

MINUTES

City Council Meeting Monday, April 19, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.

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

Opening: Pastor James Witherspoon from Alpha & Omega Worship Center gave the invocation and Mayor Bethune led City Council in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call

City Council Members: Mayor Don Bethune, Mayor Pro-tem Bessie Kicklighter, Councilmember Marcia Daniel, Councilmember Richard Lassiter, Jr., Councilmember Natalyn Morris, Councilmember Debbi Ruiz and Councilmember Kim Tice.

Staff Members: Ron Feldner, City Manager; James P. Gerard, City Attorney; Rhonda Ferrell-Bowles, Finance Director/Clerk of Council; Scott Robider, Assistant City Manager; Gil Ballard, Chief of Police; Cliff Ducey, Recreation Director; and Ben Brengman, IT Director. Absent: Pam Sweeny, HR Director; Jon Bayer, Public Works Director and Corbin Medeiros, Fire Chief.

Presentation: Members of the Alee Shriners presented a plaque to the Mayor and City Council in appreciation of the City allowing the Shriners to hold fund raiser events within the City.

Public Hearings

PC2107, Rezoning Request (4877 Old Louisville Road): Mayor Bethune opened the public hearing to receive public comment on a request by Zachary Riddle to rezone 4877 Old Louisville Road from RA to I-1 for development as a truck chassis storage lot.

Assistant City Manager gave an overview of the rezoning request. He stated that the Planning Commission recommended approval of the request.

There being no speakers for or against the rezoning request, Mayor Bethune closed the public hearing.

PC2108, Rezoning Request (25 Main Street): Receipt of public comment on a request by Bharat Patel to rezone 25 Main Street from CA to C-2A(B&W) for development as a convenience store and market.

Assistant City Manager gave an overview of the rezoning request. He stated that the Planning Commission recommended approval of the request.

There being no speakers for or against the rezoning request, Mayor Bethune closed the public hearing.

PC2109, Zoning Text Amendment: Mayor Bethune opened the public hearing to receive public comment on a request by Southbridge Commons, LLC for a zoning text amendment to amend Section 90-49(f)(9)(e) to prohibit sales (outdoor); to amend Section 90-49(f)(5) to add subsection (g) in order to permit storage of vehicles and vehicular sales provided that; (i) such use may not occur outdoors; (ii) no automobile repair shall be permitted as part of the uses, and (iii) no temporary signage shall be permitted.

Assistant City Manager gave an overview of the zoning text amendment. He stated that the Planning Commission recommended approval.

Joshua Yellin, attorney with HunterMaclean stated that the proposed ordinance amendment would permit use of the old Food Lion facility as an exotic care museum which will also include indoor storage/warehousing of other collectible vehicles. Also, they are planning to utilize a portion of the building as a special events venue for weddings, etc. He stated that the old Food Lion facility is zoned for mix-use, but as a result of a portion of the building being designated for the sole purposes of indoor vehicle storage/warehousing the City's current ordinance needed to be amended to permit the use.

City Attorney stated that the Planning Commission's approval of the site plan is just the first step in the overall process and additional requirements still must be met.

There being no further speakers, Mayor Bethune closed the public hearing.

City Council Minutes: Councilmember Kicklighter made a motion to approve the April 5, 2021 pre-agenda session minutes and city council meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Tice and passed without opposition.

City Manager's Report: City Manager gave an update on the Savannah Chatham County Public School System Intergovernmental Agreement.

Items for Consideration

Resolution, SAFEbuilt Services Agreement: Clerk of Council read the heading of resolution authorizing the City of Garden City, Georgia, to enter into a professional services agreement with SAFEbuilt Georgia, LLC, to provide, on a temporary on-call basis, building inspections, plan reviews and code enforcement services for the Planning & Economic Development Department; to authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement, and for other purposes.

Councilmember Kicklighter made a motion to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lassiter and passed without opposition.

Informal Public Comment: Mayor Bethune stated that no speakers signed up to address City Council.

Adjournment: There being no further items to discuss, Mayor Bethune called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Morris made a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:22 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lassiter and passed without opposition.

Transcribed & submitted by: Clerk of Council

Accepted & approved by: City Council 5/3/21