



**REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL HELD
MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1999**

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 8:18 p.m.

ROLL CALL was answered by Edward V.J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts, Alan Turnbull, Thomas X. White and by Judith F. Davis, Mayor.

ALSO PRESENT were Michael P. McLaughlin, City Manager; Robert Manzi, City Solicitor; W. Bowman Ferguson, Senior Management Analyst and David E. Moran, City Clerk.

Mayor Davis observed a moment of silence for Marga Rath, Dillard Spratt, Leonard Zigmund, Ruth Elmendorf, Howard Kash, George Townsend and Marie Kistler. Then, she led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

CONSENT AGENDA: Mr. White requested the Arts Advisory report be removed. With that change, Mr. Putens moved approval of the consent agenda. Mr. White seconded. The motion passed 5 to 0.

COUNCIL THEREBY TOOK THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:

MINUTES:

- Interview, November 22, 1999
- Regular Meeting, November 22, 1999

Approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Community Relations Advisory Board Report: Council accepted this report and agreed to address the matter later on the agenda.

Park and Recreation Advisory Board Report #99-5: Council accepted this report and staff noted it would present a recommendation on this issue at the second Council meeting in January.

Advisory Committee on Education Report #2-99: Council accepted this report and agreed to consider this matter with the FY 2001 budget.

APPROVAL OF GRANT APPLICATIONS - GREENBELT CARES: Council formerly authorized the submittal of these proposals

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mr. White moved that the agenda be approved. Mr. Putens seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS:

Dr. Iris T. Metts, Superintendent of Schools: Dr. Iris Metts, the new Superintendent of Schools for Prince George's County, made a brief presentation. A reception in her honor had been held prior to this meeting.

Dr. Metts noted that Eleanor Roosevelt High School has been recognized by the White House as one of the top schools in the Country. She reported on the "Talent Search" program at Johns Hopkins University which would recognize gifted students.

Dr. Metts distributed a handout identifying the staff reorganization and some budgetary information. She indicated that there were many excellent recommendations in the Management Oversight Report, but also noted that several significant items were left out.

Dr. Metts stated that additional financial support was needed and that it was difficult to attract and retain teachers. She thanked the City for inviting her and hosting the reception.

Mayor Davis thanked Dr. Metts and noted that Council and ACE would meet with her at a later date. Council thanked Dr. Metts for coming out and encouraged her to continue the good work.

Police Youth Academy Program: James Craze, Chief of Police, announced a new Youth Police Academy program to begin in the Spring. He also noted that Cpl. David Buerger had been asked to serve on the Board of Directors for the National Association of School Resource Officers.

Corporal David Buerger and MPO Marty Parker, the city's School Resource Officers, provided an overview of the Youth Academy program planned for Eleanor Roosevelt beginning in January. The 16 week program will provide education about law enforcement procedures and techniques.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS: There were no petitions or requests presented.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: Mr. McLaughlin referenced the PGCMA Legislative Dinner on January 6. He also noted that Sarah Schaeffer was leaving city service to take a position with the Bethesda YMCA.

Mayor Davis noted the NLC conference in Los Angeles. Mr. White reported that the Advisory Council was working on a report entitled "Racism in America" which was released at the conference. He noted a number of sessions on involving youth in local government. Mr. Putens also noted that the conference was very interesting. He referenced taxation on the internet and also use of colored tire treads by gangs as two important issues raised. Mayor Davis noted the benefits of talking to other Mayors and municipal officials.

Mr. Turnbull reported on a forum convened by James Henderson, the City's School Board representative, held at Duval High School. He also reported on a visit by Senators Sarbanes and Mikulski to Hyattsville regarding the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area.

Mayor Davis reported on the Y2K readiness meeting and also testimony before a State legislative committee. She noted a COG meeting on "best practices for a livable region" She thanked Recreation and Public Works for their efforts to decorate the City.

Mayor Davis noted that this was Bo. Ferguson's last Council meeting. She presented Mr. Ferguson with a City Watch. Mr. Ferguson expressed his gratitude to the citizens and the Council.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Arts Advisory Board Report #99-3: Mr. Putens moved that Council accept this report and schedule a work session on this matter. Mr. Turnbull seconded. The motion passed 5 to 0.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 12, "PARKS AND RECREATION", BY ADDING A NEW ARTICLE VII, "TREES" : Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Mr. White asked if the Park and Recreation Advisory Board and the Recycling and Environment Advisory Committee would have time to review the ordinance. Mr. McLaughlin responded yes. Mr. White also asked about what was in it for the City. Mr. McLaughlin responded that the City would get the designation and place tree city signs in the City.

Mr. Turnbull noted it was good to codify the city's practices since individual staff members change.

Mr. Roberts expressed concern about removal of stumps in conjunction with Mr. Phelan's practice of leaving trunks for wildlife habitat.

Mr. Putens raised questions about the mulching of trees. Mr. McLaughlin responded that the City mulches trees three years or younger. Mr. Putens encouraged review by APB or GEAC. Mr. White expressed discomfort with the process the City was using suggested the City refer the ordinance first and not introduce the ordinance at this meeting.

Mr. Roberts expressed concern about the section on "interference with the city."

Mr. White did not understand why Greenbelt coveted this designation. He was not thrilled about the ordinance and did not want the City to be taking actions because the code required it.

Mr. McLaughlin responded that in general the City tries to solve problems without using the hammer of the Code.

Mr. Putens wanted the ordinance to allow landscaping contractors to prune.

Mr. Turnbull suggested that the City refer the ordinance and move on.

Mr. Putens moved that Council refer the ordinance to the Park and Recreation Advisory Board, the Recycling and Environment Committee, the Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition, Greenbelt Homes Inc. and Springhill Lake. Mr. Turnbull seconded. Several Council members suggested using existing committees or representatives instead of a new tree committee. The motion passed 5 to 0.

A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE TO DESIGN AND IMPLEMENT A PROGRAM TO CELEBRATE THE MILLENNIUM YEAR IN GREENBELT

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Kevin Hammett, Chair of CRAB, explained the program to Council.

Mayor Davis asked if there was a reason the Labor Day Festival Committee wasn't included.

Mr. White asked if there was a cost. Mr. Ferguson responded that a cost was not anticipated. Mr. White asked about a staff liaison. Mr. Ferguson responded it would likely be Recreation member.

Mr. Putens introduced the above titled resolution amended to include the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Committee for first reading and Council directed staff to proceed with applying for designation as an official participant in the Millennium Communities program.

SELECTION OF FIRE DEPARTMENT CONTRACTOR: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Jay Remenick, President of GVFD, summarized the history of the renovation project. He indicated that his request was for an additional \$30,000 rather than the \$20,000 recommended by staff.

Mr. Roberts moved that Council approve GVFD's selection of Edmar Construction at a cost of \$150,602 in accordance with Edmar's proposal of December 2, 1999. He further moved the approval of up to \$30,000 for furnishings, window treatments, and any changes to the contract. Mr. Putens seconded. The motion passed 5 to 0.

AWARD OF CONTRACT - DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS ADDITION: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Mr. White asked about timeline. Mr. Hall indicated that he hoped the Phase 1 would be completed by the end of February.

Mr. Putens moved that Council approve the selection of Scott Grice Architects to perform design services for the renovation and addition to the Public Works Administration Building in accord with its proposal of September 1 revised at a cost of \$53,000. Mr. White seconded. The motion passed 5 to 0.

AWARD OF BID - GREENBELT LAKE WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PHASE IV:
Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Mr. White asked about the fire department project. Ms. Hruby responded that staff believed the project could be performed in-house or redesigned to reduce the cost.

Mr. Roberts asked for an explanation of the fire department project. Ms. Hruby explained the details of the proposal. Mr. Roberts expressed concern about taking \$12,000 from traffic calming.

Mr. White moved the city award the bid for Greenbelt Lake Water Quality Improvements, Phase IV as amended to exclude the Fire Station Level Spreader, to the low bidder, Environmental Quality Resources Inc., for a base contract sum of \$133,585.50 and contingency items not to exceed \$3,600. Staff further recommends City Council authorize the transfer of \$12,000 from the traffic calming CIP account to the Greenbelt Lake Water Quality Improvements, Phase IV project. Mr. Putens seconded. The motion passed 5 to 0.

Mr. White reported on concerns expressed by residents about water quality projects at the Lake. He suggested that staff develop a fact sheet on the city's program for water quality improvements.

Mr. Turnbull asked Ms. Hruby to comments on cost effective options for the fire station situation. Ms. Hruby indicated that GPI was evaluating the situation.

AWARD OF CONTRACT - VITETTA ARCHITECTS - GREENBELT COMMUNITY CENTER WINDOW PROJECT: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Mr. White moved that Council authorize the City Manager to sign the December 6, 1999 proposal from Vitetta to develop a methodology to refurbish the Community Center windows. Mr. Roberts seconded. The motion passed 5 to 0.

COMPENSATION ISSUE: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Mr. McLaughlin explained the proposal to Council.

Mr. Roberts moved the staff proposal to compensate non-longevity employees two (2) percent of their salary, if they receive a Satisfactory evaluation. They will continue to be eligible for the Performance Bonus of up to 2% of salary. This recommendation is to be retroactive to July 1, 1998. Mr. Putens seconded. The motion passed 5 to 0.

STATE LEGISLATION: Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Mr. White moved that Council advise Rockville that Greenbelt is interested in the sediment control plan review legislation. Mr. Putens seconded. The motion passed 5 to 0.

MEETINGS: Council scheduled a work session on the Artist in Residence Program for January 27. Council scheduled a work session on Planning and Zoning strategy for February 2 and a stakeholder work session on February 9.

Mr. White asked if Council could have an executive session on Sector Plan strategy. Mr. Manzi responded he would investigate State Law.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Putens moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. White seconded. The motion carried 5 to 0. Mayor Davis adjourned the regular meeting of December 13, 1999, at 11:25p.m

Respectfully Submitted,

David E. Moran, CMC

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 December 13, 1999."

Judith F. Davis

Mayor