

MINUTES
City Council Minutes
Monday, February 3, 2014 – 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 of Allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call: Members: Mayor Holder presided. **City Council Members:** Scott George, Mayor Pro-tem, Councilmember Bethune, Councilmember Campbell, Councilmember Cody and Councilmember Tice.

Staff: Ron Feldner, Deputy City Manager; Rhonda Ferrell-Bowles, Clerk of Council; James P. Gerard, City Attorney; Ben Brengman, IT Director; David Lyons, Chief of Police; Jimmy Crosby, Fire Chief; Pam Franklin, HR Director; Cliff Ducey, Recreation Director; and Charles Draeger, Water Operations Director. **Absent:** Benny Googe, Public Works Director and Sara Berry, Public Works Administrative Assistant

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 opened the informal public comment portion of the meeting.

Ms. Jessica Auner addressed City Council on her resignation from Planning Commission.

Mayor Holder said if you move back to Garden City we will be more than happy to have you serve again on the City's various boards and committees.

Councilmember Tice said it was a pleasure to serve along side Jessica on the Planning Commission.

Councilmember Bethune said it was a privilege having Jessica serve on the City's various boards and committees. He said she did a very good job for Garden City.

Ms. Karrie Griffin Henry addressed City Council on the Hoofs 4 Healing and the services they provide to children, veterans and those with physical and special needs. She said we had over 300 people attend our grand opening and invited City Council to stop by Hoofs 4 Healing.

Public Hearings:

Alcoholic Beverage License Application (Sai Discount Market): Mayor Holder opened the public hearing to receive public comment on an alcoholic beverage license application made by Bhumi Pathak to sell wines, beer and/or malt beverages at Sai Discount Market, 4918 Ogeechee Road, Garden City, Georgia.

Mayor Holder asked if there was anyone who wished to speak for or against the alcoholic beverage license application. There being no questions or comments, Mayor Holder closed the public hearing.

Upon motion by Councilmember Bethune, seconded by Councilmember Campbell, City Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes dated 1/21/14.

Staff Reports:

Zoning Administrator presented the Planning & Zoning Department’s Monthly Status Report.
HR Director presented the Human Resources Department’s Monthly Status Report.
IT Director presented the Information Technology Department’s Monthly Status Report.
Acting City Manager presented the Public Works Department’s Monthly Status Report.
Parks & Recreation Director presented the Parks & Recreation Department’s Monthly Status Report.

City Manager Updates:

Representatives from the Department of the Air Force addressed City Council on the Savannah’s Combat Readiness Training Center hosting ‘Sentry Savannah 14’, which is the largest Air National Guard exercise of its kind. More than 1000 airmen from units across the nation will be deployed in Savannah during the month of February to fight air battles off the coast of Savannah and perform bombing and strafing runs at the unit’s Townsend Bombing Range in Townsend Georgia. The air battles will be conducted during typical business hours with no engagements taking place after dark. Everyone in the area can also expect to see many of these airmen in the local shops and restaurants of our community when flying ceases for the day.

Items for Consideration:

Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals Appointment to fill the unexpired term of Kim Tice – Mayor Holder said we have for consideration by Council the appointing of Ms. Nancy Cox to serve the remainder of Kim Tice’s (4) year term of service on the Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals.

Upon motion by Councilmember George, seconded by Councilmember Bethune, City Council voted unanimously to appoint Ms. Nancy Cox to serve the remainder of Kim Tice’s (4) year term of service on the Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals.

Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals Appointment to fill the unexpired term of Jessica Auner – Mayor Holder said we have for consideration by Council the appointing of Mr. Gary Monroe to serve the remainder of Jessica Auner’s (4) year term of service on the Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals.

Upon motion by Councilmember Bethune, seconded by Councilmember Cody, City Council voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Gary Monroe to serve the remainder of Jessica Auner’s (4) year term of service on the Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals.

Resolution to Classify 2779 Highway 80 Property as Surplus - Mayor Holder read a resolution by the Mayor and Council classifying as surplus property and selling its fee simple interest in Lot 32, Sharon Park Subdivision (a/k/a 2779 Highway 80), by reason of the property’s never having been used for any public purpose and because no future public use for the property can be reasonably anticipated.

Councilmember George said the last City Council put the property up for sale. He said the property was originally purchased for the City Hall. He said the asking price is around \$950,000, which would go a long way. He said we have someone looking at the property and if we were to sell the property it would have to go through the proper process.

Councilmember Bethune said the plan was to use the property for recreation purposes. He said a couple of years ago a survey was conducted and the results indicated a big interest in providing recreation programs on this side of town. He said several residents have contacted me opposing the City selling the property at this time.

Councilmember Tice said I have had several residents express to me that they are opposed to the City selling the property at this time.

Mayor Holder asked the Clerk of Council to conduct a roll call vote.

Clerk of Council conducted the roll call vote as follows:

Mayor Pro-tem George – For
Councilmember Bethune – Opposed
Councilmember Campbell – For
Councilmember Cody – For
Councilmember Tice – Opposed
Mayor Holder – Opposed

Mayor Holder said we have a tie vote which means the matter is dead.

Resolution for an Additional Two Qualifying Days for District 1 Councilperson’s Seat - Mayor Holder read a resolution by the Mayor and Council that qualifying for running to fill the City councilperson’s seat for District 1 in the March 18, 2014, special election shall take place at City Hall for an additional two (2) days during the following dates and times: On February 12, 2014 and February 13, 2014, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and that the qualifying fee for candidates shall remain to be \$108.00.

Upon motion by Councilmember Bethune, seconded by Councilmember Tice, City Council voted unanimously to adopt the resolution.

Alcoholic Beverage License Application (Sai Discount Market): Mayor Holder said we have for consideration an alcoholic beverage license application made by Bhumi Pathak to sell wines, beer and/or malt beverages at Sai Discount Market, 4918 Ogeechee Road, Garden City, Georgia.

Upon motion by Councilmember Campbell, seconded by Councilmember Bethune, City Council voted unanimously to approve the alcoholic beverage license application by Bhumi Pathak.

Councilmember Cody said I would like to thank the City Attorney and Chief Lyons for carry out the things I asked them to do for Rufus Peters’ funeral.

Mayor Holder said Mr. Peters was very active in the community and was a longtime resident of Garden City.

Adjournment: Upon motion by Councilmember Bethune, seconded by Councilmember Cody, City Council adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

*Transcribed by Rhonda Ferrell-Bowles, Clerk of Council
Approved by City Council 2/17/14*