

MINUTES

City Council Meeting

Monday, May 7, 2012 – 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order: Mayor Holder welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Opening: Councilmember Campbell offered the opening prayer and Mayor Holder invited everyone to join in the Pledge Allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call:

Members Present: Mayor Holder presided. Council Members: Don Bethune, Bruce Campbell, Rosetta Bryant Cody, Bessie Kicklighter and Judy Shuman. **Absent:** Scott Georgia, Mayor Pro-tem

Staff Present:

Brian Johnson, City Manager; Ron Feldner, Deputy City Manager; Rhonda Ferrell-Bowles, Clerk of Council; James P. Gerard, City Attorney; Pam Franklin, HR Director; Scott Allison, PED Director; Cory Sally, Finance Director; Charles Draeger, Water Operations Director; Jimmy Crosby, Fire Chief; David Lyons, Chief of Police and Bennie Googe, Public Works Director and Cliff Ducey, Recreation Director.

Absent: Ben Brengman, IT Director

Employee of the Quarter Presentation: City Manager and PED Director presented the Employee of the Quarter Certificate to Larry Jones, Senior Code Enforcement Officer.

Mayor Holder said the City Council held a Pre-Agenda Session prior to tonight's meeting. He said no decisions were made during the Pre-Agenda Session.

Informal Public Comment: Mayor Holder asked if there was anyone who wished to address City Council. There being no questions of comments from the audience, Mayor Holder closed the informal public comment portion of the meeting.

Formal Public Comment: Mayor Holder said we received no formal requests to address City Council at tonight's meeting.

Public Hearings: Mayor Holder said we have no public hearings on tonight's agenda.

City Council Minutes: Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Bethune, City Council approved the minutes dated 4/16/12.

Staff Reports:

PED Director presented the Planning & Economic Development Department's Monthly Status Report.

Councilmember Bethune asked the PED Director to explain the contacts referenced in his report and the stop work order process.

PED Director said the contacts are a daily activities record of the citizens that Code Enforcement comes in contact with on a daily basis. He said regarding stop work orders, we have penalties in place and

there are implications when work is performed without obtaining a permit. He said new construction, renovations to structures, plumbing, electrical and HVAC work requires a permit and the work has to be inspected to make sure it meets all of the requirements. He said if someone doesn't obtain a permit and the work is not inspected, a stop work order is issued until the proper permits are obtained and the work is inspected. He said this protects the contractor as well as the resident or business owner.

HR Director presented the Human Resources Department's Monthly Status Report.

City Manager presented the Information Technology Department's Monthly Status Report in the IT Directors absence.

Councilmember Bethune said Ben has been doing an excellent job on the website.

Public Works Director presented the Public Works Department's Monthly Status Report.

Councilmember Kicklighter asked the Public Works Director the process for street light requests.

Public Works Director said a citizen can contact public works to request a street light. He said Georgia Power determines if a street is needed and you all decide if the street light is added to the City's bill. If not the resident or business will have to pay for the street light.

Councilmember Bethune asked the Public Works Director if there were any drainage issues resulting from the rain we received today.

Public Works Director said there were a few minor issues caused from the GPA flood gates. He said I contact GPA and the issues were resolved by opening the flood gates.

Councilmember Bethune asked, if had any numbers from Waste Management on the amount of dry trash collected?

City Manager said it is too early. He said we should be able to get some numbers after the first month.

Recreation Director presented the Parks & Recreation Department's Monthly Status Report.

Items for Consideration:

PC1209: Clerk of Council read a request by Clyde Sturgess of JCS Rentals to vary a width and area requirement of a substandard lot located at 1307 Heidt Avenue and 1309 Heidt Avenue.

Upon motion by Councilmember Bethune, seconded by Councilmember Kicklighter, City Council voted unanimously to approve the PC1209.

First Reading, Container Storage Ordinance: Clerk of Council read for the first reading an ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances of Garden, Georgia, as amended, by amending Chapter 90, Article II, thereof, to establish new regulations for the permitted use of container storage, container trailer storage, or container trailer storage yards; to repeal all ordinances in conflict herewith; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Shuman, City Council voted unanimously to approve the Container Storage Ordinance on the first reading.

Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Bethune, City Council voted unanimously to suspend the rules of council to hold the second reading of the Container Storage Ordinance.

Second Reading, Container Storage Ordinance: Clerk of Council read for the second reading an ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances of Garden, Georgia, as amended, by amending Chapter 90, Article II, thereof, to establish new regulations for the permitted use of container storage, container trailer storage, or container trailer storage yards; to repeal all ordinances in conflict herewith; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

Upon motion by Councilmember Bethune, seconded by Councilmember Kicklighter, City Council voted unanimously to adopt the Container Storage Ordinance on the second reading.

First Reading, Sign Ordinance: Clerk of Council read for the first reading an ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances of Garden City, Georgia, as amended, to revise Chapter 90, Article VI, pertaining to signs, for the purpose of revising the provisions thereof in the limitations, safeguards, and controls for the location of outdoor advertising or separate use signs and non-conforming signs; to repeal all ordinances in conflict herewith; to provide for severability; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Shuman, City Council voted unanimously to approve the Sign Ordinance on the first reading.

Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Bethune, City Council voted unanimously to suspend the rules of council to hold the second reading.

Second Reading, Sign Ordinance: Clerk of Council read for the second reading an ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances of Garden City, Georgia, as amended, to revise Chapter 90, Article VI, pertaining to signs, for the purpose of revising the provisions thereof in the limitations, safeguards, and controls for the location of outdoor advertising or separate use signs and non-conforming signs; to repeal all ordinances in conflict herewith; to provide for severability; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

Upon motion by Councilmember Bethune, seconded by Councilmember Shuman, City Council voted unanimously to adopt the Sign Ordinance on the second reading.

First Reading, Annexation Ordinance: Clerk of Council read for the first reading an ordinance to annex properties owned by Cross Atlantic, LLC, WBT Empire, LLC, SAVSO1A, LLC, and Williams Brothers Trucking, Inc., into the City of Garden City, Georgia, pursuant to Title 36, Chapter 36, Article 20 of the Official Code of Georgia annotated (The 100% Method"); to rezone said properties to an "I-2" zoning classification except for that portion of the properties lying along and within one hundred (100') feet of

the eastern right-of-way line of Highway 21 which shall be zoned "C-2"; to repeal all ordinances in conflict herewith; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

Upon motion by Councilmember Shuman, seconded by Councilmember Kicklighter, City Council voted unanimously to approve the Annexation Ordinance on the first reading.

Upon motion by Councilmember Shuman, seconded by Councilmember Kicklighter, City Council voted unanimously to suspend the rules of council to hold the second reading of the ordinance.

Second Reading, Annexation Ordinance: Clerk of Council read for the second reading an ordinance to annex properties owned by Cross Atlantic, LLC, WBT Empire, LLC, SAVSO1A, LLC, and Williams Brothers Trucking, Inc., into the City of Garden City, Georgia, pursuant to Title 36, Chapter 36, Article 20 of the Official Code of Georgia annotated (The 100% Method"); to rezone said properties to an "I-2" zoning classification except for that portion of the properties lying along and within one hundred (100') feet of the eastern right-of-way line of Highway 21 which shall be zoned "C-2"; to repeal all ordinances in conflict herewith; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

Upon motion by Councilmember Shuman, seconded by Councilmember Kicklighter, City Council voted unanimously to adopt the Annexation Ordinance on the second reading.

Second Reading, Amendment to Garden City's Charter: Clerk of Council read for the first reading an ordinance to amend the Charter for the City of Garden City, Georgia, approved April 17, 1973 (Ga. Laws 1973, p. 3581), as amended, so as to remove from the Charter a provision prohibiting the City from exceeding a millage rate of 2 mils., in levying and collecting ad valorem taxes without the approval therefore by a referendum of the qualified voters of the City; to provide for related matters; to repeal all conflicting ordinances; and for other purposes.

Upon motion by Councilmember Shuman, seconded by Councilmember Kicklighter, City Council voted unanimously to adopt the Amendment to Garden City's Charter on the second reading.

Resolution Creating the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney: Clerk of Council read a resolution to create the office of the prosecuting attorney for the Municipal Court of Garden City, Georgia, pursuant to Section 15-18-91 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated.

Upon motion by Councilmember Shuman, seconded by Councilmember Kicklighter, City Council voted unanimously to adopt the resolution creating the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney.

Resolution Endorsing The Savannah Harbor Expansion Project (SHEP): Clerk of Council read a resolution endorsing The Savannah Harbor Expansion Project's goal of deepening the Garden City Port which is critical for Georgia to maintain its standing as one of the world's most important shipping corridors for the years to come.

Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Shuman, City Council voted unanimously to adopt the resolution endorsing the Savannah Harbor Expansion Project.

Garden City-Chatham County Agreement for Drug Enforcement Activities: Clerk of Council read for consideration by Council a revised drug enforcement activities agreement between Garden City and Chatham County.

Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Shuman, City Council voted unanimously to authorize entering into the revised drug enforcement activities agreement between Garden City and Chatham County.

Adjournment: Upon motion by Councilmember Bethune, seconded by Councilmember Campbell, City Council voted to adjourn at 7:40 p.m.

Transcribed by Rhonda Ferrell-Bowles, Clerk of Council

Adopted by City Council: 5/23/12