

MINUTES

City Council

Monday, April 20, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Tennyson Holder Mayor Pro-tem presided. Council Members: Bowen Jones, Bessie Kicklighter, Durward Motes and Judy Shuman.

Members Absent: Mayor Quinney, Gwyn Hall and Misty Selph.

Staff Present: Brian Johnson, City Administrator; Rhonda Ferrell-Bowles, Clerk of Council; James P. Gerard, City Attorney; Clara Rouse, Finance Director; Pam Franklin, HR Director; Randall Griffin, Public Works Director; Nathan Mai-Lombardo, Planning Director; Charles Draeger, Water/Sewer Director; Cliff Ducey, Recreation Director; Ben Brengman, IT Director; Captain Frank Clifton and Jimmy Crosby, Fire Chief.

Staff Absent: David Lyons, Chief of Police

Visitors: See attached sign-in sheet(s)

Opening: Mayor Pro-tem Holder welcomed everyone to the meeting. Councilmember Motes offered the opening prayer and Mayor Pro-tem Holder led City Council in the pledge to the flag.

Mayor Pro-tem 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 of Employee of the Quarter: City Administrator said Ms. Heather Click could not be here tonight. He said she is attending school and had a test to take.

Finance Director said Ms. Click is an excellent employee. She said Heather started out as a part-time employee with the City and became a full-time employee. She said Heather is always on time to work and hardly ever misses work. She said Heather works with accounts payable, accounts receivables and payroll. She said Heather is well deserving of this award.

City Council Minutes: Councilmember Jones made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Shuman to approve the minutes as amended under the PFA report to reflect the audit field work will be completed on April 8th. City Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes as amended.

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Special Called Council Meeting Minutes: Councilmember Jones made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Holder to approve the minutes as amended to reflect Mayor Pro-tem Holder offered the opening prayer instead of Councilmember Motes. City Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes as amended.

Zoning & Building Committee Report: Mayor Pro-tem Holder asked Councilmember Motes to give the Zoning & Building Committee Report in the absence of Councilmember Hall.

First Reading, Annexation, Zoning Map Amendment Ordinance: Councilmember Motes asked the Clerk of Council to read the first reading of the ordinance by title only.

Clerk of Council read for the first reading an ordinance to annex property owned by Bessie Maddox, individually, and as personal representative of the Estate of Bonnie R. Maddox, Jr., deceased, into the City of Garden City, Georgia pursuant to Title 36, Chapter 36, Article 2, of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated (the "100% method"); to repeal all ordinances in conflict herewith; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

Upon motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Kicklighter, City Council voted unanimously to approve the annexation, zoning map amendment ordinance on the first reading.

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

Councilmember Motes asked the Clerk of Council to read the second reading of the ordinance by title only.

Clerk of Council read for the second reading an ordinance to annex property owned by Bessie Maddox, individually, and as personal representative of the Estate of Bonnie R. Maddox, Jr., deceased, into the City of Garden City, Georgia pursuant to Title 36, Chapter 36, Article 2, of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated (the "100% method"); to repeal all ordinances in conflict herewith; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Jones, City Council voted unanimously to adopt the annexation, zoning map amendment ordinance on the second reading.

First Reading, Annexation, Zoning Map Amendment Ordinance: Councilmember Motes asked the Clerk of Council to read the first reading of the ordinance by title only.

Clerk of Council read for the first reading an ordinance to annex property owned by Ray Crosby into the City of Garden City, Georgia, pursuant to Title 36, Chapter 36, Article 2, of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated (the "100% method"); to repeal all ordinances in conflict herewith; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

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Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Jones, City Council voted unanimously to approve the annexation, zoning map amendment on the first reading.

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

Councilmember Motes asked the Clerk of Council to read the second reading of the ordinance by title only.

Clerk of Council read for the second reading an ordinance to annex property owned by Ray Crosby into the City of Garden City, Georgia, pursuant to Title 36, Chapter 36, Article 2, of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated (the "100% method"); to repeal all ordinances in conflict herewith; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Jones, City Council voted unanimously to adopt the annexation, zoning map amendment ordinance on the second reading.

Personnel, Finance & Administration Committee Report: Councilmember Shuman said Sara Berry has been hired as the Administrative Assistant in the Public Works Department. She said the Utilities Business Manager position closed and we are in the process of reviewing the applications. She said the field work for the audit is complete and staff is in the process of gathering the information to prepare the CAFER. She said the CAFR is a Comprehensive Annual Financial Report instead of the normal financial statements. She said we will submit the CAFR to the Government Finance Officers Association in hopes of receiving the Certificate of Conformance in Financial Reporting. She said this is a distinction that will bring recognition to the City for excellence in managing and reporting the financial condition of the City. She said a preliminary report will ready for review by the end of April.

Parks & Recreation Committee Report: Mayor Pro-tem Holder said Councilmember Selph could not be here tonight. He said the Recreation's Opening Day Parade was a success. He said there was good attendance at the opening day games. He said registration is underway for Summer Camp. He said everything is going well at the Cooper Center and Senior Center.

Fire Committee Report: Councilmember Motes said the Fire Department responded to 19 calls during April 6 – April 19 with an average response time of 4.53 minutes. He said the ISO inspection is complete and we should receive the report in four to five months.

Police Committee Report: Councilmember Kicklighter asked the police officers in attendance if they had anything to report or comment on. She said everything is going great in the police department. She said the police department will host a supper at the Senior Center on May 1st and a celebration of life ceremony for those members of the community who have recently passed away.

Public Works Committee Report: Mayor Pro-tem Holder said everything is fine in the public works department. He said Chatham Parkway will be closed April 24th – May 1st for the railroad to make improvements to the tracks. He said traffic will be detoured down Telfair Road.

Water/Sewer Committee Report: Councilmember Jones said everything is fine in the water/sewer department. He said we have a lot of major projects underway and I will be reporting on them at a later meeting. He said the average water usage per day is .99 million gallons and I would like to thank our residents for their water conservation efforts.

City Administrator Report:

Groundwater Special Conditions: City Administrator presented the Groundwater Special Conditions Document to Council for consideration. He said EPD mandated eight requirements that cities must meet. He said we have met five of the eight and we should have the remaining three requirements met in the next couple of months.

Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Shuman, City Council voted unanimously to accept the Groundwater Special Conditions Document.

City Administrator said we received several calls from residents voicing their concerns about the noise coming from the cranes on GPA's property during the night. He said I contacted GPA and they have turned down the volume on the sirens and turned the speakers inward to reduce the noise to lowest acceptable level. He said I would like to thank GPA for their quick response to my request and hopefully this will resolve the problem.

City Attorney Report: City Attorney said I have nothing to report tonight.

Mayor Report: Mayor Pro-tem thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He said Mayor Quinney could not be here tonight, because he is on his way back from South Carolina.

Adjournment: Upon motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Holder, City Council voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:20 p.m.

(ABSENT)

Andy Quinney, Mayor

Tennyson Holder, Mayor Pro-tem

(ABSENT)

Gwyn Hall, Councilmember

Bowen Jones, Councilmember

Bessie Kicklighter, Councilmember

Durward Motes, Councilmember

(ABSENT)

Misty Selph, Councilmember

Judy Shuman, Councilmember

Rhonda Ferrell-Bowles
Clerk of Council