate Public Facilities (APF) Legislation (CB-40)

Funding for Youth Service Bureaus was discussed under "Items for Alert," as was the Renovation of the Greenbelt Middle School. Other issues of City interest were also listed: Speed Monitoring Cameras, Additional Funding for Noise Barriers, Support for Car-Sharing Programs,

Funding for Law Enforcement Equipment Fund, Police Communications Systems/Communication Among Departments, Municipal Fiscal Sustainability, and Banning of Items Used as Drug Paraphernalia. The Maryland Municipal League's legislative priorities were also mentioned, including Full Planning and Zoning Authority for Municipalities, Overhead Utility Facilities–Undergrounding, and Sewer Infrastructure Repair and Replacement–Funding.

The following were some of the points raised during the meeting. Although bills have been drafted on both sides of the Assembly for the Springhill Lake Recreation Center, the delegation warned that this year will be a difficult one for funding even strong projects. Regarding the purchase of the Jaeger Tract, the City should contact representatives from the 22nd District (e.g., Senator Pinsky and Delegate Gaines) about state support, and County Councilwoman Scott will check on what Delegate Pitkin's research had suggested might be a high balance in the county's Open Space fund balance. Mrs. Scott also explained the reasons for her support for CB-40 and offered to send the City information on the impact she believed it would have on the Greenbelt schools. Senator Green asked for information to be sent to him regarding the condition of Greenbelt Middle School; the county has appealed the decision to push it back on the list. It is not worthwhile discussing the funding of speed cameras while there are lawsuits pending on red light cameras. Senator Green also requested a copy of the City's letter to Charlie Watkins, State Highway Administration, regarding eligibility for noise barriers.

The legislators thanked the City for its hospitality, and Council thanked them for coming.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Gallagher

City Clerk