

MINUTES

City Council Meeting

Monday, February 15, 2010 – 7:00 p.m.

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

Devotional & Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Holder offered the opening prayer and invited everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

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.

Roll Call:

Members Present: Mayor Tennyson Holder presided. City Council Members: Don Bethune, Gwyn Hall, Bowen Jones, Bessie Kicklighter, Durward Motes, Judy Shuman and Jimmy Spilliards.

Staff Present: Brian Johnson, City Manager; Rhonda Ferrell-Bowles, Clerk of Council; James P. Gerard, City Attorney; Clara Rouse, Finance Director; Pam Franklin, HR Director; Ben Brengman, IS/IT Director; Nathan Mai-Lombardo, Planning Director; Randall Griffin, Public Works Director; Charles Draeger, Water Operations Director; Cliff Ducey, Parks & Recreation Director; Jimmy Crosby, Fire Chief; David Lyons, Chief of Police and Ron Feldner, Deputy City Manager.

Presentation:

Ms. Linda Cramer, Chatham County Finance Director and Former President of the Government Finance Officers Association presented to Ms. Clara Rouse, Finance Director the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award and the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

Ms. Cramer said only 36 cities in the State of Georgia have received both awards for the same reporting period. She said it takes a lot of work to get these awards.

Ms. Rouse thanked Ms. Cramer. She said I came to the City and became a part of a family. She recognized her staff and Mr. Chris Lightle and Jason Martin, Auditors. She said it has been a team effort to attain these awards.

Mayor Holder and City Council thanked Ms. Rouse and her staff for their hard work.

City Council Minutes: Upon motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Shuman, City Council voted unanimously to approve the city council minutes dated February 1, 2010.

Receipt of Staff Reports:

Planning Director presented the monthly status report for the Planning & Economic Development Department.

Human Resources Director presented the monthly status report for the Human Resources Department.

Finance Director presented the monthly status report for the Finance Department.

IS/IT Director presented the monthly status report for the Information Technology Department.

Parks & Recreation Director presented the monthly status report for the Parks & Recreation Department.

Public Works Director presented the monthly status report for the Public Works Department.

Water Operations Director presented the monthly status report for the Water Operations Department.

Fire Chief presented the monthly status report for the Fire Department.

Police Chief presented the monthly status report for the Police Department.

City Manager recognized the Finance Director and her staff for receiving the awards for financial reporting and thanked them for their hard work.

Items for Consideration:

First Reading, Amendment to Firearms Ordinance: Mayor Holder read an ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances of Garden City, Georgia, as amended, restricting outdoor discharge of firearms; to repeal all ordinances in conflict herewith; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

Upon motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Hall, City Council voted unanimously to approve the amendment to firearms ordinance on the first reading.

Councilmember Kicklighter made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Jones, to suspend the rules of council and hold the second reading of the firearms ordinance. City Council voted unanimously to suspend the rules of council and hold the second reading of the amendment to the firearms ordinance.

Clerk of Council read for the second reading an ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances of Garden City, Georgia, as amended, restricting outdoor discharge of firearms; to repeal all ordinances in conflict herewith; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

Upon motion by Councilmember Shuman, seconded by Councilmember Kicklighter, City Council voted unanimously to adopt the amendment to the firearms ordinance on the second reading.

First Reading, Amendment to Hotel-Motel Tax Ordinance: Clerk of Council read for the first reading an ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances of Garden City, Georgia, as amended, to amend Article IV, Code Section 74-76, for the purpose of making such section consistent with O.C.G.A. 48-13-51(H) with respect to exemptions from hotel tax; to provide an effective date; to repeal all ordinance in conflict herewith; and for other purposes.

Upon motion by Councilmember Bethune, seconded by Councilmember Shuman, City Council voted unanimously to approve the amendment to the hotel-motel tax ordinance on the first reading.

Mayor Holder said the second reading of the amendment to the hotel-motel tax ordinance will be held at the next city council meeting on March 1st.

De-annexation of Industrial Zone Resolution: Clerk of Council read a resolution opposing the passage of House Bill 772 and thereby withholding support until the City and the Georgia Ports Authority can reach an agreement concerning the maintenance operation and possible relocation of a major stormwater drainage channel which flows through the property being proposed for de-annexation.

Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Jones, City Council voted unanimously to adopt the de-annexation resolution.

Adjournment: Upon motion by Councilmember Shuman, seconded by Councilmember Jones, City Council voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:55 p.m.

Transcribed by Rhonda Ferrell-Bowles, Clerk of Council

Adopted: March 1, 2010