

**MINUTES**  
**City Council Meeting**  
**Monday, September 21, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.**

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

**Opening:** Councilmember Bethune 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 and Kim Tice.

**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 Gooze, Public Works Director, Cliff Ducey, Recreation Director, Charles Draeger, Water Operations Director and Ron Alexander, Planning, Zoning & Building 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.

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

Mr. Scott George, Azalea Avenue, said on September 4<sup>th</sup> I resigned from Council to run for Mayor. He said since resigning I have attended several meetings where Council has discussed electing someone to serve as Mayor Pro-tem. He said I would like to recommend Bruce Campbell for Mayor Pro-tem. He said Bruce is a long-time resident of Garden City and is active in the community. He said prior to Bruce being elected to council Bruce served as chairman of the City' Planning Commission. He said regarding the vacant seat on council, I feel it would be best to allow the new council to come on board and then backfill the position.

Mr. Gary Monroe, Hawkinsville Road, began to pass out election literature to City Council.

City Attorney said you can't pass out campaign literature to City Council at a council meeting. He said you can only reference running in your comments when you address City Council.

Mr. Monroe said I would like to officially announce my candidacy for Mayor.

City Attorney said I didn't realize that you didn't have an opportunity before qualifying to announce your candidacy for Mayor. He said I didn't know you hadn't spoken to City Council. He said you may proceed with your three minutes to address City Council to announce your candidacy.

Mr. Monroe said I will leave it at what I said earlier that I am announcing my candidacy for Mayor.

There being no further questions or comments from the audience, Mayor Holder closed the informal public comment portion of the meeting.

**Public Hearing:**

**2016 Comprehensive Plan:** City Manager presented a PowerPoint presentation on the City's efforts to prepare its 2016 Comprehensive Plan. He said the Department of Community Affairs requires cities to periodically update their plan. He said DCA requires as part of the plan process for stakeholders to have input on the plan we are putting together. He said we have put together a stakeholder/citizen advisory committee. He said we have held two committee meetings and we are working on putting together a formal plan.

Councilmember Bethune said once you all have a formal plan ready will there be another public hearing for citizen input.

City Manager said the next public hearing would be held in June 2016. He said we are looking at holding an open house in the spring of 2016 to give the citizens an opportunity to review the plan and offer comments prior to us finalizing the plan.

Councilmember Bethune said I like the open house idea, but we will need to advertise it heavily.

**City Council Minutes:** Upon motion by Councilmember Campbell, seconded by Councilmember Bethune, City Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes dated 8/17/15.

*Staff Reports:*

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

Human Resources Director presented the Human Resources 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.

Water Operations Director presented the Water Operation Department's Monthly Report.

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

Councilmember Bethune said at Kessler and Highway 80 there are a lot of tractor trailers trying to make a left turn in the mornings. He said we may need to up the patrol in that area in the mornings.

Chief Lyons said we are patrolling that are constantly.

Councilmember Bethune said I hope we can come up with a plan to have dedicated officers to address these issues.

Fire Chief presented the Fire Department's Monthly Report.

**City Manager Updates:** City Manager said I talked with the seniors today at the Senior Center. He said they must have enjoyed my talk, because they asked me to come back to give them an update.

Councilmember Bethune said those in attendance had a lot of positive comments.

**Items for Consideration:**

**Resolution, GCFD Vehicle Surplus:** Mayor Holder read a resolution by the Mayor and Council of Garden City, Georgia, to classify the following GCFD vehicles as surplus property to be sold at auction pursuant to State law.

- (1) 1979 E-One, Ford F-8000 "Pumper" truck; and,
- (2) 1988 Ford F-600 "Rescue/Service" truck

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

**Resolution, Beatty Property:** Mayor Holder read a resolution by the Mayor and Council of Garden City, Georgia, to proceed with acquiring from Maxwell P. Beatty for the purchase price of \$12,500, a parcel of land measuring 0.02 acres, over which the City's lift station on Chatham Parkway encroaches so that the encroachment area may be incorporated into and made a part of the legal description of the lift station site and used for a public purpose; and to authorize the City Manager to execute and perform the agreement on the City's behalf.

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

**Election of the Mayor Pro-tem:** Mayor Holder called for a nomination for Mayor Pro-tem.

Councilmember Tice said I would like to nominate Councilmember Bruce Campbell. Mayor Holder called for any other nominations. There being no further nominations, Mayor Holder called for the vote.

Upon motion by Councilmember Tice, seconded by Councilmember Bethune, City Council voted unanimously to elect Councilmember Bruce Campbell as Mayor Pro-tem.

**Adjournment:** Upon motion by Mayor Holder, seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Campbell, City Council voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:50 p.m.

*Transcribed by Clerk of Council  
Accepted by City Council 10/5/15*