

REGULAR MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL: October 9, 2018

The City Council of Union Point met in regular session on Tuesday, October 9 2018, at 6:00 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, Sally Boswell, Wayne Brown, Dawn Clifton, and Mary Mundy. Absent: John Rhodes

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rhodes. Mayor Rhodes opened the meeting with a prayer followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Mayor Rhodes noted that a quorum was present.

Public Hearing Ref: Mileage Rate for 2019 FY. Mayor Rhodes opened the Public Hearing by presenting a proposal that the rate remain at 9.862 which is the same rate as the 2017/18 FY. This rate will not create an increase in taxes for the new FY for the citizens of the City of Union Point. Mayor Rhodes asked for public comments regarding this item. Jill Rhodes and Joyce Heffner both thanked the council for their decision on keeping the rate the same. Mayor Rhodes asked if anyone was in opposition. No comments. Mayor Rhodes called for a motion to close the Public Hearing. A motion was made by Wayne Brown to close the Public Hearing; seconded by Dawn Clifton. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Rhodes called for approval of the minutes from the last regular council meeting which was held on September 11, 2018. The minutes were approved as read with changes noted. (Sally Boswell will meet with recording secretary Sheila Jordan to address changes noted) The minutes were approved with a unanimous approval.

The minutes from the Called Budget Work Session meeting held on September 26, 2018 were reviewed. Mayor Rhodes asked for approval of the minutes from this work session. The council unanimously approved the minutes from the September 26th meeting.

Mayor Rhodes requested that a motion be made to approve the new mileage rate for the 2018/2019 FY. A motion was made by Sally Boswell to approve 9.862 as the mileage rate for the 2018/2019 Fiscal Year. Mary Mundy seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Rhodes requested that a motion be made to approve the agenda. Wayne Brown made a motion to approve the Agenda for the October 9, 2018 City Council meeting. Dawn Clifton seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Sarah Peacock, BankSouth representative, gave an overview of banking options for the City of Union Point to consider. Mayor Rhodes stated that The City is looking at banking options for the future. If a bank is unable to be located in a building in

the City, we would like for them to consider locating an ATM (automatic teller machine) within the City which would be convenient for residents. Mayor Rhodes thanked Mayor Pro-Tem Scott for inviting Mrs. Peacock to address the Council.

Bobby Hildreth with Georgia Power introduced himself to the Council and shared that he is the new Greene County and surrounding area representative. Bobby will be the contact for any local concerns that the City may have with Georgia Power. Mayor Rhodes thanked him for his introduction.

There was no unfinished business to note.

Union Point DDA: Dee Lhowe and Melanie Cash updated the Mayor and Council on the Union Point Downtown Development Authority. Dee reported that the September 5K Race had 76 participants. Six hundred and fifty dollars was raised to support the Firefly Trail as a result from the event. The overall was good for Union Point. Upcoming events to note for the future are the Beer Fest & BBQ Cook-off on Oct 20th, Trunk or Treat in conjunction with Public Safety Departments on October 27th and the Union Point Christmas Parade and tree lighting on December 1st at 6 p.m.

Melanie noted that DDA had completed the project of sealing the mural on Scott Street. She also requested that the grass be cut at the ballpark prior to the Festival on Oct 20th. Melanie and Jill Rhodes reported on the DDA and HUD project taking place with the historic Hawthorne Heights home/parcel. They have worked with several state officials and were able to extend the clean-up area to the full 3 acres. The property is in foreclosure therefore nothing can be done as far as selling the house until the proper timeframe has been met. The current project taking place on this site is to assist in preserving the historic home so no further damage takes place. The DDA continues to work on the Union Point's Certified Local Government status and getting it back into place. The state status will enable DDA to get additional grant funding. Several members will be attending training for the DDA members on Oct 10th. Mayor Rhodes thanked the DDA for all their efforts.

Chief of Police Robert Cash reported that the Animal Control shelter would be operational in approximately four weeks at the warehouse site on Carlton Ave. Chief Cash reported that the police cars continue to be costly to service. He recommended that the department spend approximately \$2200 to service the 2006 Ford Truck that was purchased from surplus as a patrol vehicle than to continue servicing one of the Dodge's that has cost over \$8,000 in repair cost over the past year. A motion was made by Wayne Brown and seconded by Mary Mundy to repair the 2006 Ford truck to be used as a patrol vehicle with remaining funds for repair and maintenance in the Police budget. Motion passed unanimously.

Chief Cash introduced Kayla Casaloritz to the Council and Mayor, and she was commended for completion of full training as an officer. Mayor and Council welcomed her to UP force.

Marc Hutchinson with Blue Line Solutions, LLC, presented an overview of the Blue Line Photo Laser Enforcement Program. The use of the equipment this program offers will provide a safer, more efficient form of traffic enforcement. The nature of the program is designed so that the agency will have full control of issuance and approval of violations at every level meeting all of Georgia's current laws. This program is being presented to the Board of Education (BOE) and pertains to school zones. Mayor Rhodes stated this would be something considered upon BOE approval.

Joe Reitman updated Council on concerns and ordinances related to Martin Kindle's proposed Halfway House to be potentially located in the old pawn shop on Lamb Avenue. Bureau Veritas who handles the building code enforcement will be working with Mr. Kindle and reread the requirements before moving forward. Wayne Brown asked about the location of the Halfway House and potential businesses considering locating here requesting permits for alcohol use, etc. Will this create concerns for those residents of the Halfway House? Attorney Reitman also gave an overview of the First Aid Kit documentation he prepared for the Council to consider.

Mayor Rhodes asked if there were any Public Comments from the audience related to the items on the agenda. Sherey Selman commented that BankSouth had been supportive in sponsoring events in Union Point over the past few years and felt they would be a supportive bank whereas BB&T is not a supportive bank for events. Jill Rhodes commented on an ATM for Union Point and asked that the Council continue to pressure local banks for consider putting ATM here for residents. Melanie Cash commented on the Halfway House and concerns about protecting people in the surrounding area. Sally Boswell commented that earlier in the year she understood that the Farmers Bank had stated they would continue to have an ATM in the City. Mayor Rhodes addressed Mrs. Boswell on the conflicts between the City and the Farmers Bank as to why the bank decided not to locate an ATM within Union Points City limits.

There were no further comments. Mayor Rhodes introduced Becky Cronic who was in attendance at the meeting as the new City Clerk. She will begin on October 29th. Mayor Rhodes called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sally Boswell made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mrs. Mundy. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Rhodes closed the meeting with prayer.

Mayor _____ Deputy / Clerk Treasurer _____