

**Union Point City Council Minutes**  
**Monthly Meeting – August 10, 2021 – 6 p.m.**  
**Four Room School House – 211 Veazey Street, Union Point, GA**

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

Mayor Lanier Rhodes called the August 10 meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and opened the meeting with prayer.

A quorum was present for the meeting.

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

**A motion was made** by Council Member Mundy to accept the minutes presented from the July 13, 2021, council meeting; seconded by Council Member Clifton. Opportunity for discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Legal Matters:** Attorney Reitman presented the second reading of the proposed amended ordinance referring to Chapter 50-11 “Use of sidewalks: Prohibition against unlicensed vehicles on public roadway.” Approval will be noted under **New Business** and a code amendment will be signed. Attorney Reitman reported that a summons to appear in Court had been issued to the property owners of the old school located on Witcher Street related to non-compliance. The August 9<sup>th</sup> court ruling for this case by Judge Kopp was a CONSENT ORDER giving the owners 40 days to bring the property into compliance with the City of Union Point Ordinances. Code Enforcement will follow-up until day 40 to report back on compliance. Reitman reported that a second property that is in non-compliance being addressed for October court is 810 Dolvin Avenue. **A motion was made** by Council Member Clifton and seconded by Council Member Mundy to move forward with allowing Attorney Reitman to proceed with documents and the court process to clean-up the property at 810 Dolvin Avenue. Opportunity for discussion. It was noted that the City will address other properties that are in non-compliance as complaints come in. Motion passed unanimously.

**Concerned Citizen:** Ellis Amerson share his concerns about noise and blighted property in his neighborhood. The Council and Attorney are addressing one of these properties and will keep him abreast of progress. Mayor Rhodes thanked Mr. Amerson for speaking to the council about this issue.

**DDA:** Jill Rhodes reported on behalf of the Downtown Development Authority. The application for the Fox Theatre Institute grant is being submitted this week for a design and structure plan. The amount requested is \$50,000. The grant award winners will be announced in mid-October 2021. Other updates included progress on the museum on Sibley Avenue, and upgrades at the Theatre. The Junction Jog 5K will be held on September 25<sup>th</sup> and the Ticket to Ride for Firefly, Inc. is on October 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Clerk’s Report:** Becky Cronic reported that the City of Union Point received, \$353,758 from the Local Fiscal Recovery Funds from the state (ARPA/COVID related). These funds are restricted and may be used for water infrastructure or other specific areas required by the state that may have been related to COVID and loss of economic resources during 2020. Funds must be expended by December 2024. Mrs. Cronic reported that the 2019 audit was complete and each council member was presented a copy of the report. Mrs. Cronic requested that she be allowed to amend the 2020 budget to balance needed funds for salaries and wages that were budgeted in the General Fund that should have been budgeted in the Water/Sewer/Gas funds. An excess of \$36,000 in Departments in the General Fund budget for salaries/wages needs to be moved to the Water/Sewer/Gas fund prior to the next audit. A motion was made by Council Member Boswell to allow the clerk to make necessary adjustments to the budget 2020 prior to the next audit. Seconded by Council Member Clifton. Opportunity for discussion. It was noted that due to the “unknown” at the time of budgeting during the transition of clerks, the fund originally budgeted were posted to the incorrect fund. Motion unanimously passed. It was reported that the 2022 Budget Hearing would be scheduled for September 14<sup>th</sup> prior to the council meeting.

**Old Business:**

**A motion** was made by Council Member Mundy to approve the amended ordinance Chapter 50-11 pertaining to prohibition against unlicensed vehicles on public roadways after the second reading on August 10, 2021; seconded by Council Member Clifton. Opportunity for discussion. Motion passed unanimously. **A motion was made** by Council Member Sally Boswell to approve the re-zoning proposal that was presented at the July meeting for the parcel owned by Appleseed Inc. along Wooten Avenue adjacent to Lamb Avenue from R1-C2. Motion seconded by Council Member Scott. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously approved.

Becky Cronic reported that two surplus vehicles were posted on the GovDeals auction a second time and did not meet the reserve bids. The 2013 Ford Taurus (old police car) was within \$450 of the reserve. **A motion was made** by Council Member Clifton to sell the 2013 Ford Taurus for \$3,050 to the highest bidder. Motion seconded by Council Member Boswell. Motion carried unanimously.

**New Business:** City Clerk Cronic reported that there are several surplus Utility Vehicles that are no longer needed and some of them no longer run. She recommended the city consider selling these UTV's. They are estimated to be valued at \$500 or less. All were in agreement to allow the city to seek potential buyers for the vehicles. It was noted that due to the value that there was no need to advertise the items and that they could be sold directly to interested buyers.

**Department Reports:** Will Wright reported on behalf of the Animal Control Shelter. Atlanta Rescue who has become a volunteer partner with Union Point, presented 100 free collars to Mr. Wright for the shelter. Oconee Humane Society and Circle of Friends also continue to assist with locating homes for the dogs/cats that are found running at large when no local owners can be identified. Impound fees continue to be charged to residents whose dogs are caught without leashes after warnings have been issued. Mayor Rhodes thanked Mr. Wright for his report and his dedication to the part-time position. Public Works was asked to readjust signs in town and remove those with graffiti on them.

**Public Comments:** Council Member Clifton shared her concern with the blighted property that was mentioned earlier in the meeting and asked that the City make sure that this property is addressed in a timely manner.

**Other:** Mayor Rhodes called on Union Point's County Commissioner Representative Dee Lindsey who was present at the meeting to update the Council on the recent sale of property the County made to the Greene County Board of Education. Mr. Lindsey shared that the property is located on Meadowcrest Road in Greensboro. He shared that the school board plans to build a primary and elementary school on that site in the future. He is not aware of the plans for the current primary school located in Union Point on Hwy 77N. Mayor Rhodes asked that Mr. Lindsey please support efforts to keep a school in Union Point and that when Mayor Rhodes is made aware of meetings related to the plans, he would inform the council and commissioner.

There being no further business Council Member Boswell made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Council Member Clifton. Motion unanimously carried.

Mayor Rhodes asked Attorney Reitman to close the meeting with a prayer.

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Mayor

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City Clerk

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Date