

**WORK SESSION MEETING
OF THE
GARFIELD MAYOR AND COUNCIL
JANUARY 9, 2024
6:00P.M.**

The Work Session Meeting of the Garfield Mayor and Council for January 9, 2024 was called to order by City Manager/City Clerk Erin Delaney at 6:03PM. The Statement of Compliance was read.

Councilmembers Maslag, Herrera*, & Banch, Deputy Mayor Delaney, and Mayor Rigoglioso were present. Also present were City Manager/City Clerk Erin Delaney, City Attorney John Tuntevski, and City Engineer Kevin Boswell.

** Councilman Herrera arrived at 6:06PM.*

Whereas, Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of the State of New Jersey requires at the commencement of every meeting a Statement of Compliance be read by the presiding officer.

Now, Therefore Be Advised, that the meeting requirements for this meeting have been met by publishing a special meeting notice in The Record and Herald News and by posting such notice in the office of the City Clerk as well as in a public place within the Municipal Building, and by notifying interested citizens. Said notice was posted on December 20, 2023 and published on December 26, 2023, with a notice for said meeting being held via teleconference due to the State of Emergency being transmitted and posted on January 9, 2024.

Work Meeting Agenda Items:

Action Items:

- 1. ORDINANCES:**
 - FIRST READING**
 - R-35-24 Introduce Ord. #3022
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND PART I, ADMINISTRATIVE LEGISLATION, CHAPTER 48, POLICE DEPARTMENT, ARTICLE VII, CONTRACTED OFF-DUTY EMPLOYMENT, OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GARFIELD
 - R-36-24 Introduce Ord. #3023
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND PART II, GENERAL LEGISLATION, CHAPTER 226, PARKING, ARTICLE II, PARKING FOR HANDICAPPED PERSONS, OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GARFIELD
- 2. CONSENT AGENDA:**
 - R-37-24 Approval of Bills List
 - R-38-24 Enabling Resolution for Supplemental Funding Request
 - R-39-24 Re-Appointing Fire Department Chaplain
 - R-40-24 Approval of Laundromat Business License
 - R-41-24 Approval of Laundromat Business License
 - R-42-24 Approving 2024 Vehicle Repair and Auto Body Repair Facility Licenses
 - R-43-23 Authorizing Resolution to Accept Consent Agenda

3. RESOLUTION:

R-44-23

Commending and Supporting the Garfield Free Public Library Board of Trustees for Declaring the Garfield Free Public Library as a Book Sanctuary and Declaring the City of Garfield as a Book Sanctuary City

**CITY OF GARFIELD
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION R-35-24**

**RESOLUTION BY: MAYOR RIGOGLIOSO
SECONDED BY: COUNCILWOMAN BANCH**

**INTRODUCE ORDINANCE #3022
FIRST READING**

BE IT RESOLVED, that an ordinance entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND PART I, ADMINISTRATIVE LEGISLATION, CHAPTER 48, POLICE DEPARTMENT, ARTICLE VII, CONTRACTED OFF-DUTY EMPLOYMENT, OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GARFIELD

be passed and adopted on first reading; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that a final hearing on said ordinance will be heard at a meeting held on Tuesday, January 23, 2024 at 6:00PM or as soon thereafter as same can be heard, at which time any persons interested in said ordinance can be heard; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk be and she is hereby authorized to advertise in a legal newspaper a notice of introduction and final hearing as required by law.

APPROVED: January 9, 2024

Richard Rigoglioso, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC, CMC
City Manager/City Clerk

Record of Council Vote on Passage

	AYE	NAY	Abstain	Absent
Maslag	X			
Herrera	X			
Banch	X			
Delaney	X			
Rigoglioso	X			

This resolution was approved by the Mayor and Council of the City of Garfield at the Work Session Meeting held on the 9th day of January 2024. Signed and sealed before me.

Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC, CMC
City Manager/City Clerk

Dated

**CITY OF GARFIELD
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
ORDINANCE NO.: 3022**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND PART I, ADMINISTRATIVE LEGISLATION, CHAPTER 48, POLICE DEPARTMENT, ARTICLE VII, CONTRACTED OFF-DUTY EMPLOYMENT, OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GARFIELD

WHEREAS, statutory authority provides that the Mayor and Council for the City of Garfield by Ordinance may set rates of compensation to the City Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the use of off-duty services by the Police Department serves an integral role in providing comfort and safety to the citizens of the City of Garfield; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council finds it is in the best interest of the City to increase the rates of compensation for off-duty law enforcement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Governing Body of the City of Garfield, that Part I, Administrative Legislation, Chapter 48, Police Department, Article VII, Contracted Off-Duty Employment, is hereby amended as follows:

Section 1. The current text of City Ordinance, Part I, Administrative Legislation, Chapter 48, Police Department, Article VII, Contracted Off-Duty Employment, is hereby amended as follows:

§ 48-28. Rates of compensation; administrative fee; payment for services.

- A. Rates of compensation for contracting the services of off-duty law enforcement officers shall be established from time to time by the City Council. Rates of compensation for contracting the services of off-duty law enforcement are established as follows:
- (1) Rate of compensation per hour for off-duty time: \$100, except as set forth in Subsection A(2) and A(3) below.
 - (2) Rate of compensation per hour for certain other off-duty law enforcement services, to include, Fire Department functions, City functions and church/non-profit functions: \$50.
 - (3) Rate of compensation per hour for certain other off-duty law enforcement services, to include, school functions: \$75.
 - (4) An additional fee of \$25 per hour is hereby established to cover administration costs, overhead, and out-of-pocket expenses of the City of Garfield.
 - (5) An additional fee of \$25 per vehicle per hour is hereby established to compensate the City of Garfield for use of vehicles.
 - (6) A minimum of four hours under four hours of work along with a minimum of eight hours for any work above four hours but under eight hours will be granted to the off-duty officer.
- B. Payment to off-duty law enforcement officers for outside employment shall be made through the City's payroll process.

Section 2. All other provisions of Chapter 23 are hereby ratified and remains in full force and effect;

Section 3. Any other chapter of the City Code that conflicts with this ordinance is hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict;

Section 4. If any section, subsection, clause or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid by any court or competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the remaining portion of this ordinance.

ATTEST: _____

Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC, CMC

City Manager/City Clerk

Introduced: January 9, 2024

Adopted:

APPROVED: _____

Richard Rigoglioso, Mayor

**CITY OF GARFIELD
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION R-36-24**

**RESOLUTION BY: MAYOR RIGOGLIOSO
SECONDED BY: DEPUTY MAYOR DELANEY**

**INTRODUCE ORDINANCE #3023
FIRST READING**

BE IT RESOLVED, that an ordinance entitled:

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND PART II, GENERAL LEGISLATION, CHAPTER 226,
PARKING, ARTICLE II, PARKING FOR HANDICAPPED PERSONS, OF THE
REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GARFIELD**

be passed and adopted on first reading; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that a final hearing on said ordinance will be heard at a meeting held on Tuesday, January 23, 2024 at 6:00PM or as soon thereafter as same can be heard, at which time any persons interested in said ordinance can be heard; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk be and she is hereby authorized to advertise in a legal newspaper a notice of introduction and final hearing as required by law.

APPROVED: January 9, 2024

Richard Rigoglioso, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC, CMC
City Manager/City Clerk

Record of Council Vote on Passage

	AYE	NAY	Abstain	Absent
Maslag	X			
Herrera	X			
Banch	X			
Delaney	X			
Rigoglioso	X			

This resolution was approved by the Mayor and Council of the City of Garfield at the Work Session Meeting held on the 9th day of January 2024. Signed and sealed before me.

Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC, CMC
City Manager/City Clerk

Dated

**CITY OF GARFIELD
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
ORDINANCE NO.: 3023**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND PART II, GENERAL LEGISLATION, CHAPTER 226, PARKING, ARTICLE II, PARKING FOR HANDICAPPED PERSONS, OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GARFIELD

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 39:4-197.6, the governing body of this municipality may establish restricted parking zones in front of residences occupied by handicapped persons; and

WHEREAS, the City of Garfield has incurred costs for providing permits and processing applications for such permits; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council finds it is in the best interest of the City of Garfield for the City to charge a fee for residents who apply for such permits;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Body of the City of Garfield, that Part II, General Legislation, Chapter 226, Parking, Article II, Parking for Handicapped Persons, is hereby amended as follows:

Section 1. The current text of City Ordinance, Part II, General Legislation, Chapter 226, Parking, Article II, Parking for Handicapped Persons, is hereby amended to include the following:

§ 226-5: Application for handicapped parking space; initial application fee.

C. A one-time initial application fee is hereby established in the amount of \$100.

Section 2. All other provisions of Chapter 48 are hereby ratified and remain in full force and effect;

Section 3. Any other chapter of the City Code that conflicts with this ordinance is hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict;

Section 4. If any section, subsection, clause or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid by any court or competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the remaining portion of this ordinance.

ATTEST: _____

Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC, CMC
City Manager/City Clerk

Introduced: January 9, 2024

Adopted:

APPROVED: _____

Richard Rigoglioso, Mayor

**CITY OF GARFIELD
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION R-37-24**

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTION BY: COUNCILMAN HERRERA

SECONDED BY: COUNCILWOMAN BANCH

APPROVAL OF BILLS LIST

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Garfield that the Current Year Reserve Totaling \$29,752.40 and the Current Fund totaling \$2,847,665.00 and the Water Reserves totaling \$322.36 and the Water Fund totaling \$2,437.51 and the Grants totaling \$0.00 and the General Capital Fund totaling \$0.00 and the Water Capital Fund totaling \$0.00 and the Trust Accounts totaling \$0.00 and the Developer’s Escrow totaling \$0.00 per attached Computer Lists, dated January 9, 2024 be ordered paid and the proper officers are hereby authorized to issue checks for same provided there are funds in the respective appropriations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the action of the Mayor, City Clerk and City Treasurer in issuing checks in payment on the Ratification List, totaling \$907,694.46 prior to the meeting be ratified.

I, Anders Hasseler, Chief Financial Officer for the City of Garfield do hereby confirm that there are sufficient funds available for this resolution.

Anders Hasseler, Chief Financial Officer

January 8, 2024
Dated

APPROVED: January 9, 2024

Richard Rigoglioso, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC, CMC
City Manager/City Clerk

Record of Council Vote on Passage

	AYE	NAY	Abstain	Absent
Maslag	X			
Herrera	X			
Banch	X			
Delaney	X			
Rigoglioso	X			

This resolution was approved by the Mayor and Council of the City of Garfield at the Work Session Meeting held on the 9th day of January 2024. Signed and sealed before me.

Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC, CMC
City Manager/City Clerk

Dated

**CITY OF GARFIELD
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION R-38-24**

CONSENT AGENDA

**RESOLUTION BY: COUNCILMAN HERRERA
SECONDED BY: COUNCILWOMAN BANCH**

ENABLING RESOLUTION FOR SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING REQUEST

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Green Acres Program (“State”), provides loans and/or grants to municipal and county governments and grants to nonprofit organizations for assistance in the acquisition and development of lands for outdoor recreation and conservation purposes; and

WHEREAS, the City of Garfield has previously obtained a Green Acres loan of \$0 and/or a Green Acres grant of \$2,460,000.00 from the State [and an Urban Parks grant of \$0 from the State] to fund the following project(s):

0221-21-075 – Columbus Park Improvements; and

WHEREAS, the City of Garfield desires to further the public interest by requesting an additional Green Acres loan of \$0 and/or an additional Green Acres grant of \$3,980,127 [and an additional Urban Parks grant of \$0; and \$0 from the State] to fund the project; and

WHEREAS, the State shall determine if the supplemental funding requests is complete and in conformance with the scope and intent of the Green Acres Program, and notify the applicant of the amount of the funding award; and

WHEREAS, the applicant is willing to use the State’s funds in accordance with its rules, regulations and applicable statutes, and is willing to enter into an Amendment of the Agreement with the State for the above-named project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the City of Garfield as follows:

1. Erin Delaney or the successor to the office of City Manager is hereby authorized to:
 - (a) request such a loan and/or such a grant,
 - (b) provide additional information and furnish such documents as may be required, and
 - (c) act as the authorized correspondent of the above-named applicant; and
2. The applicant agrees to provide the local government/nonprofit share if a match is required.
3. The applicant agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations in its performance of the project.
4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED: January 9, 2024

Richard Rigoglioso, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC, CMC
City Manager/City Clerk

Record of Council Vote on Passage

	AYE	NAY	Abstain	Absent
Maslag	X			
Herrera	X			
Banch	X			
Delaney	X			
Rigoglioso	X			

This resolution was approved by the Mayor and Council of the City of Garfield at the Work Session Meeting held on the 9th day of January 2024. Signed and sealed before me.

Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC, CMC
City Manager/City Clerk

Dated

**CITY OF GARFIELD
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION R-39-24**

CONSENT AGENDA

**RESOLUTION BY: COUNCILMAN HERRERA
SECONDED BY: COUNCILWOMAN BANCH**

RE-APPOINTING FIRE DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN

WHEREAS, statutory authority provides that the Mayor and Council for the City of Garfield by Ordinance may create the appointment of a Chaplain to the City Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Ordinance 2930 which amended Chapter 23, Article 1 of the City Code, the position of Fire Chaplain was created; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the aforesaid City Code, the position of Fire Chaplain is a volunteer position and shall be subject to the control of the Fire Chief; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the aforesaid City Code, the Chief of Police has recommended one (1) individual who meets the qualifications in order to serve in the position of Fire Chaplain; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Chief has recommended that Pastor John Czubkowski, Praise Church, 145 Main Street, Garfield, NJ 07026 be appointed to serve in the position of Fire Chaplain;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Garfield that Pastor John Czubkowski be and is hereby appointed to serve in the position of Fire Chaplain in accordance with Ordinance 2930 and applicable state statutes, term ending December 31, 2024.

APPROVED: January 9, 2024

Richard Rigoglioso, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC, CMC
City Manager/City Clerk

Record of Council Vote on Passage

	AYE	NAY	Abstain	Absent
Maslag	X			
Herrera	X			
Banch	X			
Delaney	X			
Rigoglioso	X			

This resolution was approved by the Mayor and Council of the City of Garfield at the Work Session Meeting held on the 9th day of January 2024. Signed and sealed before me.

Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC, CMC
City Manager/City Clerk

Dated

**CITY OF GARFIELD
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION R-40-24**

CONSENT AGENDA

**RESOLUTION BY: COUNCILMAN HERRERA
SECONDED BY: COUNCILWOMAN BANCH**

APPROVAL OF LAUNDROMAT BUSINESS LICENSE

WHEREAS, Jupiter North, LLC t/a Time to Wash, 69 River Drive, filed an application for a laundromat license for the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, the local inspectors certify that they have conformed with provisions of Ordinance No. 1288;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Garfield that the City Clerk be and is hereby authorized to issue a license Jupiter North, LLC t/a Time to Wash 69 River Drive, Garfield, New Jersey 07026 for the year 2024.

APPROVED: January 9, 2024

Richard Rigoglioso, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC, CMC
City Manager/City Clerk

Record of Council Vote on Passage

	AYE	NAY	Abstain	Absent
Maslag	X			
Herrera	X			
Banch	X			
Delaney	X			
Rigoglioso	X			

This resolution was approved by the Mayor and Council of the City of Garfield at the Work Session Meeting held on the 9th day of January 2024. Signed and sealed before me.

Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC, CMC
City Manager/City Clerk

Dated

**CITY OF GARFIELD
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION R-41-24**

CONSENT AGENDA

**RESOLUTION BY: COUNCILMAN HERRERA
SECONDED BY: COUNCILWOMAN BANCH**

APPROVAL OF LAUNDROMAT BUSINESS LICENSE

WHEREAS, New EZ Laundromat, LLC., 251 Midland Avenue, filed an application for a laundromat license for the year 2024; and

WHEREAS, the local inspectors certify that they have conformed with provisions of Ordinance No. 1288;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Garfield that the City Clerk be and is hereby authorized to issue a license to New EZ Laundromat, LLC, 251 Midland Avenue, Garfield, New Jersey 07026 for the year 2024.

APPROVED: January 9, 2024

Richard Rigoglioso, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC, CMC
City Manager/City Clerk

Record of Council Vote on Passage

	AYE	NAY	Abstain	Absent
Maslag	X			
Herrera	X			
Banch	X			
Delaney	X			
Rigoglioso	X			

This resolution was approved by the Mayor and Council of the City of Garfield at the Work Session Meeting held on the 9th day of January 2024. Signed and sealed before me.

Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC, CMC
City Manager/City Clerk

Dated

**CITY OF GARFIELD
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION R-42-24**

CONSENT AGENDA

**RESOLUTION BY: COUNCILMAN HERRERA
SECONDED BY: COUNCILWOMAN BANCH**

**APPROVING 2024 VEHICLE REPAIR AND AUTO BODY REPAIR FACILITY
LICENSES**

WHEREAS, the following applicants have submitted their application for a vehicle repair and auto body repair license for the year 2024;

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>DATE FOR ISSUANCE/APPROVAL</u>
VO Auto Body	86 Bogart Avenue	January 1, 2024
D&T Auto Body, Inc.	1 Belmont Avenue	January 1, 2024
21 st Century Auto	94 Naples Place	January 1, 2024
Victorio Auto Body, Inc.	568 River Drive	January 1, 2024
Dymora Auto LLC	381 River Drive	January 1, 2024
Quality Auto Body	205 Passaic Street	January 1, 2024
Belfi's Auto & Truck Repair	208 Palisade Avenue	January 1, 2024
Metro Body & Fender, Inc.	619 Midland Avenue	January 1, 2024
Mazzola Auto Body	195 Passaic Street	January 1, 2024
Kaytor's Garage	379 River Drive	January 1, 2024
Lincoln Auto Body, Inc.	87 Lincoln Place	January 1, 2024
Crown Auto Body	122 Pierre Avenue	January 1, 2024

WHEREAS, it is certified that they have conformed with provisions of Ch. 330, Vehicle Repair and Auto Body Repair Facilities, adopted 9-12-2023 by Ord. No. 3005;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Garfield that the City Clerk be and is hereby authorized to issue licenses to the above-named applicants, effective on the date for issuance/approval listed above.

APPROVED: January 9, 2024

Richard Rigoglioso, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC, CMC
City Manager/City Clerk

Record of Council Vote on Passage

	AYE	NAY	Abstain	Absent
Maslag	X			
Herrera	X			
Banch	X			
Delaney	X			
Rigoglioso	X			

This resolution was approved by the Mayor and Council of the City of Garfield at the Work Session Meeting held on the 9th day of January 2024. Signed and sealed before me.

Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC, CMC
City Manager/City Clerk

Dated

**CITY OF GARFIELD
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION R-43-24**

CONSENT AGENDA

**RESOLUTION BY: COUNCILMAN HERRERA
SECONDED BY: COUNCILWOMAN BANCH**

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the City of Garfield that the actions noted in the Consent Agenda, Resolutions R-37-24 through R-43-24 be and are hereby approved and the proper officers are directed to take necessary action on same.

APPROVED: January 9, 2024

Richard Rigoglioso, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC, CMC
City Manager/City Clerk

Record of Council Vote on Passage

	AYE	NAY	Abstain	Absent
Maslag	X			
Herrera	X			
Banch	X			
Delaney	X			
Rigoglioso	X			

This resolution was approved by the Mayor and Council of the City of Garfield at the Work Session Meeting held on the 9th day of January 2024. Signed and sealed before me.

Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC, CMC
City Manager/City Clerk

Dated

Book Sanctuary City Discussion:

MaryJo Jennings, Library Director, requested that the Mayor and Council adopt a resolution to designate the City as a Book Sanctuary City, on behalf of the Library Board of Trustees. Discussion ensued and the Council inquired as to what books would be released and what other municipalities have taken these steps. Ms. Jennings provided a brief background on what a Book Sanctuary City is and advised that she would have to look into what municipalities passed a resolution of support as she did not presently have that information. It was noted that the Library is its own entity, which caused confusion as to why a resolution from the Council was necessary. Councilman Maslag noted that he is in favor of passing the requested resolution. Mayor Rigoglioso requested that a formal vote be taken.

Councilwoman Banch requested that the record be reflected to note that she would like to revisit this once the Mayor and Council received the information requested from the Library Director.

**CITY OF GARFIELD
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION R-44-24**

RESOLUTION BY: MAYOR RIGOGLIOSO

SECONDED BY: COUNCILMAN MASLAG

**COMMENDING AND SUPPORTING THE GARFIELD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR DECLARING THE GARFIELD FREE PUBLIC
LIBRARY AS A BOOK SANCTUARY AND DECLARING THE CITY OF GARFIELD
AS A BOOK SANCTUARY CITY**

WHEREAS, the freedom to read is a human right, constitutionally protected by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution, and individuals have the right to free inquiry and the equally important right to form their own opinions; and

WHEREAS, Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that “everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers”; and

WHEREAS, books do not require readers to agree with topics or themes but instead allow readers to explore and engage with differing perspectives to form and inform their own views; and

WHEREAS, over the last several years, there has been a significant increase in censorship activities in the United States resulting in books being removed from library shelves and schools; and

WHEREAS, book bans often seek to impose restrictions on students and families based on the political, ideological, or cultural preferences of the individuals calling for book bans; and

WHEREAS, legislation passed, bills introduced, and executive orders implemented in numerous states seek to ban books and access to books, and are often targeted at books written by and about LGBTQ+ persons and People of Color; and

WHEREAS, the Garfield Free Public Library Board of Trustees has declared their opposition to the banning of books in any form; and

WHEREAS, the Garfield Free Public Library Board of Trustees approved a resolution at its September 27, 2023 meeting Adopting the American Library Association's Freedom To Read Statement and Declaring the Garfield Free Public Library as a Book Sanctuary; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Garfield commends the Garfield Free Public Library Board of Trustees for taking action on book bans and supports its designation of the Library as a Book Sanctuary; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Garfield joins the Garfield Free Public Library in its strong opposition to book bans;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of the City of Garfield, that the City Council commends and supports the actions of the Board of Trustees of the Garfield Free Public Library in adopting the American Library Association's Freedom to Read Statement and declaring the Garfield Free Public Library as a book sanctuary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council declares the City of Garfield as a Book Sanctuary City, where no book shall be banned, endangered books shall be protected, and all types of books shall be made accessible to all without regard to their content; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council encourages the citizens of Garfield to take actions consistent with the City’s status as a Book Sanctuary City, including:

1. Using their Garfield Library card, or obtaining a Library card, and borrowing and reading challenged and endangered books, which are available through the Library;
2. Hosting or joining in-person or virtual banned book clubs either privately or through the Library, and encouraging critical discussions of censored materials, starting with Black, Indigenous, People of Color (“BIPOC”) and LGBTQ+ stories, which are most often challenged;
3. Collecting and protecting endangered books, and lending them to friends and neighbors;
4. Using the local Little Free Libraries located throughout the City as book sanctuaries, borrowing and adding endangered books as a way to support the freedom to read;
5. Hosting or participating in book talks, story times, and other events about banned and challenged books;
6. Offering to volunteer with the Garfield Public Library; and
7. Amplifying their voices on social media using the #TheBookSanctuary hashtag.

REJECTED: January 9, 2024

Richard Rigoglioso, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC, CMC
City Manager/City Clerk

Record of Council Vote on Passage

	AYE	NAY	Abstain	Absent
Maslag	X			
Herrera	X			
Banch		X		
Delaney		X		
Rigoglioso		X		

This resolution was rejected by the Mayor and Council of the City of Garfield at the Work Session Meeting held on the 9th day of January 2024. Signed and sealed before me.

Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC, CMC
City Manager/City Clerk

Dated

SC Vistula Discussion:

Dariusz Wesolowski of SC Vistula addressed the Mayor and Council by stating that their re-organization would like to re-visit a discussion regarding being able to provide the City financial support for a new turf soccer field at 20th Century Field. Mr. Wesolowski advised that the organization is open to the field being a shared-use space and could be a multi-purpose turf field that can accommodate other sports. Discussion ensued regarding location. City Manager/City Clerk Delaney inquired as to how much funding SC Vistula is willing to contribute, to which the response was approximately \$1 million, depending on their partnership with the Garfield Board of Education. The Mayor and Council advised that they have no issue with exploring the possibility but that they would like to see a visual and scheduling would have to be worked out between all sports fairly. City Engineer Kevin Boswell shared his thoughts on the dimensions of the field. It was determined that SC Vistula would work on a draft design and meet with the City Manager/City Clerk, City Engineer, and 2 members of the council once complete to discuss further.

Reports of the Cabinet and City Council:

Engineer's Report:

City Engineer Kevin Boswell advised that his firm is chasing down additional funding for the River Drive project. He noted that all is going well, though tonight's storm may cause a delay. He shared that they are currently in the design phase for several projects. Deputy Mayor Delaney inquired about an issue with utility posts. Lastly, City Manager/City Clerk Delaney advised Mr. Boswell that the lead line project should take priority and would like to set up a meeting to discuss next steps.

CFO's Report:

City Manager/City Clerk Delaney read CFO Anders Hasseler's report which was sent electronically.

Report of the City Manager:

Discussion:

1. **County Flooring Request** – City Manager/City Clerk Delaney advised that County Administrator Mr. Duch reached out to her office earlier in the day requesting that the City consider replacing the office floors within the Senior Building. She noted that the DPW will be obtaining quotes for the Mayor and Council to consider.
2. **Egg Hunt** – City Manager/City Clerk Delaney shared that Mayor Rigoglioso informed her that a religious organization was interested in partnering with the City to sponsor this year's egg hunt. She noted that there is nothing that precludes the organization from sponsoring the event, however, that the event must remain as a non-religious City event.
3. **EV Charging Stations** – City Manager/City Clerk Delaney state that the company Flo came back to the City with their pricing for EV charging stations. She noted that the City does not currently have the funds to begin installation, however, that they would be pursuing grants to assist with the cost.

Departmental Reports:

1. **Clerk's Office December 2023** – No discussion ensued.
2. **Building Department December 2023** – No discussion ensued.
3. **Recreation Department December 2023** – No discussion ensued.
4. **Millennium Strategies through December 2023** – No discussion ensued.

Executive Session:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Banch and seconded by Councilman Herrera to enter into Executive Session. The motions carried unanimously by those present.

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, P.L. 1975, Chapter 231 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist; and
WHEREAS, the Governing Body wishes to discuss:

Personnel

Minutes will be kept and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no longer requires that confidentiality, then the minutes can be made public;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the public be excluded from this meeting.

A motion was made by Mayor Rigoglioso and seconded by Councilwoman Banch to return to the public portion. The motions carried unanimously.

Public Hearing:

Martin Rybak, Piast Meats & Provisions, wanted to bring the dip by the River Drive Improvements project to the Mayor and Council's attention. City Manager/City Clerk Delaney stated that she would share his contact information with Kevin Boswell to ensure it is addressed.

Before asking for a motion to adjourn, Mayor Rigoglioso shared information about an upcoming 90's Night fundraised at Mt. Virgin Church and advised that he would like to consider filming a commercial for the City.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Banch and seconded by Deputy Mayor Delaney to adjourn. The motions carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Delaney, MPA, RMC, CMC
City Manager/City Clerk

These meeting minutes were approved at the January 23, 2024 Regular Meeting of the Mayor & Council.