

MINUTES

City Council Meeting Monday, August 17, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.

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

Opening: Mayor Holder offered the opening prayer and invited everyone to join in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call:

Members: Mayor Holder presided. **Council Members:** Mayor Pro-tem George, Councilmember Bethune, Councilmember Campbell, Councilmember Daniel and Councilmember Tice. Absent: Councilmember Rosetta Cody

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

Mayor Holder said City Council held a pre-agenda session prior to tonight's meeting. He said no decisions were made during the pre-agenda session.

Presentation: Mark and Bill Grainger presented a \$5,000 donation to the Garden City Recreation Department to enhance recreation projects.

City Council and the Recreation Director thanked Mark and Bill Grainger for supporting the City's Recreation Department.

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

City Council Minutes: Upon motion by Councilmember Bethune, seconded by Councilmember Daniel, City Council voted unanimously to approve the city council minutes dated 7/20/15, workshop synopsis dated 7/27/15 and workshop synopsis dated 8/10/15.

Staff Reports:

Planning, Zoning & Building Director presented the Planning, Zoning & Building Department's Monthly Report.

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

IT Director presented the Information Technology Department's Monthly Report.

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

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

City Manager presented the Water Operations Department's Monthly Report.

Chief of Police presented the Police Department's Monthly Report.

Fire Chief presented the Fire Department's Monthly Report.

City Manager said I have no updates tonight.

Items for Consideration:

Resolution, Call for a Special Election for a Referendum Exempting Property Taxes on Manufacturing Inventory (Freeport Tax) – Clerk of Council read a resolution of the City of Garden City, Georgia, pursuant to the Georgia Constitution, the Official Code of Georgia Annotated Sections 48-5-48.2 and the City of Garden City Charter calling for a special election for a referendum for the purpose of submitting the question of whether or not the governing authority of the City of Garden City, Georgia shall be authorized to exempt from ad valorem taxation all or any combination of the types of tangible personal property allowed by a level 1 Freeport exemption.

Mr. Pat Monahan with SEDA said in Georgia 90% of the counties exempt property tax on manufacturing inventory. He said Chatham County has approved and implemented the manufacturing inventory exemption at 100%. He said the City of Savannah is scheduled to begin in 2016 at 20% for five years. He said the non-exempt, but eligible Chatham County cities are Garden City, Port Wentworth and Pooler. He said the financial impact to Garden City would be approximately \$90,000 per year. He said City Council sets the implementation schedule in 20% increments over one to five years.

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

Resolution, GEFA Contract Amendment - Clerk of Council read a resolution by the City Council to authorize and direct the Mayor to execute on behalf of the City any and all documents necessary to increase the City's loan from the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority to the principal amount of \$4,650,000.00 for the purpose of funding water and sewer improvement projects once the terms of the loan modification have been properly approved by Council and the modification documents have been determined by legal counsel to be valid and enforceable obligations of the City.

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

Resolution, HGB Engineering Services Proposal for Traffic Signal Installation – Chatham Parkway @ Telfair Place – Clerk of Council read a resolution authorizing Garden City, Georgia, to enter into an agreement with Hussey Gay Bell Consulting Engineers, to provide engineering design and construction oversight services for the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Chatham Parkway and Telfair Place; to authorize the funding for such works; to authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement for said services; and for other purposes.

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

Adjournment: Upon motion by Mayor Holder, seconded by Councilmember Campbell, City Council adjourned the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

Minutes transcribed by: Clerk of Council
Accepted by City Council: 9/21/15