

MINUTES

City Council Meeting Tuesday, February 18, 2025 – 6:00 p.m.

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

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

Roll Call

City Council Members: Mayor Bruce Campbell, Mayor Pro-Tem Marcia Daniel, Councilmember Gwyn Hall, Councilmember Richard Lassiter, Councilmember Natalyn Morris, and Councilmember Debbie Ruiz. Councilmember Kim Tice was absent.

Staff Members: Rhonda Ferrell-Bowles, City Manager; James P. Gerard, City Attorney; Gil Ballard, Chief of Police; Ben Brengman, IT Director/Special Projects Coordinator; Katie Draeger, Finance Director; Michelle Johnson, Assistant Fire Chief; Carlos Nevarez, Planning and Zoning/Chief Fire Marshal; Cliff Ducey, Parks and Recreation Director; Veronica Enoch, Executive Assistant; Tonya Roper, Clerk of Council; and Kyle Thomas, IT Technician.

Presentation: Official Announcement of the Garden City Police Department's recertification as a State Certified Police Agency. Chief Ballard thanked Mayor and Council for the opportunity to present and their continued support of the Police Department. He said one of the primary goals of the department is to provide professional services when coming into contact with those who live here, work here or visit Garden City and establishing professional standards is one of the ways to accomplish this. Chief Ballard continued by saying Garden City's department has been nationally accredited since 2003 and is the only department in the region that is accredited and certified at the same time, with a part of the process is having outside assessors review the work that is done on a yearly basis. He stated at the end of 2023, we were accredited by Kahlia and at the end of 2024 we had an onsite assessment with the State. Based on his review, Chief Ballard officially announced it as a privilege and an honor with receipt of the State re-certification plaque establishes the department as a certified agency for another four years.

Informal Public Comment: Given no speakers, Mayor Campbell closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

City Council Minutes: Councilmember Lassiter motioned to approve the minutes from the February 3rd Pre-Agenda Session and City Council meeting minutes and February 10th Council workshop. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Daniel. The motion passed with all voting in favor of the motion.

Items for Consideration

Ordinance – Zoning Map Amendment (4602 Old Louisville Road): An ordinance to amend the zoning ordinance and map of Garden City, Georgia as amended to rezone from zoning classifications of R-A and R-2 to a zoning classification of C-2, a 2.56 acre parcel located between Old Louisville Road and the Central of Georgia Railroad Right-of-Way, with an address of 4602 Old Louisville Road currently owned by Richard Morgan Hicks; to repeal all ordinances in conflict herewith; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes. *(Continuance from the 2/3/25 City Council Meeting)*

Mayor Campbell announced the request has been pulled from the agenda as the application has been withdrawn.

Resolution: HB581 Homestead Exemption: The Clerk of Council read the heading for consideration by the Mayor and Council of Garden City, Georgia to opt-out of the Homestead Exemption pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 48-5-44.2.

Mayor Campbell called for a motion to table the item for consideration. Councilmember Hall made a motion to table the item pending further study. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Daniel. The motion passes with all voting in favor of the motion.

Resolution – Granicus, LLC Proposal Agreement: The Clerk of Council read the heading of a resolution authorizing the City of Garden City to continue engaging the professional services of Granicus, LLC to redesign and upgrade the City’s website and to continue providing hosting, licensing, and support products and services for such website pursuant to an existing master subscription agreement, and for other purposes.

Councilmember Ruiz made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Daniel seconds the motion.

City Manager stated the City currently has an agreement with Granicus to host the City’s website and this adds for the redesign and to continue hosting and providing of support services.

The motion passes with Councilmember Daniel, Councilmember Hall, Councilmember Lassiter, Councilmember Morris, Councilmember Ruiz, and Mayor Campbell voting in favor of the motion.

Adjournment: Mayor Campbell called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Ruiz motioned to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:06pm. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Daniel and passed without opposition.

Transcribed & submitted by: The Clerk of Council

Accepted & approved by: The City Council on 03-03-2025