

Union Point City Council Minutes
Monthly Meeting – March 10, 2020 – 6 p.m.
Four Room School House – 211 Veazey Street, Union Point, GA

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

Mayor Lanier Rhodes called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and opened the meeting with prayer. A quorum was present.

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

A motion was made by Council Member Rhodes to accept the minutes presented from the February 11, 2020 council meeting with minor changes; seconded by Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Rhodes opened the **Public Hearing** regarding a request for a conditional use permit for a mobile home. Sheronda Monfort spoke in favor of the request to locate a new doublewide mobile home on her property at 1071 Summerhill Circle. She stated that all required documents had been presented to the zoning department. No one was present to speak in opposition of the request. After no further comments, the Public Hearing was closed.

Mayor Rhodes called for a motion in favor or against the request for the conditional use permit. **A motion** was made by Council Member Boswell to approve the conditional use permit for a mobile home to be placed on the property at 1071 Summerhill Circle; seconded by Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Legal Matters: Attorney Reitman was unable to attend the meeting. Mayor Rhodes reported that the nuisance case between the City of Union Point vs. Willie Calvin, 101 South Rhodes Street was held last night and the Judge ruled in favor of the City. Further updates next month after the 31-day waiting period.

Downtown Development Authority Matters: Jan Braizer gave an update on the fountain in the City park that is being repaired that is very close to completion. DDA members and Fire Fly Trail Volunteers will be hosting a booth at the Big Event on March 21st, and the annual Ticket to Ride event to benefit the Fire Fly Trail will be held March 28th.

Clerk's report – Becky Cronic gave a brief overview of her report that was included in the council packet. Action was needed on the GMEBS retirement for employees. The first reading was presented at the February council meeting. Following the second reading at the March 10th meeting, approval will be needed.

A motion was made to approve the 2020 GMEBS retirement plan as presented by Council Member Jim Scott; seconded by Council Member Rhodes. Opportunity for discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished business: Sheriff Harrison presented a monthly status report to the Mayor and Council related to calls and arrests in Union Point. Sheriff Harrison reported that he will need to revisit the compensation plan for additional coverage in Union Point that the Council voted on at the February meeting. After further discussion with administration and researching the state law for additional law enforcement coverage, an intergovernmental agreement must be entered. This agreement will be forthcoming later this spring.

New Business: Chip McGaughey with Engineering Management Inc. (EMI) gave an update and overview of the new water plant project that is on schedule for the City. This project began in 2016 and plans are now complete and in the approval stages with USDA. With the upgrades and modernization of the equipment and technology related to this project, it will require additional funds to maintain the facility. EMI shared that after reviewing the current rates, the City would need to increase the rates to operate the new facility prior to construction. The estimated increase is around \$6.50 per month more per customer equivalent to 20% increase in the rate. Council members inquired about the quality of water and if it would improve with the new plant operation. EMI stated that the City would see much higher quality water and reminded them that the current plant and equipment is around 50 years old.

A motion was made by Council Member Scott to increase the water rate for customers by 20% to cover the cost of the new water facility that would be generating the supply to Union Point customers; seconded by Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. A letter will be mailed to the customers to make them aware of the upcoming increase in rate. Motion passed unanimously.

Committee/Department Reports: David Stephens recommended that the City purchase a new dump truck and a new backhoe for the Public Works department. He submitted three quotes for each vehicle/piece of equipment. **A motion was made** by Council Member Brown for the City of Union Point to purchase a John Deere Backhoe 310SL with an extended warranty totaling \$94,533; seconded by Council Member Boswell. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously passed. **A motion was made** by Council Member Rhodes to purchase a new dump truck for the City of Union Point from Gerald Jones Ford in the amount of \$75,816; seconded by Council Member Brown. Opportunity for discussion. It would be four to five months before the truck would be available. Motion passed unanimously.

Other: Mayor Rhodes presented a Resolution created by Attorney Christian Henry for Tri-County's next steps to become an Authority. Time is of the essence for this resolution to be approved in conjunction with the City of Greensboro. After discussion of the chairmanship for being changed from continuously being one City to a rotation method, Mayor Rhodes entertained a motion to approve the resolution. **A motion was made** to approve the resolution with changes to the chairmanship of Tri-County to a rotation method by Council Member Jim Scott; seconded by Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously passed.

Animal Control – Will Wright gave a report on the relocated animal control facility. Before using the actual location on Crawfordville Road to house dogs, the City is waiting on final inspection to be made once the proper drainage lines are installed by Public Works. Mr. Wright continues to answer calls and issue tickets related to nuisance dogs and vicious dogs.

Public Comments: For information, Denise Channell shared that the PSE would be auditing the Natural Gas Department the week of March 16th in Union Point.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. by Council Member Mundy; seconded by Council Member Brown. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Rhodes closed the meeting with a prayer.

Mayor

City Clerk

Date