

MINUTES
City Council Meeting
Monday, April 1, 2019 – 6:00 p.m.

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

Opening: Mayor Bethune gave the invocation and led City Council in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call:

Members: Mayor Bethune presided. Council Members: Mayor Pro-tem Bessie Kicklighter, Councilmember Bruce Campbell, Councilmember Rosetta Cody, Councilmember Marcia Daniel, Councilmember Ruiz and Councilmember Tice.

Staff: Ron Feldner, City Manager; James P. Gerard, City Attorney; Rhonda Ferrell-Bowles, Clerk of Council; Jackie Jackson, Special Projects Coordinator; Gil Ballard, Chief of Police; Ben Brengman, IT Director; Ron Alexander, Planning Director; Cliff Ducey, Parks & Recreation Director; Corbin Medeiros, Fire Chief; and Scott Robider, Code Enforcement Supervisor. Absent: Pam Franklin, HR Director and Benny Googe, Public Works Director.

Presentations: Chief Ballard recognized Officer Kirk Brennaman as GCPD's 2018 Officer of the Year. He said Officer Brennaman is also our new K9 handler and introduced the department's new K9 Wolfi.

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.

City Council Minutes: Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Campbell, City Council voted unanimously to approve the city council minutes dated 3/18/19 and the workshop synopsis dated 3/25/19.

Staff Reports:

City Manager presented the Human Resources Department's report for the month of March.
IT Director presented the Information Technology Department's report for the month of March.
Recreation Director presented the Parks & Recreation Department's report for the month of March.

City Manager's Updates & Announcements: City Manager said the Town Center Development is moving along. We are in the process of scheduling the grand breaking ceremony to be held in the next couple of weeks. The landscaping work in the Town Center medians has started.

Items for Consideration:

First Reading - Ordinance, Zoning Map Amendment (Old Dean Forest Road): 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 Lots numbered 1, 2, & 3, Dean Forest Commercial Subdivision, and a private access road known as John Constantine Drive owned by Katherine C. Ward as Executrix under the last will and testament of John Nick Constantine, Sr., deceased, from their present zoning classification of "P-C2A" to an "I-1 zoning classification.

Councilmember Kicklighter made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Ruiz to approve the ordinance on the first reading subject to the conditions in the ordinance.

Mayor Bethune asked the City Manager to give a brief overview of the conditions. City Manager said the rezoning is conditioned upon a fifty (50') foot wide landscaped buffer installed running along and within the portion of the property's northern boundary line that borders the mobile home park. A four (4') foot high earthen berm within the buffer and an eight (8') foot high wooden privacy fence erected on top of the berm.

Mayor Bethune asked the petitioner if they were agreeable to the conditions specified in the ordinance.

Mr. Terry Coleman, representative for the petitioner replied yes, we agree with the conditions.

There being no further comment, Mayor Bethune called for the vote. Councilmember Daniel said I would like to be excused from the vote for personal reasons. Mayor Bethune said Councilmember Daniel will not be voting on matter.

Councilmember Campbell, Councilmember Cody, Councilmember Kicklighter, Councilmember Ruiz and Councilmember Tice voted in favor to approve the ordinance with Councilmember Daniel abstaining from the vote due to personal reasons.

Mayor Bethune said the second reading of the ordinance will be held at the April 15th council meeting.

First Reading - Ordinance, Charter Amendment – Mayor & City Council Compensation: Clerk of Council read for the first reading the heading of an ordinance to amend Section 2.04, Article II, of the Charter of Garden City, Georgia, to increase the salaries of Mayor and Councilmembers pursuant to Section 36-35-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, as amended.

Mayor Bethune said we looked at raising the salaries of Mayor and Councilmembers to be in line with other cities. The salaries for Mayor and Councilmember have not been raised in ten years. City Manager said tonight is the first reading and then there is an advertising period before the final action.

City Attorney said a copy of the ordinance is available for public review in the City Clerk's office and the Superior Clerk of Courts office.

Upon motion by Councilmember Campbell, seconded by Councilmember Kicklighter, City Council voted unanimously to approve the ordinance on the first reading. Mayor Bethune said the second reading of the ordinance will be held in May after advertising.

Resolution, 2019 LMIG Program – Contract Award: Clerk of Council read the heading of a resolution of the Mayor and Council to enter into a contract with Sikes Brothers, Inc., in the bid amount of \$125,500.00, for the performance of all such road repair work constituting the 2019 Georgia Department of Transportation Local Maintenance Improvement Grant (LMIG) Project.

City Manager said annually we receive around \$100,000 from GDOT to assist us with the resurfacing of City streets.

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

Adjournment: Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Tice, City Council adjourned the meeting at 6:16 p.m.

Transcribed & submitted by: Clerk of Council
Accepted & approved by: City Council 4/15/19