

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume 34, Number 3

GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Thursday, December 10, 1970

New GHI Budget Adopted; Proposed Increase Cut 50%

by Al Skolnik

In the wake of a membership meeting that rejected an increase of more than 10 percent in operating costs for 1971, the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. board of directors adopted a substitute budget on Thursday, December 3. The revised budget calls for an increase in monthly charges of, on the average, 4.2 percent for brick home owners and 10.9 percent for frame home owners. In terms of operating costs (which exclude the mortgage payments), the increases come to 5.9 percent for the brick and 12.7 percent for the frame with an overall average of 9.9 percent. The increases will be effective January 1, 1971.

To get operating cost increases down to below 10 percent, the board was faced with the task of narrowing the gap between members' charges and expenditures by \$152,300. The original budget (Budget A) proposed by the board had called for a increase in monthly charges by \$291,800. The budget as adopted last Thursday increases the monthly charges by \$139,500 — a more than halving of the increase.

Reductions Affected

Most of the \$152,300 difference was accomplished by reducing four major expenditure items.

(1) Suspension of the trim paint program for exterior windows and doors for one year at a savings of \$50,200 (\$18,400 in brick and \$31,800 in frame). In the expectation that more members would paint their own homes as a result, the board upped the allowance for the self-help paint program by \$3,000.

(2) Other reductions in the maintenance budget by \$31,100 (\$8,700 in brick and \$22,400 in frame). This was mainly accomplished by removing the authorization for hiring three new grounds crewmen in 1971. The 6 percent pay raise for GHI employees would remain untouched.

(3) Reduction of the heating budget by \$32,200 (\$11,700 in brick and \$20,500 in frame). The board decided to leave to management the job of effecting the reduction but suggested several possibilities: cutting down the night hours when heat is supplied, setting up different seasonal periods for turning up heat, reducing the temperature point at which the heat starts up (now 65 degrees), and reducing the number of minutes in each heat cycle (the period during which heat is surging through the pipes in the homes). The system provides that the colder the weather, the longer the heat cycle. For example, at 50 degrees, the heat cycle is 19 minutes; at 40 degrees, the heat cycle is 27 minutes.

The board also authorized management to experiment with the time clocks (called Weathermen) which control the heating valves in order to produce savings in fuel oil.

(4) Reduction of \$26,200 in the amount that will be raised through monthly charges for rebuilding of reserves. The revised budget will collect \$34,300 for contingency reserves, to be divided roughly between the frame and the brick on a 2 to 1 ratio. (A small amount also goes to the larger homes.) The original budget called for \$60,500 to be collected for reserves. At present the frame home reserves for heating and contingency are completely depleted.

Other savings were effected by a reduction of \$5,700 in the administration and sales budget by eliminating increases in personnel and by reducing trash collection costs by \$5,900 through having a grounds crewman (rather than a new employee) transport the corporation's building trash to the county dump. A motion to ask the city to reduce the number of weekly trash collections from 3 to 2 died for lack of a second.

In addition, \$1,000 was lopped off the estimated costs for zoning and See BUDGET, p. 4, c. 1

WHAT GOES ON

Thurs., Dec. 10, 7:45 p.m. GHI Board Meeting, Hamilton Pl.

Fri., Dec. 11, 8:30 p.m. Duplicate Bridge, Co-op Hospital-ity Room

Wed., Dec. 16, 8:30 p.m. Greenbelt Democratic Club Meeting Municipal Building

Thurs., Dec. 17, 7:30 p.m. - North End School Christmas Program

7:30 p.m. GHI Special Meeting, Greenbelt Library

8 p.m. Christmas Concert, Greenbelt Band, Center School

Fri., Dec. 18, 8:30 p.m. Citizens Charter Slate at the Municipal Building

COUNCIL REJECTS SUBDIVISION PLAN FOR GREENBRIAR PROJECT

by Al Skolnik

Uncertainty regarding future open-space, road, and school development of the Smith-Ewing property led the Greenbelt city council at its Monday, December 7, meeting to recommend denial of the preliminary subdivision plan for the proposed Greenbriar apartment project. The project, to be developed by Alan Kay and associates, calls for construction of 1,148 luxury-type apartments on 82+ acres located at the east and west ends of the Smith-Ewing tract.

The 82 acres, which is only part of the 175-acre Smith-Ewing tract, located north of Greenbelt Road and east of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, are already zoned for R-30 apartments (14 units per acre); but the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission must approve the location and names of roads and the boundaries of land subdivided. A 70-acre triangular center of the Smith-Ewing tract, presently zoned for single-family homes, is being eyed as a site for the Greenbelt (Franklin D. Roosevelt) senior high school.

Objections

The city council concurred with the city's Advisory Planning Board Report #102 listing three major objections to the site plan.

The first objection was the absence of a provision for mandatory dedication of 10 percent of the project acreage for use as permanent public open space. According to a Prince Georges ordinance effective in April 1970, 10 percent of newly subdivided land for multi-family development and 5 percent for single-family development must be set aside for park purposes. (In small tracts of land a monetary equivalent can be substituted.)

The second objection involved the need for revision and enlargement of the existing B-W Parkway-Greenbelt Road interchange to alleviate hazards and traffic congestion. The APB and council felt that future renovation of this interchange might require land to be taken from the proposed Greenbriar development. (The project apparently calls for the area nearest the interchange to be developed first.) It was therefore recommended that approval be denied until consideration can be given to the interchange as a special study area, as proposed by the county commissioners in adopting the Greenbelt Master Plan on November 27, 1970.

The third objection involved a fear that any renovation of the interchange might close the western access to the project, thus creating another one-entrance complex in the city.

In addition, the council came up with its own reservations regarding the development of the Smith-Ewing tract while the choice of a senior high school location is still unsettled. It was also noticed that one of the proposed roads — Mandan Road — would be part of the perimeter road, yet was shown as having less than 40-foot width.

B-W Interchange

The Baltimore-Washington Parkway was also the subject of a resolution passed by council opposing

abandonment of the B-W Parkway-Greenbelt Rd. interchange. There have been reports that the interchange might be moved north to the vicinity of the Agricultural Research Center or the NASA interchange. Council felt that such a move would have serious and detrimental effects upon traffic flow through the city, since local residential streets would become feeder streets to the new interchange and carry sharply increased traffic loads.

The issue was touched off by a letter received from Congressman Larry Hogan notifying the city See GREENBRIAR, p. 3, c. 2

GHI Membership Repudiates Board's Two Budget Proposals

by Alexander Barnes

The special membership meeting of Greenbelt Homes, Inc. last Wednesday (Dec. 2) had a record turnout of between 800 and 1000. Six hundred and fifty-five voting cards were issued, with the frame homeowners outnumbering the brick about two to one. Well over a hundred people stood along the walls in the room or in the halls. Others sat on the floor. Windows could not be opened. It was hot. The crowd was tense and hostile. There was little laughter when chairman Nat Shinderman jocularly indicated that there was little question about the presence of a quorum. Then with a minimum of discussion the group by clear majorities defeated both the proposed budgets (which called for an increase of more than 10% in monthly charges). The meeting was adjourned after an hour and a half without considering the deferred payment proposal for the elderly.

The meeting started over a half-hour late because of the time it took just to get people into the gym at the Center School and issue voter cards to them. A question by the chairman as to whether he should wait until all cards were issued or proceed indicated a near unanimous feeling that he should wait. Later, when all had gotten their voting cards, the agenda was approved without dissent.

The chairman then proposed the following order of business: the board members would make presentations, followed by the report of the audit committee. There would then be a period for questions to be followed by discussion and finally, a vote.

The chair then pointed out that because of time limitations — the school had to be vacated by 11:30 — it might be wise to limit individual questions and discussion to three minutes. A motion to that effect was made, seconded and quickly passed. Then, from the audience, it was suggested that the same limit would apply to the board members. That motion, too, passed with ease.

Chairman Overruled

Thus it was that, after having discussed the highlights of the budget for three minutes, Treasurer Thomas White found a member calling "Time!" The chair ruled that the gentleman was out of order, that the time limit applied to discussion and questions, not to presentations. That ruling was appealed. The vote to overrule the chair was close. A count was called. Members began now not only to object to the ruling, but to object

to the counting of the vote to determine if the chair had been upheld.

The herd was getting ready to stampede. Two hundred six votes were counted supporting the chair. In the face of an angry sea of waving blue cards to overturn, the chair conceded defeat and discontinued the voting. The meeting had reached its climax. Only the denouement remained.

Audit Committee

The board members did their best with the time allotted, but it seemed that nobody was listening. The Audit Committee report was stoically delivered by chairman Janet James. Budget "A" was supported, she said, and commended the board specifically for the finance and landscape committee reports and for building up the reserves. Her closing comment was direct. Looking out over the large and restive crowd she said that the board had worked over this budget at several well-publicized meetings for the purpose. "Where," she asked, "were all of you?"

Discussion

The floor was opened for questions. A question about the number of employees it took to run the corporation was answered by indicating that under the government there had been 106. Now there were 60. The subsequent discussion centered on the question of heat. The fact that one of the largest reasons for raising rates was the increased cost of fuel oil was particularly irksome to a sizable proportion of the group who had had problems with being too hot. Many had also observed throughout the community the number of people who kept their windows open during the winter months because it was the only way they could keep their houses cool enough. Few seemed impressed by the manager's response that in a recent sampling of 106 members who lived at the end of the heating line 85% were satisfied with their heat. Another member cited figures which indicated that it was costing as much or more to heat the frame homes as it did to heat the larger free-standing homes in the area. The questions were coming hot and heavy, and no member of the board seemed to be willing to speak to a crowd which gave every indication of not wanting to hear the answers.

Action

During a momentary pause Jim Smith of (Greenhill Rd.) moved the adoption of budget "A." Seconds were promptly offered. Then, before anybody could speak, the question was called. The motion was overwhelmingly defeated.

Without pause a motion was made to adopt the "B" budget. In rapid succession it was seconded, the question called, and defeated by a similar margin. A subsequent motion to table was ruled to be in order and passed. This was after one member, whose enthusiasm substantially exceeded his knowledge of the by-laws, proposed limiting the corporation to less than the 10%. When told that this couldn't be done without changing those by-laws, he indicated his willingness, even an eagerness, to do so forthwith.

Since both proposed budgets had been defeated, the other item on the agenda, the proposal to defer the payment of increases for those on low fixed incomes, seemed to be moot. So without any further action the meeting, which had generated great heat about heat, and little light, was adjourned.

To GHI Members

By Monday, December 14, we expect to have in
your hands a revised GHI Budget for 1971

Your Board of Directors WANTS to know how you
feel about the revised Budget

Do you understand the revised Budget?

Do you consider it realistic?

Are you aware of the GHI tax appeal? Of its possible effect?

Are there questions and comments on other subjects
that you want to raise with the Board?

Quality of maintenance services?

Heating problems?

Maintenance of common grounds?

Level of services?

Trim painting program?

Capital improvements?

Member communications to Board?

Board communications to members?

This is Your Chance to Tell the Board

What YOU Think

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING ON THESE SUBJECTS

OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS

Thursday, December 17, at 7:30 P.M.

Greenbelt Library, lower level

GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Published every Thursday by Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Assn., Inc.

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MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$5.00 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 Parkway (474-4130), open after 8:30 p.m. Tuesday. Deadline is 9:30 p.m. on Tuesday.

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No Winners

As people stormed out of the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. special membership meeting on Wednesday, December 3, many were heard to say, "We won, didn't we?" The reference was obviously to the fact that the membership had clearly and vehemently rejected the request of the GHI board of directors for an increase in monthly charges of more than 10 percent.

We are somewhat bewildered by the use of the term "we won." In the first place, the GHI board is composed, not of absentee landlords, but of nine individual brick and frame fellow homeowners, and the increase would have affected them as well as the rest of the membership. In other words, they were not asking the membership to do something that they weren't willing to do themselves.

Secondly, the term "won" in the context used seems to us particularly ill-suited. The board had recommended certain expenditures for the coming year in order to maintain a level of services that the membership had become used to, to provide capital improvements so that the property would not deteriorate, and to restore reserves so that members' investments in their homes would be protected in case of catastrophes.

Especially critical is the position of the frame homes, which were built as defense-type housing 30 years ago and which are in the greatest need of maintenance and capital improvements if they are to be kept in good structurally sound condition.

Denial of funds for these purposes can hardly be called a victory for the membership. The only person who could possibly be declared a winner is the one who will be moving out of GHI in the next year. He will have saved himself a few dollars in monthly charges, while not having to face the future consequences of property values deteriorating because of insufficient money for maintenance.

Now there can be honest differences of opinion as to whether some of these expenditures were needed this year or could be deferred to another year, whether the work being proposed could better be left to individual responsibility, or whether the corporation was making most efficient use of present expenditures. But the defiant mood of the membership ruled out any constructive give and take exchanges on these issues. Once again the members themselves were the losers.

Ralph N. Neuman

Ralph N. Neumann, 60-H Crescent Road, died December 4, 1970, at Prince Georges General Hospital, after an extended illness. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Beret T. Neuman; a son, George, of Greenbelt; and a daughter, Mrs. James L. Fowler (Virginia), formerly of Greenbelt, now of Murfreesboro, Tennessee; seven grandchildren; and a sister, Mrs. Myrtle Spengler of Chicago, Illinois.

Mr. Neumann had been a resident of Greenbelt for almost 30 years, a member of the Greenbelt Community Church, and a member of Birmingham Lodge No. 188. After his retirement from the Interstate Commerce Commission a few years ago, he worked as a Traffic Consultant.

G'BELT HOMEMAKERS CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Extension Homemaker's Club of Greenbelt will hold its annual Christmas Party on Wednesday evening, December 16, at 8 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Faye Johnson, 4807 Ruitan Street in College Park. Each member is asked to bring along a gift that she has made.

Democratic Club To Endorse Candidates

The Greenbelt Democratic Club will endorse candidates for County Executive and County Council on Wednesday, Dec. 16 at 8:30 in the Greenbelt Municipal Building.

Endorsement of candidates is a new policy for the Democratic Club. All candidates nominated by a member will be eligible for consideration. Although voting will be limited to members in good standing, the public is invited to attend.

New officers will be sworn in by Waverly Webb, Clerk of the Circuit Court, before the endorsements. They are Tom White, President; Si Pristoop, Vice-President; Sue Lange, Secretary, and Katherine Gough, Treasurer.

North End Xmas Program

North End Elementary School will present its Christmas program on Thurs., Dec. 17 at 7:30 after a brief PTA meeting.

Baptist Church News

At the 11 a.m. worship service on December 13, Dr. Winston Crowley, Director of the Overseas Division of the Foreign Mission Board, Southern Baptist Convention, will be the pulpit guest at Greenbelt Baptist Church.

At the 7 p.m. service the Chancel Choir of the church, directed by Henry W. Hecht, will present the Christmas portion of Handel's Messiah.

Example of Rudeness

The behavior of many of the members of GHI at the special meeting on December 2 was not an example to hold up to young people. The rudeness ranged from catcalls from those from whom reasonableness is not expected, to the refusal of others to listen to the Board's explanations or to treat them with simple human dignity. To accuse them of being rascals and scoundrels because of increased costs is unreasonable. Perhaps some costs could be reduced. Those having ideas and special experience should work with the Board. Some costs are not within our control, such as taxes, the new trash removal requirement, etc.

Personally, it is strange that so many are concerned about additional charges each month and not concerned about the cooperative falling apart or gradually (maybe not so gradually) deteriorating into a slum, thus losing all or part of the investment in GHI, as well as a roof over their head.

Costs for maintenance, especially for the frame homes, will go up not down. They are out-of-date and expensive to maintain. At some time they will be prohibitively expensive to maintain — it will be cheaper to tear down and rebuild. Members who do not accept the word of the board should consult someone, knowledgeable, whose word they can accept.

The Board might help members to understand the difference between Plan A, B, and no plan by explaining what would or would not get done under each and the consequences in simple terms.

Management might cut down on costs and improve the appearance of GHI properties by better screening of prospective members to get people who take pride in themselves and their community — people who like the "green" in Greenbelt. Many members do not mow or rake their own yard, much less common areas, and allow litter to accumulate. Some allow dogs to ruin shrubs and leave excrement on the walkways. In one case dog excrement has been allowed to accumulate to the extent of creating a health hazard.

Reba E. Jones
36-M Ridge

Ordinary People

The board of directors of GHI are, after all, just ordinary people and their facts unfortunately belie their expertise. Not only is the board not gifted with the genius of the gods, but are also terribly vulnerable to their own prejudices and preferences. Thus, their formal opinions at least as often reflect their FEARS, and HOPES as their objective expert analysis. Like all men and women they dislike being wrong and so will often, particularly before and during budget hearings, indulge in verbal-intellectual contortions to vindicate themselves. Down with budget A and B and the board too.

Jim Smith
4-H Southway

I Dare You

When I first bought into Greenbelt Homes, an economist in the office where I worked said to me, "Cooperative housing could be a way to reasonable cost of housing, but there is one grave danger to it. Most cooperatives give members a veto vote over the governing body. As soon as you see the members of Greenbelt Homes are unwilling to give the governing body the money to keep the cooperative development from turning into a slum housing, you sell and get out!"

If I am to follow my economist friends' advice, it looks as if I shall have to sell and get out in order to protect my investment. This economist's further comment was to the effect that financiers look askance at cooperative housing and some will not back it because it puts too much power over valuable assets in the hands of inexperienced and irresponsible people. His wisdom was certainly justified on December 2!

All right, you who are so adept at organizing negativism, let's see whether you can turn that organizational ability to something positive. Two projects which have had to be cut in order to bring the budget down are the cycle for trim painting and landscaping and maintenance of the common areas. You organizers get busy and organize trim painting parties for your courts if they are ready for painting in the cycle. Then all of you, whether you are putting in a painting cycle or not, live near some common areas. See about picking up the litter on a regular basis, raking the leaves and putting them where the city crew can pick them up, find yourselves a court landscaping committee and GET OFF YOUR APATHY AND WORK, since you aren't willing to pay to have it done for you. (With apologies to the United Givers Fund.)

If you asked them to, I'll bet your Landscape and Environment Committee would be happy to sponsor a Court or Area contest to see which area had the best kept commons, parking areas, swales, etc. Go on, you organizers, go and organize for a constructive purpose. I dare you!

Janet M. James
1-D Plateau Pl.

Moratorium Suggested

In regard to the proposal by the G.H.I. board to subsidize members unable to pay more than their present commitment, I challenge the right of the board to put a chattel mortgage at 6% interest on these units, payable by the other members. The original 25 units has already risen to 63; next year perhaps to a hundred or more. It is impossible to gauge who should benefit by it.

I suggest we put a moratorium or freeze on the original 25 units. This will prevent the members finding themselves in the ludicrous position of paying for a built-in voting block for the board, against their vested interests.

There are State and County agencies who can deal with this problem of the aged and infirm. It is not our duty, and I regret the necessity of tabling the board's proposal. It is clearly stated that this humanitarian gesture would extend only until the mortgage is paid off — six years from now. After that it is anyone's guess. Unless you prepare now to earnestly fight to keep Greenbelt as such alive and beautiful, it will become only a memory. Martha Hutzler

Uninformed Mob Rule

The scene: Special GHI Meeting; the Time: December 2.

Aroused by a loud-speaker vehicle, belching forth propaganda, a capacity crowd of 655 members attended the meeting. It was apparent from the beginning that this mob was not in a mood to vote for anything. GHI representatives were refused time to explain the 1971 budget. They were refused time to discuss the rationale, the compromises and the bases for projected increases or decreases in the budget. Two motions to increase monthly charges by over 10% were defeated and the subject was tabled — all by an overwhelming majority vote by the uninformed mob.

In our democratic system the individual has a voice and rule is by majority. An individual also has a responsibility more important than his vote, which is to be informed and to make rational judgments based on facts. As part owner and member of a cooperative you have a special obligation to be informed on GHI affairs.

The GHI members who attended the meeting were not informed. Fact: fewer than 1% of the membership attended Board meetings this year. Fact: only two members attended Board meetings when the proposed budget was discussed. Fact: only 20 members picked up additional data on the budget from GHI or Twin Pines offices. Fact: many members were ignorant of the purpose of the special meeting and the By-laws of our corporation.

There may be some areas in the budget which can be pared down or eliminated. However, many of the items which have increased are fixed costs outside the control of you, me or the Board; these include taxes, fuel oil, trash collection and personnel salary.

As I left the meeting, I detected an air of victory among many members. What a false victory it will be if our corporation is declared bankrupt or we lack funds to purchase fuel oil, or we lack the skilled personnel to repair the boiler heating your home some cold day next December. Then we will look back and ask, "Did we do the right thing in voting down that increase?"

Maybe others, later, will look back and say of that momentous December 2 meeting, "That was the beginning of the end. That was the end of the co-op spirit, the end of rationally solving their problems together. Things just started falling apart after that meeting. Today it's just a slum!"

David Bridge

Special Voter Registration

Special voter registration will be held at the Greenbelt library on the lower level on the following dates: Friday, Dec. 11; Wednesday, Dec. 16; Thursday, Dec. 17; and Friday, Dec. 18 from 3 to 6 p.m. Also, on Saturday, Dec. 12; and Saturday, Dec. 19 from 12 to 5 p.m. and on Monday, Dec. 28, from 12 to 6 p.m. The special election to fill a county executive post and six county council seats will be held on January 26, 1971.

The city of Greenbelt will also conduct a special registration for municipal elections at the library on Saturdays, Dec. 12 and Dec. 19 from 12 to 5 p.m.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church



6905 Greenbelt Rd.

Worship Services
8:30 and 11:00 A.M.

Sunday School 9:30 A.M.

Edward H. Birner, Pastor

Phone 345-5111

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
(Mowatt Memorial) 40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, Md.
Telephone 474-9410
Rev. Clifton Cunningham, Pastor - Tel. 474-3381
Worship Service 11:00 A.M.
(Nursery through 2nd grade at 11:00)
Church School (3rd grade through adults) 9:30 A.M.

9:45 A.M. Sunday School 6:00 P.M. Training Union
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship 7:00 P.M. Evening Worship
7:30 P.M. Wednesday Midweek Service

GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH
Crescent & Greenhill Rds. S. Jasper Morris, Jr., Pastor 474-4040

The Chancel Choir
of
GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH
invites you to attend
a performance of
The Messiah
by George Frederick Handel
(Christmas Portion)

Accompanied by a string quartet from the
University of Maryland

Director: Henry W. Hecht Pianist: Mrs. S. Jasper Morris

7:00 P.M. December 13, 1970

CLASSIFIED

\$1.00 for a 10-word minimum, 5c for each additional word. Submit ads in writing, accompanied by cash payment, either to the News Review office at 45 Parkway before 10 p.m. of the Tuesday preceding publication, or to the Twin Pines Savings and Loan office. There is no charge for advertising items that are found.

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Expert antenna man will install new/repair antenna in my spare time and Sundays.

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MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS - Absolute close out, 20 to 50% off: 50 Violins, 6 Cellos, 2 String Basses, 3 Trombones, 15 piano and organ lamps, Uke a lin, 6 string Banjo Guitar, Drum-stand and cymbal sets, 3000 sheets of Century Music, was 50c now 30c. Close out on 40 Solid Body Guitars, Music and Record Cabinets, televisions, stereo's, and radios, Amplifiers. No round hole guitars, Wurlitzer or Conn organs, Story and Clark Pianos are discounted, but we will give a free bench on a cash deal. Come in and ask for our best prices on the instruments you want. This is indeed the time to save on your Musical purchases for Christmas. NO gimmicks... no nail downs... Keeney's Piano and Organ Center, 161 West St., Annapolis, Md. 263-2628 or phone GR 4-5312 or 937-7737 (Beltsville, Md.)

REDSKIN FANS. Charter bus service will be provided to all Redskin home games from the American Legion - Parking Lot. Greenbelt Road at Lakecrest Drive. Round trip \$1.50. Boarding time 11:45 a.m. Reservations 474-9731.

TRAIN SET FOR SALE: - HO gauge, complete with board, track & various accessories. Nearly new - \$75. 474-5408.

FOUND: - Eyeglasses in the vicinity of Greenhill Rd. Call 474-4034.

LOST: - Small, black female cat with white vest & booties, and thin white mustache, short fur. 345-7298.

LOST: - Felix the cat, black, grown, not used to outside world. Vicinity: Ridge Rd. near Eastway. Call 474-8951.

ELECTROLUX

Need ladies & gentlemen to represent us in this area.

Please Call 762-2151

GREENBRIAR from page 1

that ownership of the B.W. Parkway may be transferred in the near future from the Department of the Interior to the Maryland State Roads Commission, and that federal funds would be made available for improving the road and its interchanges.

The city is convinced that with further planning a safe interchange, perhaps by acquiring additional land, can be constructed at Greenbelt Road without interfering with the Beltway interchange. It decided to so advise the SRC, Department of Interior, Congressman Hogan, and the State legislative delegation.

Rename Gentry Drive

In another road matter, the council voted to recommend to MNC-PPC a change in the name of Gentry Drive to Cherrywood Lane. Gentry Drive, which runs alongside the A & P in Beltway Plaza, becomes Cherrywood Lane in the Springhill Lake section of the city, and it was thought that this change would eliminate future confusion.

Mayor White Endorsed

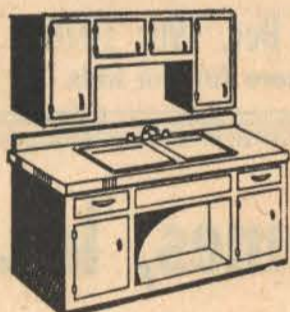
Council took advantage of the absence of Mayor Francis White to unanimously pass a resolution endorsing his candidacy for county council. Mayor Pro Tem Edgar Smith said that council's action was influenced by the fact that the January 26, 1971 election is non-partisan and that Greenbelt needs a strong voice at the county level. Some opposition to this move was expressed from the floor, on the grounds that it set an undesirable precedent (Greenbelt has a non-partisan government) and that council's action contained the implication that its endorsement was on behalf of the entire city.

In another election matter, council approved setting up a city voter registration period concurrent with those being held by the county on Saturdays, December 12 and 19, at the Greenbelt Library. Council also approved \$150 to cover expenses of the City Election Advisory Committee. The Committee is expected to come up with its revised election code in another month.

Other Action

Council approved the granting of half-holidays to city employees on Dec. 24 and 31. It also decided to take a holiday itself by scheduling its next council meeting for Monday, January 11.

Remodeling?



Complete Kitchens & Bathrooms
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The Citizens Charter Slate Candidates

County Executive: **William W. GULLETT** businessman former Mayor of College Park

1st District: **Melvyn L. MEER**

Md. U. economics professor, taxation specialist, researching tenant-landlord relations

2nd District: **William J. AVRUTIS**

NLRB attorney active in community protection zoning cases, co-author of *Project Marlboro*

3rd District: **Robert B. BENDER, Jr.**

U.S. Labor Dept. placement specialist, Model Cities Board member, co-author of County Charter

4th District: **Ronald R. REEDER**

P.G. Bd. of Ed. Supervisor of evening night school and secondary summer school, former one-room school teacher

5th District: **Thomas A. DONOVAN**

former diplomat retired in 1969 after 27 years' service, member of land use and conservation groups

At Large: **Lawyrd L. "Teddy" WILSON**

USPO official, V.P. of P.G. County Council of PTA's, 1st Pres. of School Board Nominating Convention, member of Maryland State Congress of Parents and Teachers

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Greenbelt City Council Room

Moderated by Walter J. "Mike" Maloney

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— by auth. of Margo Jansohn, treas.

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BUDGET from p. 1
related matters and a \$3,500 reduction was effected by adopting another way of financing the corporation's 5-year fire insurance policy.

Income Increases
On the income side, the board decided to tap once again sources other than members' charges. Increases of 50 cents a month were made in garage rentals, and in boat and trailer park rentals; also 50 cents an hour in service fees charged members for items not covered by the mutual contract. These amounts are in addition to the increases voted on November 17. The new charges effective January 1, 1971 will be \$6.50 a month for open garages, \$9.50 for closed garages, \$5.50 a month for small trailer park lot, \$6.50 for large trailer park. Service fees to members will be \$7.50 an hour.

In addition, the board decided to charge departing members the full cost of the inspection service (estimated at \$27.50 per unit) which is made at time of resale. This operation involves the inspection of equipment so as to assure that the homes will be turned over to incoming members in good condition. These income-producing measures will produce an estimated \$7,000 in additional income in 1971, although most of this will be offset by the absence of dividends from the operation of the GDS apartments.

Capital Improvements
Another income item change was a decision to use \$6,000 from the capital improvement reserves to finance the bank loan charges for capital improvement work done in 1971. These reserves represent funds collected from members in previous years which were not used because of delays in getting the program started.

The capital improvement program produced a major discussion by the board. Directors Charles Schwan, Steve Polaschik, and Darwin Beck were strong in their belief that nothing should be done to cut the program in 1971, arguing that the board has a responsibility to maintain the property in good condition and "to keep the homes healthful and structurally sound."

Schwan said that the fact that some of the membership at Wednesday's meeting acted irresponsibly in calling for cuts was no reason why the board should act irresponsibly. Director Tom White, on the other hand, felt that despite his approval of the capital improvement program the membership's repudiation of the budget was also a repudiation of the capital improvement program. However, this view got little support, and the board voted to continue the present capital improvement program intact though director Dave Lange favored a reexamination of the items making up the program. Loan payments for the accumulated capital improvement program (which started in 1969) will come to \$39,840 in 1971, of which, as noted, \$6,000 will come from reserves, the balance from monthly charges.

Polaschik also argued strongly for retention of part of the trim paint program, but the rest of the board felt that with a choice between cutting the trim paint program and cutting the amount collected for reserves, it would be least damaging to the corporation to cut the trim paint program.

The budget as finally adopted amounted to \$2,136,753, of which \$1,959,005 will come from members' charges, and \$177,748 from other income (investment interest, sales of services, and reserves).

The total charges budgeted to members are approximately \$139,500 higher than in 1970 — \$31,900 for the brick, \$106,400 for the frame, and \$1,200 for the larger homes.

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