

**MINUTES**  
**City Council Meeting**  
**Monday, July 21, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.**

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

**Opening:** Mayor Pro-tem George 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. **Council Members:** Don Bethune, Bruce Campbell, Rosetta Cody, Marcia Daniel, Scott George and Kim Tice.

**Staff:** Ron Feldner, Acting City Manager; Rhonda Ferrell-Bowles, Clerk of Council; James P. Gerard, City Attorney; David Lyons, Chief of Police; Pam Franklin, HR Director; Charles Draeger, Water Operations Director; Ben Brengman, IT Director and Matt Mitchell, Recreation Program Coordinator. **Absent:** Cliff Ducey, Parks & Recreation Director and Benny Googe, Public Works Director.

**Presentation:** Ms. Sharon Bethune of the Garden City Housing Team presented a brief PowerPoint presentation on the work performed by Youthworks over the summer in Garden City. Mayor Holder presented a Community Service Certificate thanking Youthworks for service to the community.

**Informal Public Comment:** Mayor Holder opened the floor to receive public comment from the audience.

Ms. Susan Cobb, 14 Briarwood Drive, thanked City Council for passing the roll-out cart ordinance. She asked City Council to look into adopting an ordinance to restrict people from placing old furniture, appliances, etc. out by the road for pick up. She said also something needs to be done about people parking in their front yard instead of on their driveway.

**Public Hearings:**

**Annual Capital Improvements Element (CIE) Update:** Mayor Holder opened the public hearing to receive public comment on the City's Annual Capital Improvements Element (CIE) Update.

City Manager presented the Schedule of Improvements and Financial Report for the Annual Capital Improvements Element (CIE) Update. He said the City has never utilized impact fees and if the ordinance to repeal the impact fees is adopted tonight then there will be no further action required for future CIE updates.

Mayor Holder asked if there were any questions or comments from City Council or the audience. There being no questions or comments, Mayor Holder closed the public hearing.

**Alcoholic Beverage License Application:** Mayor Holder opened the public hearing to receive public comment on an alcoholic beverage license application by Ms. Jamesetta Whipple to sell wines, beer and/or malt beverages at Ms. Etta's Restaurant, 357 Main Street, Garden City, Georgia.

Mayor Holder asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to speak in favor of the application.

Ms. Jamesetta Whipple said I have been operating a restaurant at his location since 2008. She said I am going forward with my application to sell wines, beer and/or malt beverages, because the guests at the hotel next to me keep requesting beer or wine.

Councilmember Campbell asked Ms. Whipple if she owned or leased the building.

Ms. Whipple said I am in the process of purchasing the building.

Councilmember Tice asked if the gentleman who own the hotel owns is the current owner of the building.

Ms. Whipple said the original owner of the hotel is the owner of the building.

Mayor Holder asked if there was anyone who wished to speak against the application.

There being no further questions or comments, Mayor Holder closed the public hearing.

**City Council Minutes:** Upon motion by Councilmember Bethnue, seconded by Councilmember Tice, City Council voted unanimously to approve the City Council Meeting Minutes dated 6/16/14, City Council Workshop Synopsis dated 6/30/14 and City Council Workshop Synopsis dated 7/14/14.

**Staff Reports:**

City Manager presented the Planning, Zoning & Building Department's Monthly Status Report.

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

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

Mayor Pro-tem George asked the IT Director to give an update on the Library.

IT Director said the Library opening is scheduled for September 1<sup>st</sup> with the grand opening/ribbon cutting scheduled for September 30<sup>th</sup>.

City Manager presented the Public Works Department's Monthly Status Report.

Councilmember Tice said I would like to compliment Benny's staff for the good job they have done over the last several weeks with all the rain.

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

Councilmember Bethune said the Recreation Department's staff is doing an outstanding job on keeping the parks cut and maintained with all the rain we have been having.

Councilmember Cody said I visited the Cooper Center and staff is doing a great job providing activities for the kids over the summer.

Water Operations Director presented the Water Operations Monthly Status Report.

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

**City Manager Updates:** City Manager said I have no updates tonight.

**Items of Consideration:**

**Resolution, Capital Improvements Element (CIE):** Mayor Holder read a resolution by the Mayor and Council to submit the annual update of the Capital Improvements Element covering the period of 2014 – 2018 to the Coastal Regional Commission and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for official review.

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

**First Reading, Ordinance to Repeal the City's Impact Fees:** Clerk of Council read for the first reading an ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances of Garden City, Georgia, as amended, to repeal Chapter 85 of said code for the purpose of dissolving the City's program for the collection of development impact fees; 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 Tice, City Council voted unanimously to suspend the rules of council and hold the seconded reading.

**Second Reading, Ordinance to Repeal the City's Impact Fees:** Clerk of Council read for the second reading an ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances of Garden City, Georgia, as amended, to repeal Chapter 85 of said code for the purpose of dissolving the City's program for the collection of development impact fees; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

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

**Resolution, Garden City Visitors Bureau Joint Appointment:** Mayor Holder read a resolution by the Mayor and Council to jointly appoint Ms. Connie George to the Garden City Convention and Visitors Bureau Authority to serve as a voting member thereof from the effective date of this resolution until her successor is appointed within 45 days of the first meeting of the Mayor and Council in January 2016.

Upon motion by Councilmember Bethune, seconded by Councilmember Cody, City Council voted unanimously to jointly appoint Ms. Connie George to serve on the Garden City Convention and Visitors Bureau Authority.

Mayor Holder said other bureau members selected individually by members of Council to serve on the authority are:

- Carl Gilliard, Executive Director of Savannah Feed the Hungry – appointed by Mayor Pro-tem George

- Garland Saunders, Owner/Operator of Big Hill Properties, LLC – appointed by Councilmember Daniel
- Danny Nelson, Owner/Operator of Port City Pawn – appointed by Councilmember Tice
- Warren Boyle, Owner/Operator of McDonald’s Restaurant – appointed by Mayor Holder
- Carol Lindsey, Manager of Days Inn – appointed by Councilmember Bethune
- Suni Patel, Manager of Baymont Inn – appointed by Councilmember Campbell
- Valarie Clark, Manager of Inn Towne Suites – appointed by Councilmember Cody

**Alcoholic Beverage License Application:** Consideration of an alcoholic beverage license application by Ms. Jamesetta Whipple to sell wines, beer and/or malt beverages at Ms. Etta’s Restaurant, 357 Main Street, Garden City, Georgia.

Upon motion by councilmember Campbell, seconded by Councilmember Cody, City Council voted unanimously to approve the alcoholic beverage license application by Ms. Jamesetta Whipple.

Councilmember Bethune said City Council will host a Town Hall Meeting at City Hall on August 4<sup>th</sup>. He said the first portion will be informal with department heads and the second portion will formal with Council. He asked the City Manager how the citizens were going to be notified of the meeting.

City Manager said we will post it on the City’s website and at our City facilities. He said we will also do a press release.

Councilmember Bethune said we are in the process of preparing for the FY15 Budget Cycle. He said I would like to encourage the business owners and residents to come forward with their thoughts on how we can save money. He said just because we have taxes doesn’t mean we don’t need your input. He said I would also like to encourage staff to think outside of the box when preparing their budgets.

**Adjournment:** Mayor Holder made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilmember Campbell. City Council adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

*Minutes transcribed by Clerk of Council  
Minutes approved by Council: 8/18/14*