

MINUTES

City Council Meeting Monday, May 15, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.

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

Opening: Councilmember Hall gave the invocation, and Mayor Campbell led the City Council in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call

Council Members: Mayor Bruce Campbell, Mayor Pro-tem Marcia Daniel, Councilmember Gwyn Hall, Councilmember Lassiter, Councilmember Morris, and Councilmember Ruiz. Absent: Councilmember Kim Tice.

Staff Members: Scott Robider, City Manager; James P. Gerard, City Attorney; Rhonda Ferrell-Bowles; and Veronica Enoch, Executive Assistant.

Formal Public Comment

Request to be placed on the agenda: Mayor Campbell said we have a request from George Slade Cole, Sr., to be placed on the agenda to address the City Council regarding the fire protection fee/credits. City Manager stated that the City Attorney addressed Mr. Cole's concerns before the council meeting.

Request to be placed on the agenda: Mayor Campbell said we have a request from Shannon Holman to be placed on the agenda to address the City Council regarding a property marking for sewer.

Mr. Holman, 125 Camelia Avenue, in District 5, stated that on April 26th, he had the City's sewer maintenance personnel come out and mark the sewer. He said the city's maintenance person marked where to dig, and we hit a gas line. He said we received a bill from the City for \$5,000. He said he emailed Councilmember Tice, the District 5 representative, asking her to call him. He noted that Councilmember Tice sent an email in support of staff instead of calling him. He asked the City Council to consider resending the bill or reducing it.

Councilmember Hall asked for a breakdown of the bill. Mr. Holman gave an overview of the bill.

Councilmember Lassiter asked if the incident occurred during work hours. Mr. Holman replied, yes.

The City Manager stated that he reviewed the case. He noted that we marked the main but that 811 is responsible for marking the gas line. He said that the fees are according to the fee schedule adopted by the City Council. He noted that this incident was considered a public hazard.

Councilmember Lassiter asked why Code Enforcement was charging for services during work hours.

Mr. Holman said I had yet to have anyone from the city talk to me. The bill was attached to the door. He said they didn't mark the property. The City Manager noted that the City isn't responsible for marking the laterals on private property.

Councilmember Lassiter said we need to look into this. Councilmember Hall said the bill is exorbitant.

The City Manager said I could set up a meeting to discuss the bill with Mr. Holman if you would like me to.

Informal Public Comment: Mayor Campbell opened the floor to receive comments from the audience.

City Council Minutes: Councilmember Ruiz motioned to approve the minutes from the May 1st pre-agenda session, city council minutes, and May 8th workshop. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Daniel and passed without opposition.

City Manager’s Report: The City Manager stated that he had no updates to report.

Items for Consideration

Resolution – City Council Salaries: The Clerk of Council read the heading of a resolution authorizing the processing of an ordinance to amend Section 2.04, Article II, of the Charter of Garden City Georgia, to increase the compensation of Mayor and Councilmembers pursuant to Section 36-35-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, as amended.

Councilmember Morris motioned to adopt the resolution. Councilmember Ruiz seconded the motion. Councilmember Hall, Councilmember Lassiter, Councilmember Morris, and Councilmember Ruiz voted in favor, with Councilmember Daniel and Mayor Campbell opposed. Mayor Campbell stated that the motion passed by a 4 to 2 vote.

Executive Session: Councilmember Lassiter motioned to enter an executive session pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-2(1) for the purpose of consulting with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought by or against the City or any officer or employee or in which the City or any officer or employee may be directly involved. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Daniel and passed without opposition.

Executive Session: Councilmember Lassiter motioned to enter an executive session pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-3(b)(2) for the purpose of discussing or deliberating upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action, or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Daniel and passed without opposition.

Adjournment: The City Council unanimously adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:00 p.m.

*Transcribed & submitted by: The Clerk of Council
Accepted & approved by: The City Council on 6/5/23*