

Volume 31, Number 48

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Thursday, October 17, 1968

Liberalization of Painting Policies For GHI Homes Voted by Board

by Al Skolnik

A new exterior painting policy to go into effect immediately as an interm measure was adopted by a nearly-unanimous board of directors of Greenbelt Homes, Inc., at its October 10 meeting, but only after a series of key votes which divided the board. While the board was not specific, its action apparently could be reversed or revised after the membership expresses its views at an open meeting scheduled in the future to consider all changes in regulations.

The new regulations, among other things, will permit members of brick or masonry homes to paint individual colors (frame home members would have to agree on colors in groups of twos or threes). No longer will it be necessary to get an entire court to agree to a painting pattern. A majority of a court will now suffice. Management will attempt to arbitrate cases where members don't agree on color patterns. The number of choices of color will also be increased, but the colors chosen must be compatiole with the allowable trim colors.

One key vote concerned the option given brick home members to paint different colors. Director John O'Reilly felt that the proposal was too liberal and director Norman Weyel said it created too much of a "hodge-podge." The board had also received petitions opposing the individual painting. Director Katherine Keene disagreed, arguing that the homes would be more attractive under a liberal painting policy.

The vote was 5-3 with Keene, Nat Shinderman, Douglas Hawes, Jim Smith, and Steve Polaschik in favor of individual colors and O'-Reilly, Weyel, and Josephine Seay opposed.

Another key vote concerned the proposal to put the regulations into effect immediately. Shinderman, the sponsor of the motion, argued that many members have been held up long enough in their painting plans by the delay of the board to act. The new regulations had been in the works for two years. Shinderman's motion was passed, also by a 5-3 vote. with the minority this time consisting of O'Reilly, Seay, and Smith. O'Reilly asked for a mail referendum but received no support from the board. O'Reilly was also in the minority on the final 7-1 vote, adopting the new painting regulations.

Hike in Pay Scales

A dramatic break-through on the maintenance problem was urged by the Personnel Committee through adoption of a 20 percent increase in hourly wage rates. At present, out of an authorized maintenance staff of 40, GHI has 18 vacancies. To fill these vacancies, Personnel Committee Chairman Nat Shinderman said that GHI has to compete not only with Federal Government scales but also those prevailing in Prince Georges County for like jobs. The present GHI scale is comparable to that of the Federal Government but is much lower than that of private industry in the county. The cost of this increase would be \$50,000 annually. The Personnel Committee also recommended a 4 to 6 percent increase in administrative and clerical salaries to correspond with Federal Government scales. This increase would cost \$5,500 annually. A vote on these proposals was held over until the next meeting to give the board more opportunity to study them. The board did take action to increase the hourly scale 10 percent for part-time sales personnel.

Planning Commission, which has the item scheduled for an Oct. 23 meeting. The builder, J. R. Lawrence, is ready to go as soon as plans are approved and contracts and loan papers are signed. Work will proceed through the winter.

Two GHI employees, Raymond Bladen and Ernest DeGagne, were given meritorious awards. Mrs. Joan Freeman will also be given a letter of commendation for her performance as secretary to the GHI manager.

WHAT GOES ON

- Saturday, Oct. 19, 9 a.m. 4 p.m. Special Registration, City Offices
- Monday, October 21, 8 p.m. City Council, Municipal Building.
- Wednesday, October 23, 8:30 p.m. Greenbelt Democratic Club, Multi-purpose room, Youth Center

Thursday, Oct. 24, 7:45 p.m. GHI Board meets, Hamilton Place.

W. Bockmiller Named **To Recreation Post**

The long-vacant post of Assistant Recreation Director for the city has been filled with the appointment of Walter Bockmiller, a former Anne Arundel County recreation official. He started his new assignment on Oct. 14.

Bockmiller will be a full-time employee responsible for direction of Youth Center activities. Although, to some extent, his schedule will overlap that of the Recreation Director, Bockmiller will primarily work during evening hours. He is currently working also toward a Master's degree in recreation at the University of Maryland.

Bockmiller brings to the post a variety of experiences in the field of recreation. He leaves the position as Park Superintendent of the Lake Waterford County Park, a recreational programming j o b. Previously he has been director of day camps, playgrounds and a teen center, and has worked in various athletic organizations. He also taught elementary school physical education for two years. Recently selected the outstanding first-year Jaycee for 1968 for the state of Maryland, Bockmiller is married to a teacher in Anne Arundel County.

AGENDA **REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL**

Monday October 21, 1968

- I. ORGANIZATION
- 1 Call to Order
- 2 Roll Call
- 3 Lord's Prayer Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
- 4 Frank Lastner Eulogy 5 Minutes of Regular Meeting 10/7/68
- 6 Additions to the Agenda by Councilmen and Manager
- II. COMMUNICATIONS 7 Petitions and Requests 8 Administrative Reports 9 Committee Reports
- III. OLD BUSINESS 10 Appointments to Boards
- 11 Perimeter Road 12 Bid Award - Addition to Fire House
- IV. NEW BUSINESS 13 Appointment of Election Workers

Referendum Registration

14 State Legislation

WANT TO VOTE AT THE NO-EMBER 26, REFERENDUM ON THE \$950,000 BOND ISSUE? In order for you to vote your name must be on the City voter registers. Now is the time to check with the City Clerk's office to be sure you are properly registered to vote in City elections. The City Election Registers will close Oct. 28, thirty days prior to the Nov. 26, special referendum election. You may register any week day - Monday thru Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the office of the City Clerk For your added convenience, there will be a SPECIAL VOTER REG-ISTRATION held on Sat., Oct. 19, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the city offices.

This registration should not be confused with registration for any Presidential, State or County election registration. A list of registered voters will be posted at the City Offices after Oct. 14. If you voted in the 1965 and 1967 elections for City Council, you are qualified to vote at the referendum and need not register again. If you are not certain you are registered please call 474-8000 and the Clerk will check the registration list for you.

GHI Members Get Run-down On Costs of Improvements

by Dave Lange

The Greenbelt Homes, Inc., board of directors unveiled a capital improvements and major maintenance plan at an informal membership meeting on Wednesday, October 9. The presentation by several board members included a broad survey of the entire problem of the aging homes.

Charles Schwan, GHI President, introduced the subject by making three points: (1) the homes are 25 and 30 years old and naturally there has been some wear beyond what would be repaired by routine maintenance; (2) GHI has had great difficulty in hiring and keeping maintenance personnel and this has hurt the routine maintenance programs; and (3) while monthly charges have included amounts for reserves, they have never been intended to be high enough to accumulate reserves which were sufficient for full replacement or restoration of the homes. He also noted that the Board had already started some major programs: renovation of the steam boilers,

City Notes

Because grading for the tennis courts was not completed until Saturday, October 12, paving for the court - a three-stage process had to be postponed until this week. In addition, the gravel and cinders which were laid down as base needed further time to dry out after the heavy rain of the preceding weekend. Three separate days will be needed for the paving process, since each of the three coats will require about a day to dry before the next coat is applied. Following the paving, the Public Works crew will paint lines to mark off the courts and will erect fencing around the whole area.

Hans Jorgensen, director of the parks crew, has ordered about 700 trees to be planted over the winter. These include flowering crabapples, crepe myrtles, and willow oaks. Some of the trees will be purchased by Boxwood citizens for planting in their area; others will be bought by Springhill Lake. (The city plants trees free adjacent to the curbing of streets.) In addition, the city plans to landscape Edmonston Rd, along the Beltway with more plantings of trees.

The Parks crew kept busy this week with routine maintenance around the lake. They also applied a weed killer over the surface of the tennis courts and removed trees at the lakeshore in connection with operation of the drag line in the bay area.

Number of Multi-Bedroom **Apartments Restricted**

A new ordinance, restricting the number of multi-bedroom units than can be built in new apartment complexes in Prince Georges Counreplacement of hot water and heat return lines, and replacement of the flat roofs.

Director Jim Smith described the work which needs to be done and the associated costs. For the brick homes, annual costs of upwards to \$100,000 per year were projected, including \$63,500 for reroofing program, \$15,000 for casement windows, and \$15,000 for gutters and sidewalks. For the frame homes, capital improvement costs of about \$180,000 per year were projected, the major items being renovated steam boilers and water lines (\$60,000), porches and (\$45,000), exterior doors roofs (\$22,500), trash closet doors windows and (\$10,000), sills (\$20,000), and gutters and sidewalks (\$24,500).

Director Norman Weyel summarized other expected increases in GHI expenses so the members could have a better idea of what their total monthly charges will be next year. He noted that GHI must increase the salaries of the maintenance department in order to hire men to fill its vacancies. He stated that 17 of the 40 jobs in the department are vacant! An estimated \$50,000 is needed to pay for the salary increases for all 40 jobs. The cost per member will be about three dollars per month.

Also, additional personnel will be needed to supervise companies which would be hired to perform most of the capital improvement work. It was pointed out that while contract work is initially more expensive than doing the work with regular personnel, the work is completed sooner which avoids increasing labor and material costs. The annual increase was estimated at 5%.

The city has already increased the trash collection charges 50c a month per unit. GHI is currently absorbing this cost and it will have to be passed on to the members next year. Another anticipated item is a result of the county property reassessment and an expected tax rate increase.

Financing

GHI Treasurer John O'Reilly spoke of the current reserve picture and alternative methods of financing the capital improvement He mentioned severe program. ones such as jumping the monthly charges about 15 dollars per unit or refinancing the mortgage and more feasible one of obtaining the money through an unsecured bank loan.

In closing, Charles Schwan stated several reasons why it is desirable to proceed with the program at this time. He observed that everything wears out, though this fact is disguised by inflation. The homes still have many years of useful life if they are properly maintained. He supported a policy of acquisition of those units needing replacement and a program of building to meet the needs of the families whose homes had been acquired. Mr. Schwan noted that GHI's mortgage and each member's contract requires that the homes be kept in a state of good repair. Also, there are many members who will not be able to afford any new units due to small or fixed incomes.

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Other Matters

The board learned that the plans for the 25 larger townhouses are now being reviewed by the Maryland National Capital Park and

Goldstein to Speak to Greenbelt Democrats

The Greenbelt Democrats will meet on Wednesday, October 23, at 8:30 p.m. at the Multi-purpose room of the Youth Center.

Speakers for the evening will be Louis L. Goldstein, Comptroller for the State of Maryland, and Robert Klein, speech writer for Vice-President Humphrey.

All interested persons are invited to attend.

HHH Coming

Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey will be at Iverson Mall at noon, Saturday, October 19. A caravan will leave from Greenbelt and Springhill Lake at 11 a.m. For further information, call SHL, 474-3392, 474-6998, 474-6666.

Remember, it takes only a minute to call and see if you are registered, and only a few minutes to register, if you are not, by stopping in at the Office of the City Clerk.

Senator Hatfield to Speak

Prince Georges The County Young Republicans will feature Senator Mark Hatfield of Oregon as their guest speaker at 8 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 17, at the Hampshire Motor Inn on New Hampshire Ave. Sen. Hatfield, one of the most outspoken critics of the Viet Nam war, will be introduced by Congressman Charles "Mac" Mathias, who is currently running for the U.S. Senate,

The public is cordially invited. For further information please call 474-6666 or 474-8147.

ty, has been enacted by the county commissioners. It will apply to zoning classifications R-30, R-18, RH, and R-10.

The ordinance, intended to avoid increasing the density of heavily populated neighborhoods, specifies that no more than 40 percent of the apartments in a complex can have two bedrooms, and no more than 10 percent can have three or more bedrooms. If the complex has no three-bedroom units, the percentage of two-bedroom units can be raised to 50. All other units must have no more than one bedroom,

The commissioners allowed for "special exceptions" for contractors wanting to build luxury apartment buildings with many bedrooms, however. Contractors wishing to build units with more bedrooms than allowed by the ordinance can petition the commission for permission.

The new ruling also changed the percentage of "green area" lawns and recreation area, from 55 percent to 60 percent of the net lot area of the complex.

Discussion

The active discussion after the presentation made up for the relatively small number of members attending. Several questions prompted the following responses: the maintenance charges for the frame and brick units are budgeted separately; the board of directors cannot increase monthly charges more than 10% without approval of the members; GHI cannot acquire or replace a unit unless the owner himself decides to sell it; and the mortgage cannot be refinanced until 1977 without the permission of each member.

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GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER Editor: Mary Smith. 474-6314 STAFF Sandra Barnes, Virginia Beauchamp, Judy Craine, Rita Fisher, Vic Fishe, Judy Goldstein, Bess Halperin, Bernice Kastner, Sid Kastner, Martha Kaufman, Charles T. McDonald, Virginia Moryadas, Joan Okin, Pauline Pritzker, Al Skolnik, Elaine Skolnik, Audrey Stern, David P. Stern Dorothy Sucher, Mary Louise Williamson. Husiness Manageri Adele Mund. Circulation Manageri Delores Downs, 474-4653, and Mrs. Rena Friedman, 474-5218 (Springhill Lake). Published every Thursday by Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Assa., Inc. BOARD OF DIRECTORS Pres, A. Skolnik: Vice Pres, Virginia Beauchamp; Secy., Sid Kastner; Treas, David Stern and Sandra Barnes. MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$500 per year. Advertising and news articles may be mailed (Box 68, Greenbelt); deposited in our box at the Twin Pines office; or delivered to the editorial office in the basement of 15 Park-way (Git 4-41314), open after 8:40 p.m. Tuesday, Deadime to 8:40 p.m.

Volume 31, Number 48

Inconsistent Taxation

To the Editor:

According to the report in "News Review" on City Council's October I, meeting, two separate provisions dealing with parkland improvements were approved, each with an entirely different method of taxation.

The Center Mall (part of the Municipal Park system) improvement authorization provides for "Special Benefit Taxation" to the commercial and professional buildings adjacent to the Center Mall, while the "Capital Improvement Bond Issue" authorization provides for "general taxation" of all the property within the corporate limits of Greenbelt, including the property around the Center Mall. The bond issue not only provides for funds to acquire and develop additional parkland, but even to construct a recreation facility in the Springhill Lake Community Center (privately owned property).

City Council should be aware that the Center Mall is not a commercial center but a community center, dedicated to the City by the Federal Government for parkland and municipal purposes and, as such, it becomes the responsibility of the City to maintain and improve that area from general taxation.

A few years ago, in a case before the County Liquor Board, the City of Greenbelt took the position against an applicant for a liquor license that the Center Mall area was all part of the Greenbelt Community Center parkland. T h e Court sustained the refusal to grant the liquor license basing its decision for denial on the plea of the City that the Mall area was indeed parkland as part of the whole Community Center. Now, for the present City Council to take this opposite view by such inconsistent methods of taxation, will not only furnish the commercial and professional property owners with reasons for resisting efforts to enforce such "Special Benefit Taxation" but will also jeopardize the sale of the proposed

Thursday, October 17, 1968

Charles T. McDonald

North End School Sponsors Carnival

new bond issue.

The North End Elementary School is sponsoring a carnival on Friday evening, October 25, from 7 to 9 p.m.

Booths of games, books, baked items and refreshments will be featured at this event. The community is invited to participate.

Baptists Celebrate Two Anniversaries

On Sunday, October 20, Greenbelt Baptist Church will observe its fifteenth anniversary as a congregation and the seventh anniversary of Pastor and Mrs. S. Jasper Morris being with the church. The pastor will bring a special anniversary message at the 11 o'clock service.

Following the service, members and their guests will share in the anniversary dinner.

The day will close with a special evangelistic service at 7 p.m. Former members and friends are cordially invited to join the Greenbelt Baptist congregation in this special day of celebration.

The Police Blotter

Chief Lane, of the Greenbelt Police Dept., wishes to emphasize that radar is now in effect on residential streets in Greenbelt. On Oct. 14 alone 20 tickets were issued to motorists going over 40 mph. The average speed along some residential streets was found to be 42 mph in 25 mph zones. The police will start issuing summonses shortly. Twenty warnings were given out last week and over 80 this week.

Chief Lane called attention to an error in a previous article concerning the description of the holdup man who robbed the Co-op store. His weight was estimated at 150 lbs, and his height at between 5'2" and 5'5".

SISTERHOOD MEETING

The Sisterhood of Mishkan Torah (JCC) will meet on Tuesday, October 22, at 8:30 p.m. An original political satire featuring Michael Garin, Ricky Colby and Greg Lomax will be presented. The Sisterhood will hold a fabric

sale on November 3 and 4.

Warren-Wade

Mrs. Geneva Bray, 9158 Springhill Court, announces the marriage of her daughter Shirley Louise Warren to Larry Clinton Wade, son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Clinton Wade of Bethesda, Md. The bride is also the daughter of LeRoy R. Warren of Beltsville, The ceremony will take place October 19 in Clifton Park Baptist Church in Silver Spring. The couple will live in Greenbelt.

Pastor Mohler Speaks

The Reverend Hallock N. Mohler will be the guest speaker at the Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church this Sunday evening, October 20, at 6:30 p.m. He will speak immediately following a family pot-luck supper to which the community is invited. All persons attending are asked to bring a covered dish and eating utensils. A Methodist missionary on furlough following five years of service as pastor of the American Methodist Church, Brussels, Mr. Mohler will speak on the topic, "Americans Overseas: A Resource

Greenbelt Community Church

Thursday, October 17, 1968

(United Church of Christ) Hillside & Crescent Roads

Fri: 4:00 p.m. - Confirmation Class - grade 9.

Sun: 9:30 a.m. - Church School Classes for Grades 5 and 6, Fellowship Center.

Adult Bible Class, Church Sanctuary.

10:45 a.m. - Morning Worship Service with the Rev. David J. Loomis, Chaplain from the University of Maryland, as guest minister.

Church School Classes: Child Care, 2-B Hillside. Kindergar-ten (age 4 and 5), Fellowship Center, Primary (grade 1 thru 4), Social Hall.

Mon: 8:00 p.m. - Christmas Planning Committee.

Wed: 9:30 a.m. - Mothers Morning Discussion Group, Social Hall. Child Care - 2-B Hillside.



City Manager Explains **Bond Issue Proposal**

(This is the first of a series of weekly articles to discuss the various aspects of the City's \$950,000 bond issue proposal to provide funds for capital improvements. Specific questions which you have will be answered if submitted to the City Manager's Office.)

\$950,000 is a lot of money. With it the City can undertake a number of major capital projects-not all it would like, perhaps, but enough to keep the Council, advisory boards, administrative personnel and City departments very busy for the next several years developing plans, preparing contracts, and undertaking the work of construction as well as negotiating the major purchases authorized. When finished the City will not necessarily be in perfect condition, it may not have every facility it needs to serve its ultimate population of 40,000 or more, but it will be substantially closer to these goals than it is now.

registered you can do so by visiting the City Clerk's office at the Municipal Building between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. weekdays before October 28, 1968. A special registration at the Municipal Building will be held on Saturday, October 19, 1968, from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. If you are not certain whether or not you are registered you can find out by calling the City Office (Phone: 474-8000).

Proposed Improvements

The bond issue authorizes the expenditure of funds for a variety of projects and purchases. These projects fall into eight general categories which are listed below with the tentative budgets for each category.

But \$950,000 is a lot of money for you as taxpayers to spend even though, when distributed among all taxpayers, the individual share is rather small. Careful consideration on your part is warranted, therefore, to determine if the proposal should receive your approval. It is the purpose of this article and those which will appear in future issues of the News Review to provide you with full information concerning the proposal so that you can make a sound judgment.

Registration for Referendum

Your decision is important. On November 26 a referendum will be held on the question of approving the bond issue. Only a majority of the registered electors voting on this question can authorize the bonds. If you are registered with the City Clerk you will be eligible to vote at the referendum. If you are not

Park Land Acquisition	\$402,000
Park Land Development	\$ 68,000
Youth Center Addition	\$150,000
Springhill Lake Recreation Building	\$ 60,000
Road Construction	\$170,000
Right-of-Way Acquisition	\$ 45,000
Fire Department Addition	\$ 55,000
City Office Building Addition	None*

*Because there is a possibility of City costs , for some of the categories being reduced due to receipt of Federal funds, surplus funds may be available to undertake this project.

In future articles these projects will be discussed in more detail as well as the cost to the City and to the taxpayer of funding the bond issue.

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Mary Jane Kinzer, Broker

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GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

Jaycees Repeat Blue Chip Award

Gregory P. White, President of the Greenbelt Jaycees, received the chapter's second consecutive "Blue-Chip" award at a meeting of all Maryland Jaycees in Cumberland this past weekend. Greenbelt's first "Blue-Chip" award was won under the leadership of Harold A. Siegel, now an associate member of

The award, sponsored by Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Co., recognizes outstanding chapters in the United States for the past fiscal year. Greenbelt was one of 45 chapters in Maryland to receive the a-

The Greenbelt Jaycees cordially invite the public to its meetings held the third Thursday of each month at the Co-op hospitality room. The 8 p.m. meetings feature current topics of significance to

finishing of the floor. We are sorry to inconvenience roller skaters and basketball and volley ball enthusiasts. Work will be finished on Friday, and the floor will dry Saturday and Sunday. The normal program schedule will resume Sunday evening with Open



tice, which were given to students

The student council is sponsor-

ing an eighth grade trip to Wil-

liamsburg on November 9 & 10.

A new feature of this eleventh

annual tour is the new Williams-

In addition, the student council

is also sponsoring a "GET AC-

QUAINTED DANCE" on October

25 from eight to eleven o'clock.

The dance attire is coats and ties

for boys, and good school clothes

burg National Wax Museum.

last week.

for girls.

Junior Highlights

by Santa Di LaLavore Nixon - 347, Humphrey - 333, and Wallace - 222. Greenbelt Junior High is getting into the election scene this year. A presidential poll was taken on October 7th with Richard M. Nixon nosing out Hubert H. Humphrey by only 14 votes. George Wallace finished third with 222 votes.

IBM computers were used for the first time in the history of the school to print unsatisfactory no-

Sheets

With

This

Coupon

GOOD FROM OCT. 17 THRU. OCT. 23

Twin or

Double

GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

Thursday, October 17, 1968

City Council Meets With State Groups

Several important meetings are being held this week between City Council and representatives of other government agencies.

On Monday evening, October 14, Council met with State Senator Edward Conroy, who represents this district in Annapolis. Items discussed that will play an important role in Greenbelt's future were legislation aimed at getting the perimeter road and the Kenilworth Avenue-Greenbelt Road in-

Notice of Special Registration

There will be a special voter registration for City elections to be held Saturday, October 19, 1968 at the City Offices from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Register now for the November 26, 1968 Referendum on the Bond Issue. Registrations close Monday, October 28, 1968. You may also register at the City Offices during normal business hours - 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday,

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Due to numerous complaints of speeding on residential streets, the Greenbelt Police Department has purchased a

RADA

unit and will be using it throughout the City at various times of the day and night.

25 M.P.H. SPEED

on all residential streets (except State highways)

Greenbelt Police Department