

**MINUTES**  
**City Council Meeting**  
**Monday, December 5, 2016 – 6:00 p.m.**

**Call to Order:** Mayor Bethune called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Opening:** Mayor Pro-tem Campbell offered the invocation and Mayor Bethune invited everyone to join in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

**Roll Call:**

**Members:** Mayor Don Bethune presided. **Council Members:** Bruce Campbell, Marcia Daniel, Bessie Kicklighter, Debbie Ruiz and Kim Tice. **Absent:** Rosetta Cody

**Staff:** Ron Feldner, City Manager; Rhonda Ferrell-Bowles, Clerk of Council; James P. Gerard, City Attorney; Ben Brengman, IT Director; David Lyons, Chief of Police; Cliff Ducey, Recreation Director; Ron Alexander, Planning Director; Pam Franklin, HR Director; Blake Hodge, Fire Chief; Jackie Jackson, Special Projects Coordinator, Benny Googe, Public Works Director and Charles Draeger, Water Operations Director

**Presentation:** Mayor and City Council presented a proclamation to Commissioner Thomas in recognition of her years of dedicated service to the community.

Commissioner Thomas thanked City Council. She said my last commission meeting is December 16. She said although I'm retiring, I still plan to be involved and will always be there for you.

Mayor Bethune He said Commissioner Thomas has been good friend to Garden City and I would like thank Commissioner Thomas for all that she has done through the years for Garden City as well as Chatham County.

**Informal Public Comment:** Mayor Bethune opened the floor to receive public comment from the audience. There being no questions or comments from the audience, Mayor Bethune closed the informal public comment portion of the meeting.

**Public Hearings:**

**Alcoholic Beverage License Application:** Mayor Bethune opened the public hearing to receive public comment on an alcoholic beverage license application made by Mahesh Kumar Patel to sell wines, beer and/or malt beverages at Buzzin Café, 165 Main Street, Garden City.

There being no one wishing to speak in favor or against the application, Mayor Bethune closed the public hearings.

**City Council Minutes:** Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Campbell, City Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the 11/21/16 city council meeting.

**Staff Reports:** Mayor Bethune said we have no staff reports tonight. He said staff will give their year-end reports for 2016 at the meeting in January.

**City Manager Updates:** City Manager said the street by street hurricane debris pick up is completed. He said the contractor is working at the debris site chipping the materials. He said approximately 25 to 24 cubic yards of debris was collected. He said the contractor has done a pretty thorough job.

Chief Lyons announced the Tree Lighting and Christmas Festival will be held on Saturday, December 10.

**Items for Consideration:**

**Ordinance – Zoning Map Amendment:** Clerk of Council read for the first reading the heading of an ordinance to amend the zoning ordinance and map of Garden City, Georgia, as amended, to rezone certain property located at 1317 Heidt Avenue in Garden City, Georgia, owned by Renee Coleman, as executrix under the last will and testament of Raymond A. Williams, deceased, from its present zoning classification of “R-2” to a “C-2” zoning classification; to repeal all ordinances in conflict herewith; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

Mayor Bethune said I will have to abstain from the vote since members of my family owns property across the street from the property.

Councilmember Kicklighter said I don’t feel the neighborhood needs to go commercial. She said if more people in from the neighborhood came forward wanting to rezone their property it may make a difference.

Councilmember Kicklighter made a motion to deny, seconded by Councilmember Daniel. Councilmember Campbell, Councilmember Daniel, Councilmember Kicklighter, Councilmember Ruiz and Councilmember Tice voted to deny the ordinance on the first reading. Mayor Bethune abstained from the vote.

**FY2017 Fees Schedule:** Clerk of Council said before City Council for consideration is the updated schedule of fees for fiscal year 2017.

Upon motion by councilmember Tice, seconded by Councilmember Daniel, City Council voted unanimously to approve the updated scheduled of fees for fiscal year 2017.

**Resolution - FY2017 Budget Adoption:** Clerk of Council read the heading of a resolution to adopt the Fiscal Year 2017 Operating and Capital Budgets; to provide appropriation of funds for operating and capital expenditures; and to appropriate funding for specific operating and capital funds of the Garden City government.

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

**Resolution – Amendment to Regular City Council Meeting Schedule:** Clerk of Council read the heading of a resolution to amend the regular meeting schedule of the Garden City City Council; to eliminate the December 19, 2016 regular meeting of City Council; to eliminate the January 2, 2017 regular meeting of City Council; to eliminate the January 16, 2017; and to establish a meeting of City Council on Tuesday, January 17, 2017.

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

**Resolution – GEFA Application Land Conservation Grant Transmittal:** Clerk of Council read the heading of a resolution by the Mayor and Council of Garden City, Georgia, to apply for a Georgia Land Conservation Grant to assist with flood mitigation in the Chatham Parkway area.

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

**Resolution – City’s WaterFirst Renewal Transmittal:** Clerk of Council read the heading of a resolution by the Mayor and Council of Garden City, Georgia, renewing Garden City’s WaterFirst community designation under the Georgia Department of Community Affairs WaterFirst Community Program.

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

**Alcoholic Beverage License Application:** Clerk of Council said before City Council for consideration is an alcoholic beverage license application made by Mahesh Kumar Patel to sell wines, beer and/or malt beverages at Buzzin Café, 165 Main Street, Garden City.

Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Tice, City Council voted unanimously to approve the application.

Mayor Bethune said this is the last meeting of this year. He said this ends my first year as Mayor. He said I would like to thank City Council for their support. He said I would also like to thank the City Manager for his leadership and guidance. He said I would like to thank the City Attorney for the good advice he gives us. He said I would also like to thank all the department heads and employees for their dedication and good work.

Mayor Bethune said we have a very busy year coming up. He said you will start seeing things beginning to happen with the Town Center development as well as with the passage of ESPLOST we will be partnering with the School Board on the new Groves High School complex.

Mayor Bethune and Council Members wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**Adjournment:** Upon motion by Councilmember Campbell, seconded by Councilmember Daniel, City Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 p.m.

*Transcribed & Submitted by: Clerk of Council*  
*Accepted & Approved by: City Council 1/17/17*