

Union Point City Council Minutes
Monthly Meeting – October 12, 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, John Rhodes **Absent:** Dawn Clifton **Others:** City Clerk Becky Cronic

Mayor Lanier Rhodes called the October 12 meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. and opened the meeting with prayer.

A quorum was present for the meeting.

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

A motion was made by Council Member Mundy to accept the minutes presented from the September 14, 2021, council meeting; seconded by Council Member Scott. Opportunity for discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Legal Matters: Attorney Reitman was not in attendance. Clerk Cronic noted that Attorney Reitman had submitted a revised draft of the agreement submitted by Ledcor Technical Services regarding the proposed renting of city property next to the Verizon Tower for an internet satellite located near the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Council members will review this and discuss rental fees upon further research. The contract was tabled and will be discussed at the next meeting.

DDA: Jill Rhodes gave a brief report on the Ticket-to-Ride event that was held on October 9th. She also reported that the foreclosure sale of the historic home known as “Hawthorne Heights” scheduled to be sold on October 5th had been cancelled/postponed by the firm representing the sale for that date and no new date had been set.

Clerk’s Report: Becky Cronic reported that she would be attending two Clerk’s certification classes in Tifton on October 21st. Two new benches for the Firefly Trail have been ordered and are scheduled to be delivered as soon as possible. Funding guidance from GMA for the ARPA funds remains unfinalized. The funds can be used for infrastructure and premium pay; however, the council will need to address further expenditures and details on the expenses and municipalities have until Dec. 2024 to spend the funds. City holidays for November are November 25-26th for Thanksgiving; December are December 24th and December 27th, and half day on December 31st and January 3rd for New Year’s.

Old Business:

Mayor Rhodes gave an update on the Witcher Street property located behind the Four Room Schoolhouse. The owners of the property appeared in municipal court on Monday evening due to non-compliance. Judge Kopp ordered the owners to comply within 10 days of the October 11th court date. The City will take further action if the property remains in non-compliance status.

New Business: Adoption of budget for 2022 was postponed until November. The Public Hearing information was submitted to the legal organ however did not appear in a timely manner prior to the meeting. The Public Hearing will be scheduled for November 9th prior to the Council meeting which will meet that same evening. **A motion was made** to adopt the millage rate at 7.024% (rollback rate) for 2021 by Council Member Boswell; Council Member Rhodes seconded the motion. Opportunity for discussion. Motion passed unanimously. **A motion was made** to adopt an ordinance approving the 2021 millage rate after it had appeared in the legal organ as required via Union Point Charter by Council Member Scott; seconded by Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. Motion passed unanimously. **A motion was made** by Council Member Boswell to renew the Clerk of Municipal Court agreement with Yolanda Callaway. Motion seconded by Council Member Rhodes. Opportunity for discussion. It was noted that the Clerk remove the *Chief of Police* as one of the contacts from within the agreement. Motion unanimously passed.

Department Reports: Animal Control Officer Will Wright gave an overview of activity with the impound lot. Outstanding tickets remain for several individuals who have not paid fees related to animals at large and or impound fees. The City Clerk will attempt to collect fees with additional letters or have them appear in court.

It was noted that bobcats and raccoons are being caught and removed from the city with traps that the Animal Control Officer is setting. Squirrels are a nuisance and have been destroying facial boards on various homes. Permits to shoot these critters with a .410 or 20-gauge shotgun are available at City Hall.

Public Comments: Makeil Dunn requested more information on the permits for nuisance game. Joyce Heffner commented to the current Council that she appreciated their efforts over the last four years.

Other: Council Member Boswell shared concern about the number of deer in the city. Council Member Rhodes will reach out to DNR regarding options to handle the population of deer within the city. Council Member Boswell also requested that if the city continues to maintain the Community Center, it would be beneficial to coordinate with those who rent the facility out a schedule so that it is well maintained when guest utilize it.

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

Mayor Rhodes closed the meeting with a prayer.

Mayor

City Clerk

Date