

Union Point City Council Minutes
Monthly Meeting – August 11, 2020 – 6 p.m.
Four Room School House – 211 Veazey Street, Union Point, GA

Attendees: Mayor Lanier Rhodes **Council Members:** John Rhodes, Sally Boswell, Mary Mundy, Wayne Brown, Mayor Pro-Tem Jimmy Scott **Absent:** Dawn Clifton
Others: City Clerk Becky Cronic

Mayor Lanier Rhodes called the August meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and opened the meeting with prayer. A quorum was present. **NOTE:** Due to continued safety requirements related to COVID-19 Pandemic there was no regular council meeting in July 2020.

A motion was made by Council Member Boswell to approve the agenda; seconded by Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously passed.

A motion was made by Council Member Rhodes to accept the minutes presented from the June 9, 2020 council meeting; seconded by Council Member Scott. Opportunity for discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Legal Matters: Legal Matters: Attorney Reitman was unable to attend the meeting. Due to time constraints, Clerk Cronic requested that the Council approve the MGAG Gas Supply Portfolio renewal that Attorney Reitman oversees the renewal of every 3-5 years. A motion was made by Council Member Boswell to approve the MGAG Gas Supply Portfolio and allow Attorney Reitman to oversee the renewal of all documentation for the Gas Supply Portfolio that is due by September 2020. Motion seconded by Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

DDA Report: Sherley Selman and Jan Brazier reported on behalf of the Union Point Downtown Development Authority. The Union Junction Jog 5K will be taking place on September 26th. Fifty-eight individuals are registered for the event that begins at 8:30 a.m. The memorial flower garden near the historic water tower is being revitalized and the Union Point Garden Club is assisting the DDA with a grant to assist with repairing the flowerbed bricks and planting of flowers.

Clerk's report – Becky Cronic included a copy of her report in the council member packets. One item needed action was the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority's (GEFA) loan deferral modification request. GEFA has deferred interest and principal payments until January 1, 2021 due to the challenges with COVID-19 that municipalities are facing. Documentation for this needs to be processed. A motion was made by Council Member Scott to approve the modification of Promissory Note, Resolution of Governing Body, and Opinion of Borrower's Counsel of behalf of the City of Union Point for the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority loan agreement and allow Attorney Reitman, Mayor Rhodes and the Clerk to sign all necessary documents. Motion seconded by Council Member Boswell. Opportunity for discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

The Census Bureau has requested to temporarily house a laptop and stand for individuals to complete the 2020 Census Survey in the City Hall Lobby if they need access to a computer. This will be one of three locations in the County that a laptop will be available. Greene County has one of the lowest participation rates therefore having places where access to the internet and survey online will hopefully make an impact.

Becky Cronic reported that GA Xtracts has relocated their business to the former hosiery mill where Diversified Plastics (DPI) was located. DPI recently moved due to expansion needs that were unavailable for their type of business. GA Xtracts plans to also utilize the former Dollar General building on Lamb Avenue. The company will update us on their progress at future meeting.

The CARES ACT Funding issued by the Federal and State funding systems has allocated \$99,408 to the City of Union Point for any purchases and unexpected expenditures related to COVID-19. Mayor Rhodes shared that the City would receive the funds in phases and if expenses are approved by the state, Union Point will keep the funds. Any unused funds will be returned. The council will need to review the items that the city department heads are asking to purchase to assist with not spreading COVID-19, however all purchases must be purchased and in hand by September 1, 2020. The council will discuss via email in the week ahead.

Unfinished business:

The total recommended cost to the city to enter an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Sheriff’s Office would be \$8,035.04 per month for the remainder of 2020 with a 2% increase each year to follow. This cost would be for a total of 24 hours a week equal to 1248 hours annually. A copy of the IGA was submitted to each Council Member for review. A motion to approve the IGA with the Greene County Sheriff’s Office/Greene County was made by Council Member Scott and seconded by Council Member Boswell. Opportunity for discussion. Council Member Brown stated that this was more than originally discussed, however with liability costs and benefits factored in, the cost is as stated. Motion unanimously passed.

Mayor Rhodes gave a brief update on the Water Plant project. Bids had been received and additional funding from USDA is being requested to complete the project. Union Point’s engineer will be updating us in the next few weeks.

A motion was made by Council Member Scott to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Greene County Elections to manage all future municipal elections for the City of Union Point at a base cost of \$4,000 this fiscal year, and subsequent October 1st of each year the base charge of \$2,000 with a 15% administrative fee following each City Election every fourth year. Motion seconded by Council Member Boswell. Opportunity for discussion. It was noted that the City only holds elections every four years therefore the administrative costs associated with advertising, poll worker fees, etc., would only be paid the election fiscal year. Motion unanimously passed.

Surplus Vehicles: Two bids were submitted to the City for the purchase of a Ford F-150 and a 1999 Tahoe/Blazer. No bid was submitted for the old fire truck. **A motion** was made by Council Member Brown to reject the bid on the 1999 Tahoe/Blazer and re-open the surplus sale for this vehicle and the fire truck on GovDeals.com. Motion seconded by Council Member Boswell. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously carried. A motion was made by Council Member Brown to accept the bid of \$233 on the 2006 Ford F-150 from Mr. Jimmy Edmonds, Jr. Motion seconded by Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion – it was noted that the city could possibly get more for the truck for scrap. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

The Point Market on Sibley Avenue applied for a Malt Beverage License and submitted all criteria required with the application. A motion was made by Council Member John Rhodes to approve the application for the retail sale of beer and wine. Motion seconded by Council Member Boswell. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously passed.

Other: Becky Cronic briefly reported on the budget work session and presented updated drafts of the general budget to the council to review before the next work session which will be held the last week in August. It was noted that the millage rate that is proposed for 2020 is 8.838 which is lower than the previous of 8.862.

Public Comments: None.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. by Council Member Boswell; seconded by Council Member Mundy. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Rhodes closed the meeting with a prayer.

Mayor

City Clerk

Date