

MINUTES
City Council Meeting
Monday, October 7, 2013 – 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 Bethune offered the opening prayer and Mayor Pro-tem George invited everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call:

Members: Mayor Pro-tem George presided. Council Members: Don Bethune, Bruce Campbell, Rosetta Cody and Judy Shuman. Absent: Tennyson Holder, Mayor and Bessie Kicklighter, Councilmember

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

Informal Public Comment: Mayor Pro-tem George open the floor to receive informal 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.

Approval of City Council Minutes:

City Council Meeting Minutes dated 9/16/13: Upon motion by Councilmember Bethune, seconded by Councilmember Shuman, City Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes dated 9/16/13.

City Council Workshop Synopsis dated 9/23/13: Upon motion by Councilmember Bethune, seconded by Councilmember Campbell, City Council voted unanimously to approve the synopsis dated 9/23/13.

City Council FY14 Water & Sewer Enterprise Fund Budget Workshop Synopsis dated 9/30/13: Upon motion by councilmember Campbell, seconded by Councilmember Cody, City Council voted unanimously to approve the synopsis dated 9/30/13.

City Council FY14 Fire Protection Fund Budget & Emergency Management Budget Workshop Synopsis dated 10/1/13: Upon motion by Councilmember Shuman, seconded by Councilmember Bethune, City Council voted unanimously to approve the synopsis dated 10/1/13.

Staff Reports:

Zoning Administrator presented the Zoning Department's Monthly Status Report. Deputy City Manager said Ms. Tonya Roper has been with the City for over 9 years. He said that Tonya has taken on more duties in the zoning department and is doing a great job.

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

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

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

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

City Manager Updates:

Deputy City Manager said we received notice via letter from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) that the City has been awarded the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its annual budget for the fiscal year 2013. He said this award will be presented to the Mayor at a future council meeting.

Deputy City Manager said staff and city council members are currently working on the budget for fiscal year 2014. He said the budget workshops started September 30th and will continue through November 7th.

Items for Consideration:

Stormwater Master Plan – Cycle 16 Coastal Resources Division Grant: Clerk of Council said we have for consideration the authorizing of the City Manager to execute the Georgia Department of Natural Resources agreement to secure project grant funding in the amount of \$66,800 and to authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with Thomas & Hutton in the amount of \$50,000 to provide consulting services for the purposes of assisting Garden City with the generation of a stormwater master plan.

Councilmember Bethune said the review board gave very high praise on the way the City’s grant application was wrote and put together. He said the Deputy City Manager and staff did a great job on the application.

Deputy City Manager said the grant is to develop an emergency stormwater drainage plan for the City which will give us a better understanding of our critical drainage issues. He said work was done on the grant by internal staff along with other government agencies. He said we received letters of support from Chatham County’s Engineering staff and from CEMA staff. He said staff’s work will be a part of the in-kind match.

Upon motion by Councilmember Bethune, seconded by Councilmember Campbell, City Council voted unanimously to authorize the City Manager to execute the Georgia Department of Natural Resources agreement to secure project grant funding in the amount of \$66,800 and to authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with Thomas & Hutton in the amount of \$50,000 to provide consulting services for the purposes of assisting Garden City with the generation of a stormwater master plan.

Deed of Conveyance - Donation of Highway 21 Property from Gladys Lucas Becton (Southeast corner of Lot 53, Section “B”, of the Happy Discovery Tract, Garden City, Chatham County, Georgia PIN: 6-008-02-002): Clerk of Council said we have for consideration the authorizing of the City Manager to execute a quitclaim deed to accept donation of property in and along Highway 21 between Volunteer Park and Colonial Trail in order to contribute to the betterment and development of the neighborhood surrounding said property.

City Attorney said this property is approximately 50’ x 50’ and is adjacent to property that the City already owns. He said that Ms. Becton has no use for the property and wishes to donate to the City.

Upon motion by Councilmember Campbell, seconded by Councilmember Shuman, City Council voted unanimously to authorize the City Manager to execute a quitclaim deed to accept the donation of the property.

Adjournment: Mayor Pro-tem George made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Campbell to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.