

REGULAR MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL: January 8, 2019

The City Council of Union Point met in regular session on Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at 6:05 P.M. in the Four-Room School Building at 211 Veazey Street with Mayor Rhodes presiding. The members present were Mayor Pro-Tem Jimmy Scott, Council members Sally Boswell, Dawn Clifton, Mary Mundy, John Rhodes, and Wayne Brown. Attorney Joe Reitman and Clerk Becky Cronin were also in attendance.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rhodes at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Rhodes opened the meeting with a prayer followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

It was noted that a quorum was present. Mayor Rhodes called for approval of the minutes from the last regular council meeting which was held on December 11, 2018. A motion was made by Council Member Clifton and seconded by Council Member Brown to approve the minutes from December 2018. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made to approve the agenda for the January 8th meeting by Council Member Brown; seconded by Council Member Boswell. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Rhodes moved item 10 (a) Report from Scott Tolleson with the Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia (MGAG) to the first item on the agenda. Mr. Tolleson gave a detailed overview on the proposed consolidation of Tri-County Natural Gas. He stated that currently three individual companies are operating whereas if it were to consolidate, it would lower the administrative work, lower compliance and regulatory fees, and condense the need for reporting for three companies. Current challenges are qualified personnel for the entire area, and duplication of reporting. With the potential consolidation including an intergovernmental agreement, Union Point would continue to be 50% owner, and if needed, MGAG could be hired to handle administrative duties, or remain a major resource for the company as they are now. It was also noted that if the consolidation does not take place that the Public Safety Commission would deem Tri-County a transmission line which would not be good. After discussion Mayor Rhodes called for a motion to move forward with the process of consolidation efforts. A motion was made by Council Member Brown to authorize Mayor Rhodes and Mayor Pro-Tem Scott who are also the Union Point Tri-County Natural Gas board members representing Union Point, to meet with Greensboro's board members to move forward with consolidation. Motion seconded by Council Member Clifton. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Rhodes called on Candy Vaughn to address the Council. Mrs. Vaughn did not attend after requesting to be on the agenda.

Attorney Joe Reitman read the oath of office to Mayor Rhodes and the Union Point City Council.

Union Point DDA Chair Jill Rhodes reported that the Downtown Development Authority is required to have a council member serve on their board of directors. Council Member Clifton has been asked to serve and represent the council. **A motion was made** by Council Member Brown to allow Council Member Clifton to represent the Union Point City Council on the Downtown Development Authority Board; seconded by Council Member Mundy. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Rhodes reported that the building on Sibley Avenue that the DDA was interested in purchasing and reselling, has a lien on it and they will have to do a title search before going any further with the purchase. The next event that is scheduled in Union Point for the Firefly Trail project is "Ticket to Ride" slated for March 23rd. The event will take place along the Firefly Trail with adjoining counties and the major meeting site in Union Point for the bicycle riders will be in front of the theater.

Police Matters: Chief Cash presented his monthly report. Due to the recent purchase of new laptops with the GOHS grant funds, the old laptops will no longer be needed for the department. The City of Warrenton has inquired about the laptops and would like to purchase them. A purchase price of \$400 each has been recommended. A motion was made by Council Member Clifton to allow the Chief to sell the five old laptops for \$400 each to the city of Warrenton and place funds back into the general fund; Council Member Brown seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Chief Cash also reported that the Animal Control Shelter would official be open at 9 a.m. January 9, 2019.

Clerk Becky Cronic gave a report highlighting recent reports that had been submitted to the state department of audits and an update on the code enforcement and building code fees with Bureau Veritas.

Mayor Rhodes reported that there are five standing committees for Union Point. He recommended that each of the council serve for a year on these committees and then he would rotate them in 2020. Committee assignments are: Equipment – Council Member Brown; Cemetery – Council Member Clifton; Pensions – Council Member Mundy; Health Officer – Council Member Boswell; and Facilities – Council Member Rhodes. There is currently no committee description. Each member is asked to make recommendations throughout the year and work with the Clerk or department head in each area to enhance or improve what is currently in place for each of these areas.

New Business:

Mayor Rhodes asked Mayor Pro-Tem Scott to address the council on the Community Center and recent calls related to noise and parking issues. Mayor Pro-Tem Scott reported that a meeting with the Community Center board of directors will be held on Wednesday, January 16th at 10 a.m. to address concerns. Mayor Pro-Tem Scott, Council Member Boswell and Council Member Clifton are representatives from the Union Point City Council who have met with the Community Center board of directors in the past to address concerns. An update will be given at the next council meeting. It was noted that the public is invited to attend the meeting.

Mayor Rhodes asked if anyone had comments pertaining to the items on the agenda. Jill Rhodes stated that she was concerned about the Tri-County Gas consolidation potentially effecting employee and Public Works Director David Stephens. Mayor Rhodes reassured Mrs. Rhodes that the consolidation would not impact Mr. Stephens.

There were no further comments. Mayor Rhodes entertained a motion to adjourn. Council Member Boswell made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Council Member Mundy. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Rhodes closed the meeting with prayer.

Mayor _____ Clerk Treasurer _____

Date _____