

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

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

Mayor Lanier Rhodes called the November 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 Scott to approve the agenda; seconded by Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously passed.

A motion was made by Council Member Rhodes to accept the minutes presented from the October 13, 2020 council meeting; seconded by Council Member Clifton. Opportunity for discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Legal Matters: Attorney Reitman reviewed the status of the 101 South Rhodes Street property. The structure on this property is under demolition as ordered by a court ruling in March 2020. Jackson Construction is removing the structure and clearing the property for \$5,000. A lien will be placed on the property upon completion. Attorney Reitman reported that USDA is working on the underwriting and financing procedures that are necessary to begin on the construction of the new Water Plant.

DDA Report: Jill Rhodes reported on behalf of the Downtown Development Authority. The renovations to the Downtown Development Authority building on Sibley Avenue are complete. Plans on what to do with the building are still being discussed. Due to COVID-19, events for any holiday events have been cancelled. An outdoor tree lighting near the Water Tower will be announced in the next couple of weeks.

GA Xtracts – Rob Lee representing GA Xtracts gave an update on their facility at the former Union Hosiery Mill. A rendering of the complex was presented and feedback from the City was welcomed. Business continues to expand, and new partnerships are being established both locally and internationally. Packaging for products being shipped out of the facility now have a “Made in Union Point” label adhered to it. GA Xtracts has the option to purchase the entire Mill and buildings for future expansion. The company is working with several private investors and a decision on the purchase will be forthcoming. Plans to keep the historic aspect of the facility and grounds are part of the expansion and GA Xtracts will follow historic preservation guidelines as required by local ordinances.

Greene County Development Authority & Tri-County Natural Gas– Scott Tolleson briefed the Council on the Development Authority and countywide economic development statistics. Unemployment rate is currently at 5.1% for Greene County. He noted that the new website for the Authority is www.selectgreenega.com. Rural broadband continues to be a concern for the county and the Authority is working with various entities to improve this issue. The Authority meets monthly the second Tuesday at 8 a.m. The meeting is open to the public.

Mr. Tolleson advised the Council on Tri-County Natural Gas and the project to Harrison Poultry. Gas lines have been installed and plans are to turn gas on for the plant before Thanksgiving. Everything continues to be on track for the Tri-County Gas consolidation and plans to become an Authority upon approval from the legislation after the first of the New Year.

Clerk’s report –

Becky Cronic gave a monthly report. The Fire Fly Trail construction is on track and plans for completion are early December. Surplus police equipment including body cams, tasers, and a bullet proof vest have all been placed on GovDeals. The liquidation of the police equipment has been an ongoing process. A motion was made by Council Member Boswell to approve selling the two Police Cars (a 2013 and a 2016 Ford Taurus) that remain in the Cities assets. Motion seconded by Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

A motion was made by Council Member Boswell to approve a request by Lynn Alexander to have a “Pop Up and Praise” event at the City Park in the near future, weather permitting. Motion seconded by Council Member Rhodes. Opportunity for discussion. A brief discussion was had on a permit for events and whether to charge a fee. No fee will be required for this event. Motion unanimously passed.

Department Reports: David Stephens included a written report for the Council Members in their packets

Public Comments: Jan Brazier commented on the Fire Fly Trail and the progress being made. She stated that one of the Local Action Committee members had donated several flowers and bulbs for the trail to her and she had accepted them on behalf of the Garden Club and asked that the City utilize them when possible. The Mayor stated that one of the Public Works employees would pick them up from her and appreciated the donation.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m. by Council Member Boswell; seconded by Council Member Mundy. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Rhodes closed the meeting with a prayer.

Mayor

City Clerk

Date