



MINUTES OF GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION, held Monday, July 30, 2001, for the purpose of discussing redistricting and the status of the Council Action Requests Report.

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 8:05 PM. It was held in the Council Room of the Municipal Building

PRESENT were Mayor Judith F. Davis, Edward Putens, Rodney Roberts and Thomas X. White.

ALSO PRESENT were Michael McLaughlin, City Manager; David Moran, Assistant to the City Manager; Sheldon Goldberg; Jim Inzeo; Pat Unger; Amy Boyes of the Gazette; Kelly Benham, Capital News Service; and Judy Bell, Greenbelt News Review.

Redistricting: Mr. Moran briefed Council on the status of the County and the State in submitting plans for redistricting Prince George's County based on the 2000 Census. Changes can only be made by moving precincts, they cannot change existing precincts. For County Councilmatic purposes, two existing districts need to gain population (2 and 5), while three need to lose population (4, 6 and 9), based on the calculated average for a district.

There was a good deal of discussion about proposals that have been suggested to balance the districts and how Greenbelt might be impacted. It was noted there are two plans being considered that have been developed by the County's redistricting commission. It is believed there are more in the works. Of the two plans that are available, no precincts that include Greenbelt citizens are moved from the City's current Council district.

The commission will meet to review various plans on August 22 and is expected to hold a public hearing on August 28. It was noted that Council may want to reschedule its August 22 work session to enable Council to attend the presentation.

There was interest expressed in asking the Board of Elections to redraw some of the precinct lines. For example, redrawing the lines would allow Greenbelt Park and Greenbelt Metro Station to be added to one of the populated Greenbelt districts.

Council then undertook a consideration of the State redistricting process. It was noted that the City's district (23rd) had more population than the calculated amount each district should have. Staff noted that Senator Green had advised that the County House delegation had approved a plan last week that would move precincts 21-8 (Springhill Lake) and 21-10 from the 23rd district.

There was agreement to send a letter to the House delegation asking that Greenbelt be kept whole, meaning 21-8 not be moved from the 23rd district and to add redistricting to the August 13 agenda for discussion purposes.

Review of Council Action Requests: Mr. McLaughlin started at the end of the report and provided Council with the status of each item. Lady Tripp was present and raised questions about several of the CAR items. Council reviewed each item with the City Manager.

Respectfully Submitted,

David E. Moran

Assistant to the City Manager