

MINUTES

City Council Meeting

Monday, May 4, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order: Mayor Pro-tem George welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Opening: Councilmember Campbell offered the opening prayer and Mayor Pro-tem George invited everyone to join in the pledge allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call: Members: Mayor Pro-tem George presided. Council Members: Don Bethune, Bruce Campbell, Rosetta Cody, Marcia Daniel, and Kim Tice. *Absent:* Tennyson Holder, Mayor

Staff: Ron Feldner, Interim City Manager; Rhonda Ferrell-Bowles, Clerk of Council; James P. Gerard, City Attorney; David Lyons, Chief of Police; Pam Franklin, HR Director; Ben Brengman, IT Director; Ron Alexander, Building Safety Director; Benny Gooze, Public Works Director; Cliff Ducey, Parks & Recreation Director, Blake Hodge, Fire Chief and Charles Draeger, Water Operations Director

Mayor Pro-tem George said City Council held a pre-agenda session prior to the council meeting. He said no decisions were made during the pre-agenda session.

Informal Public Comment: Mayor Pro-tem George opened the floor to received public comment from the audience. There being no questions or comments from the audience, Mayor Pro-tem George closed the informal public comment portion of the meeting.

City Council Minutes: Upon motion by Councilmember Campbell, seconded by Councilmember Daniel, City Council voted unanimously to approve the city council minutes dated 4/20/15 and the workshop synopsis dated 4/27/15.

Staff Reports:

Planning, Zoning & Building Director said we only have one case scheduled to be heard by the Planning Commission on May 12th. He said we have a request by Chatham County to rezone 0 Travis Field Road from RA to I-2 to make land use compatible with adjacent industrial use. He said the property being considered for rezoning is referenced on the slide shown on the overhead screen.

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

Councilmember Bethune asked how many fulltime employees do we have total working for the City.

HR Director said we currently have 99 plus the two additional firefighters. She said we budgeted 106, then added two firefighters for a total of 108.

Councilmember Bethune said how many part-time, seasonal or temporary employees do we have?

HR Director said recreation and public works department works seasonal employees. She said we have contractor labor employees or casual employees in some departments.

Councilmember Bethune said where are these employees budgeted? Also, who makes the decision to bring on these employees?

HR Director said I the department head. She said you will need to ask the department head.

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

Councilmember Cody asked the Public Works Director if Georgia Power had got back with him about the light. Public Works Director said I will check with them tomorrow. He said we have been so busy with storm clean up that I haven't had a chance to contact them.

Councilmember Bethune said I have heard nothing but positive comments from our residents on the Public Works Director and his crews on the storm clean up.

Councilmember Bethune asked the Public Works Director if he was tracking the time of the employees on the dry trash. Public Works Director said we can get the costs for you. Councilmember Bethune said I would like to see how much it is costing us.

Councilmember Bethune said the storm cleanup is probably running you behind on grass cutting. Public Works Director said it is putting us a little behind schedule.

Mayor Pro-tem George said I appreciate the stance Ron took that we would get the City cleaned up with as little problems as possible. He said Ron and his staff responded immediately after the storm.

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

Councilmember Tice asked if any resident could come to the Senior Center to hear the Chief of Police talk about safety on May 7th. Recreation Director replied, yes.

Councilmember Tice said the City's float in the Stand Up for America Day Parade won first place. She said I would like to ask the Recreation Director to make sure next time that we have enough candy to toss out to the kids. She said we ran out of candy toward the end of the parade.

Mayor Pro-tem George said the recreation department crews did a good job on the fields for opening day.

City Manager Updates: City Manager said the public works crews continued the storm cleanup this week. He said we wanted to give people adequate time to clean up after the storm. He said we need people to finish getting their items out over the next couple of days so we can finish up Thursday. He said I am glad we could help everyone out.

Councilmember Bethune said I gave you four items at the last council meeting to look into. He said I wanted to let everyone know that you had those issues resolved promptly in a professional manner.

City Manager said it is a team effort with all of us. He said I reach out to the team and we all work together.

Mayor Pro-tem George said this may be a good time for the City Manager to talk about the Comprehensive Plan Update.

City Manager said the City is going through its Comprehensive Plan Update. He said we are trying to put together a team of stakeholders who will work with the Coastal Regional Commission on the update. He said we are looking for residents and business owners, etc. to serve on the stakeholder committee. He

said they will provide feedback on how we will shape the City. He said if anyone is interested they can contact me or reach out to the council members.

Mayor Pro-tem George said this is an opportunity for the residents and businesses to get involved in shaping the City.

Items for Consideration:

First Reading, Ordinance - Zoning Map Amendment (310 & 312 Main St.): Clerk of Council read an ordinance to amend the zoning ordinance and map of Garden City, Georgia, as amended; to rezone certain property owned by Virginia S. Mock and Omega Properties & Investments, Inc., from its present zoning classification of C-2A to I-1 zoning classification; to repeal all ordinances in conflict herewith; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

City Manager said staff needs to address a notification issue relating to this item.

Mayor Pro-tem George called for a motion to table the ordinance in order for the staff to address the issue.

Upon motion by Councilmember Bethune, seconded by Councilmember Tice, City Council voted unanimously to table the ordinance.

City Attorney said this item may require another public hearing to be held.

First Reading, Ordinance - Zoning Text Amendment (Lot Width Requirements): Clerk of Council read for the first reading an ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinance of Garden City, Georgia, as amended, to revise the dimension and size requirements for lots within Garden City for the purpose of setting forth the method used for determining compliance with the City's lot width requirements; to repeal all ordinances in conflict herewith; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

Upon motion by Councilmember Bethune, seconded by Councilmember Cody, City Council voted unanimously to approve the ordinance on the first reading.

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

Second Reading, Ordinance - Zoning Text Amendment (Lot Width Requirements): Clerk of Council read for the second reading an ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinance of Garden City, Georgia, as amended, to revise the dimension and size requirements for lots within Garden City for the purpose of setting forth the method used for determining compliance with the City's lot width requirements; to repeal all ordinances in conflict herewith; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

Upon motion by Councilmember Bethune, seconded by Councilmember Campbell, City Council voted unanimously to adopt the ordinance on the second reading.

Resolutions - 3,000 Gallon Fire Tanker & Equipment Procurement:

- **Bid Award Resolution:** Clerk of Council read a resolution by the City Council of Garden City, Georgia, to accept the proposal of Fouts Bros., to sell the City a 3,000 gallon super tanker at the price of \$211,000; and that the \$211,000 purchase price for the tanker, plus the cost of equipping the vehicle

(not to exceed \$30,000), be funded through the Master Lease between GMA and the City dated April 21, 2003.

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

Councilmember Bethune said this is a necessity, because our previous tanker past its life cycle. He said the new tanker will serve to provide fire protection to those areas in the City that do not have fire hydrants. He said this will also help with our ISO rating.

Mayor Pro-tem George said this is was our number one item on our SPLOST list.

- **GMA Direct Leasing Program Resolution:** Clerk of Council read a resolution by the City Council of Garden City, Georgia, to authorize the City Manager to execute and deliver a lease supplement pursuant to the Master Lease to put into effect one or more leases for a 3000 Gallon Fire Tanker & Equipment in an amount not to exceed \$245,000.

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

City Manager said the Police Chief will be speaking at the Senior Center on Thursday, May 7 at 11:00 a.m. He said lunch will be served.

Councilmember Campbell said I would like to thank the Chief of Police for handling the guy with the trailer so fast.

Councilmember Tice said I would like to thank the police officer who stopped to help the lady with the flat tire this afternoon.

Mayor Pro-tem George said the logistics program graduation will be held next Tuesday, May 12 at 6:30 p.m. here at City Hall. He said they held the graduation here last year and it was a very nice event. He said I would like to invite everyone to attend the event.

There being no further questions or comments, Mayor Pro-tem George called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Adjournment: Upon motion by Councilmember Campbell, seconded by Councilmember Cody, City Council unanimously adjourned the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

Transcribed by Clerk of Council

Accepted & Approved by City Council: 5/18/15