



MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
held Thursday, November 12, 1998 for the purpose of meeting with
representatives of the Maryland National Guard

The meeting began at 8:04 p.m. It was held in the Council Room of the Municipal Building.

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

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Michael P. McLaughlin, City Manager and David E. Moran, City Clerk

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Colonel Jim Adkins, Maryland National Guard; Colonel Creed Martins, Maryland National Guard and Max Azizi, State Highway Administration and Al Gieger, News Review

Colonel Adkins began by summarizing the current activities at the Greenbelt Armory. He noted they were planning to put a new roof on the Armory. Col. Adkins indicated that the former airport limo building would be used as office space for a burial detail to provide military honors at burials. He noted that SHA wanted to use the parking lot as a park and ride facility.

Col. Adkins summarized the process for disposing of surplus property. He noted that State agencies have first access to the property and then local governments. Col. Adkins agreed to provide a copy of a report listing available surplus properties and suggested that the city send a letter of interest in the property.

Col. Martins indicated that the Guard could provide support for events and activities. Council suggested that the Guard be involved in the City's Public Safety Advisory Committee. Mr. Roberts asked if the provided burial honors for all branches of service. Col. Martins indicated they provided honors for all branches. Mr. Putens expressed support for the honors program.

Mr. Turnbull asked about the mission of the guard unit and possible support for community projects and activities. Col. Adkins responded that Greenbelt's unit was mostly infantry and as such probably couldn't contribute much. Col. Adkins asked if the city wanted to beautify the entrance area on guard property. Council asked Mr. McLaughlin to see if the city horticulturalist could work on landscaping.

Mayor Davis asked about plans to renovate the former BWI building. Col Adkins stated they were anxious to get a presence in the building, but there were no major renovation plans.

Next, Mr. Azizi described plans to convert the lot into a park & ride lot. He indicated they planned to resurface the lot and would use the lot for at least 5 years. Mr. Roberts asked if there were landscaping plans for the park & ride lot. Mr. Azizi noted there were no current landscaping plans. Mr. Azizi suggested that the city contact Mr. Watkins about landscaping at the site. Mr. Turnbull suggested that the city push hard to get some better landscaping at the lot, even if the city had to use some of its resources.

Mayor Davis raised the issue of telecommuting. Col. Adkins indicated that the guard was involved in telecommuting all over the State. He indicated he could put the city in touch with their distance learning personnel.

Mayor Davis agreed to include the Guard in future meetings. Mr. Turnbull suggested that the guard consider the City's Aquatic and Fitness Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

David E. Moran

City Clerk