

Union Point City Council Minutes
Monthly Meeting – September 13, 2022 – 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, William Harris, Jr., John Rhodes, and Teneisha Pinkney
Others: City Clerk Becky Cronic

Mayor Lanier Rhodes called the September 13, 2022, Public Hearing to Order at 6:04 p.m. with a prayer followed by the pledge to the flag. A quorum was present.

Public Hearing (1) - Item (a-1) - Mayor Rhodes opened the hearings. Claire Bleckley with Bureau Veritas (Representative for Union Point's Zoning Department) presented the first request on the agenda to **sub-divide parcel U030000080** located on Lamb Avenue in Union Point. After sharing information and specs on the property, Mrs. Bleckley recommended that the sub-divide not be granted at this time. The parcel is too small for the project being proposed. Mayor Rhodes asked if anyone at the meeting would like to speak in favor of the proposed sub-divide request. Mr. Dwayne Bolden owner of the property shared with the council his desire to build a restaurant on the property. He shared that he was unaware that the property was too small and stated that he could purchase more property to comply with the criteria needed. Mayor Rhodes recommended that Mr. Bolden meet further with Mrs. Bleckley and come back so that his request could be reviewed. No one else was present to speak in favor of the sub-divide. Mayor Rhodes asked if anyone was present to speak against the sub-divide. No one present. **Item (a-2) Re-zone Request** for the same parcel mentioned above on Lamb Avenue. Mrs. Bleckley presented that this parcel on Lamb Avenue would need to be rezoned if and when the Council decides on sub-dividing Parcel U030000080. No public comments on the re-zone. No further action was taken on item (a-2). Mayor Rhodes closed the Public Hearings.

Public Hearing – Item (b-1) Request for re-zone of parcel located at 3670 Old Union Point Road (Tract 1). Mayor Rhodes opened the hearings. Claire Bleckley returned to the floor to present the request for the re-zone request for the property. This property has been purchased by Greene County Habitat for Humanity (GCHF) and they are requesting that the property be re-zoned from A-2 Agricultural (Residential District) to R-1 Single Family Residential. This same parcel is being proposed for annexation into the city and a separate request will be heard. GCHF are proposing to build several homes on the 20.5-acre site and will include and have infrastructure installed at their expense. A full staff P&Z report was presented to the council prior to the Public Hearings. Mayor Rhodes asked if anyone was present to speak in favor of the re-zone. Brinkley Pound, Executive Director of GCHF, spoke in favor of the re-zone. Mayor Rhodes asked if there were any present to speak against the proposed re-zone; no one was present

Item (b-2) Request for Annexation - Claire Bleckley presented a request and a detailed report on the process to annex 20.5 acres into the city limits from Greene County for the property located at 3670 Old Union Point Road. This request for annexation is from Greene County Habitat for Humanity. Mayor Rhodes asked if anyone was present to speak in favor of this request. Brinkley Pound with GCHF and Dave Delich with GCHF both spoke in favor of this request. Mayor Rhodes asked if anyone was present to speak against the request. No one was present. Public hearings closed. A motion was made by Council Member Sally Boswell to close the Public Hearings and begin the regular scheduled meeting for September 13th. Motion seconded by Council Member Mary Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously carried.

A quorum was present for the September 13th council meeting.

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

Council Member Boswell made a motion to accept the minutes presented from the August 9, 2022, council meeting; seconded by Council Member Boswell. Opportunity for discussion. Motion was unanimously approved.

Legal Matters: Attorney Reitman was not at the meeting.

Downtown Development Authority (DDA) – Sherley Selman gave a brief report on the upcoming Junction Jog fundraising event for DDA on September 24th. Applications are available at City Hall and online for those who want to participate. Volunteers are encouraged to contact Sherley Selman. She also noted that docents for the downtown history museum are being recruited. Jill Rhodes reported that there will be a Townhall Meeting on Saturday, October 22nd at the Union Theatre at 6:00 p.m.

Clerk's Report: Becky Cronic reported that the Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner would be held on September 20th and that she had tickets if anyone would like to attend. Teneisha Pinkney and Becky Cronic will be attending to represent Union Point.

Old Business:

Budget for FY2023 was presented to the council for review. A public hearing will be held on September 29th at 4:30 p.m. as required by the City's code of ordinances. Clerk Cronic will continue to seek candidates for a Public Defender. She has spoken with one potential defender. The city will have to have someone in place by the January municipal court date. A representative with the Flock Safety cameras that are being considered for Union Point will be contacting Clerk Cronic for a date to demonstrate how the cameras operate.

New Business:

A motion was made by Council Member Boswell to table a decision on whether to subdivide and rezone the property on Lamb Avenue which was requested in the Public Hearings held September 13, 2022. Motion seconded by Council Member Scott. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously passed.

Second hearings will be held for the Re-zone and Annexation requests of 3670 Old Union Point Road in October.

A motion was made by Council Member Boswell to approve the millage rate and millage rate ordinance after its second reading for the City of Union Point for 2022 at the rate of 7.013 mils. Motion seconded by Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously carried.

Department Reports: Will Wright reported on Animal Control and David Stephens gave an overview of his department and projects they are currently working on. Mr. Wright also reported that the Volunteer Fire Department would host a Fall Festival at the station on October 29th from 5-7 p.m.

Council Member Mary Mundy recommended that the Christmas Tree lighting service be held on December 4th at 5:30 p.m. She will chair this event and update monthly.

Public Comment: Sherley Selman commented on the DDA events and encouraged all to attend a Union Point Garden Club meeting in October where a presentation will be given on the Ogeechee River.

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

Mayor Rhodes closed the meeting with a prayer.

 Mayor

 City Clerk

 Date