

**MINUTES**  
**City Council Meeting**  
**Monday, September 16, 2019 – 6:00 p.m.**

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

**Opening:** Pastor Ashely Randall, Garden City United Methodist Church gave the invocation and Mayor Bethune 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; Pam Franklin, HR Director; Ben Brengman, IT Director; Cliff Ducey, Recreation Director; Ron Alexander, Planning Director; Cliff Davis, Public Works Supervisor; Gilbert Ballard, Chief of Police; Corbin Medeiros, Fire Chief; Jackie Jackson, Special Projects Coordinator; Scott Robider, Code Enforcement Supervisor; and Chris Snider, IT Technician. Absent: Benny Googe, Public Works Director

**Presentation:** Chief Ballard said Sgt. Michael Epley is retiring from the Garden City Police Department after twenty-four years of service. Mayor and City Council congratulated Sgt. Michael Epley on his retirement and thanked him for his service. Sgt. Epley said the City has been good to me over the years and I would like to thank the Mayor, City Council, and staff for their support. Sgt. Epley said the Garden City Police Department is one of the most respected Police Departments in the 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.

**City Council Minutes:** Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Cody, City Council voted unanimously to approve the city council minutes dated 8/19/19 and workshop synopsis dated 8/26/19.

**Staff Reports:**

HR Director presented the human resources department's report for the month of August. HR Director said we got approved for another Health and Wellness grant. This grant is for \$5,000.

IT Director presented the information technology department's report for the month of August.

Recreation Director presented the parks and recreation department's report for the month of August.

Planning Director presented the planning department's report for the month of August.

Police Chief presented the police department's report for the month of August.

Fire Chief presented the fire department's report for the month of August.

Mayor Bethune asked the City Manager give an update on the City's recent preparation for Hurricane Dorian.

**City Manager's Updates & Announcements:** City Manager said in preparation of Hurricane Dorian the Fire Chief stood up the commend center City Hall. The decision was made to man the switchboard and a lot of calls came in about court, trash pickup, etc. Chatham County Emergency Management was in full emergency operations mode and there was good collaboration amongst the municipalities and the County.

**Items for Consideration:**

**First Reading - Ordinance, Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment:** Clerk of Council read the first reading of the heading of an ordinance to amend the zoning ordinance of Garden City for the purpose of amending Paragraph 83 of Section 90-47(b) to permit business establishments selling building, heating, plumbing, electrical, and related supplies and materials, to operate in all mixed use zoning districts located within the City with the approval of the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Upon motion by Councilmember Tice, seconded by Councilmember Kicklighter, City Council voted unanimously to approve the ordinance on the first reading.

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

**Second Reading - Ordinance, Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment:** Clerk of Council read the second reading of the heading of an ordinance to amend the zoning ordinance of Garden City for the purpose of amending Paragraph 83 of Section 90-47(b) to permit business establishments selling building, heating, plumbing, electrical, and related supplies and materials, to operate in all mixed use zoning districts located within the City with the approval of the Board of Zoning Appeals.

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

**First Reading - Ordinance, Charter Amendment:** Clerk of Council read the first reading of the heading of an ordinance to amend Article IV, Section 4.11, of the Charter of Garden City, Georgia, to create and define the office of Chief Municipal Court Judge and Associate Municipal Court Judge; to provide for service agreements and maximum terms of office for the Municipal Court Judges and Judges Pro-tem.

Upon motion by Councilmember Campbell, seconded by Councilmember Tice, City Council voted unanimously to approve the ordinance on the first reading.

City Attorney said the ordinance has to be published in the newspaper for three weeks before the second reading can be held.

**Resolution, Chain Field Lease Agreement:** Clerk of Council read the heading of a resolution to enter lease with CG Baseball, LLC, for use of Diamond No. 6 at Bazemore Ball Park.

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

**Resolution, Old Dean Forest Road Right-of-Way Acquisition:** Clerk of Council read a resolution authorizing the City of Garden City to purchase a 0.023 acre portion of the Old Dean Forest Road right-of-way owned by Dean Forest Partners, LP, in proximity to the intersection of Dean Forest Road and Prosperity Drive, which is needed to permit a future traffic signal at said intersection through the Georgia Department of Transportation; and to authorize the City Manager to execute the sales contract on behalf of the City.

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

**Resolution, Clearwater Solutions Contract Amendment:** Clerk of Council read the heading of a resolution authorizing the City of Garden City to amend its service contract with Clearwater Solutions, LLC, to include the provision of development services by qualified personnel and to authorize the City Manager to execute the services contract amendment for such services.

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

**Resolution, Police Vehicle Replacement:** Clerk of Council read the heading of a resolution to authorize the Chief of Police to solicit bids for the purchase of a patrol vehicle to replace one of the three patrol cars which have recently been taken out of service; and to authorize the City Manager to sign a purchase contract for such a vehicle.

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

**Adjournment:** Upon motion by Councilmember Campbell, seconded by Councilmember Cody, City Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 p.m.

*Transcribed & submitted by: Clerk of Council  
Accepted & approved by: City Council 10/7/19*