

M I N U T E S

City Council Meeting Monday, July 7, 2025 – 6:00 p.m.

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

Opening: Mayor Pro-Tem Daniel gave the invocation and Mayor Campbell led the City Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

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

Staff Members: Rhonda Ferrell-Bowles, City Manager; James P. Gerard, City Attorney; Gil Ballard, Chief of Police; Cliff Ducey, Parks and Recreation Director; Tonya Roper Clerk of Council; and Andrew Guzman, IT Tech.

Informal Public Comment: Given no comments, Mayor Campbell closed the section for informal public comment.

City Council Minutes: Councilmember Daniel made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 16th Pre-Agenda Session and City Council meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ruiz. The motion passes with Councilmember Daniel, Councilmember Hall, Councilmember Ruiz, Councilmember Tice and Mayor Campbell voting in favor of the motion. Councilmember Morris abstained from voting due to absence at the June 16th meeting.

Items for Consideration

Resolution – Millage Rate/AD Valorem Tax: The Clerk of Council read the heading of a resolution by the Mayor and Council of Garden City, Georgia, to fix the millage rate for ad valorem property taxes of the City of Garden City for FY2025 and for other lawful purposes.

Councilmember Daniel asked for the City Manager to provide an explanation of the millage rate and how the rollbacks will work.

The City Manager stated the City is setting a millage rate at 4 mills for the ad valorem property taxes for 2025. The millage rate of 4 mills represents an increase of 1.505 mills from the 2024 rate of 2.495, which is the City's current millage rate. The digest increased slightly, and the recommended rollback rate is 2.440; state law requires the leveling authority to average out the percentage increase based on the rollback rate instead of the previous year's millage rate.

Councilmember Morris made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Hall seconded the motion. The motion passes with all voting in favor of the motion.

Resolution – Right of Entry and Indemnification Agreement(Chatham County): The Clerk of Council read the heading of a resolution to approve an agreement with Chatham County, Georgia granting an conveying to the City the right to enter upon a parcel of land owned by the County for the purpose of excavating a ditch along the access road running the length of the parcel between Big Hill Road and Pipemakers Canal to improve the drainage of the Big Hill Road Properties.

Councilmember Tice made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Morris seconded the motion. The motion passes with all voting in favor of the motion.

Resolution – Rostan Solutions Master Services Agreement: The Clerk of Council read the heading of a resolution by Mayor and Council authorizing the City Manager to execute the extension of a master services agreement for a one (1) year period through July 16, 2026, with Rostan Solutions, LLC for debris monitoring and public consulting services.

Councilmember Ruiz made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Hall seconded the motion. The motion passes with all voting in favor of the motion.

Resolution – Stewart Signs Proposal Agreement (Volunteer Park): The Clerk of Council read the heading of a resolution to approve and authorize the procurement and purchase of a 12' x 8' double-sided full color Atlas Outdoor LED Monument sign in the amount of \$35,436.00 for placement at Volunteer Park on State Highway 21 to advertise city business and activities.

Councilmember Tice made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Morris seconded the motion. The vote passes with all voting in favor of the motion.

Resolution – Intergovernmental SPLOST Agreement: A resolution to accept the intergovernmental agreement proposal by Chatham County for the reimposition of SPLOST for six (6) years commencing October 1, 2026, to include the funding of Garden City's capital improvement projects for fire station replacement, public safety vehicles and equipment, drainage and storm water infrastructure, road and street improvements, sidewalks, parks and recreation improvements, and title acquisition.

Mayor Campbell called for a motion to table the resolution for the intergovernmental SPLOST agreement. Councilmember Hall made a motion to table the resolution due to pending information from Chatham County. Councilmember Morris seconded the motion. The vote passes with all voting in favor the motion.

Adjournment: Mayor Campbell called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Tice motioned to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:07pm. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ruiz and passes without opposition.

Transcribed & submitted by: The Clerk of Council

Accepted & approved by: The City Council on 7-21-25