

Union Point City Council Minutes
Monthly Meeting – November 14, 2023 – 6 p.m.
Four Room School House – 211 Veazey Street, Union Point, GA

Attendees: Mayor Lanier Rhodes **Council Members:** Sally Boswell, Mary Mundy, William Harris, Jr., Teneisha Pinkney, John Rhodes, Jim Scott **Others:** City Clerk Becky Cronic **Absent:** Attorney Joe Reitman

Mayor Lanier Rhodes called the November 14, 2023, meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and opened the meeting with a prayer. A quorum was present for the meeting.

A motion was made by Council Member Boswell to approve the agenda for the November 14, 2023, meeting. Seconded by Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. The motion unanimously passed.

A motion was made by Council Member Boswell to approve the minutes from the October 10, 2023, meeting with minor changes. Seconded by Council Member Harris. Opportunity for discussion. The motion unanimously passed.

Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Update: Jill Rhodes reported that the Union Theatre project continues to be an ongoing project and that the Fox Theatre Institute (FTI) did approve another grant in the amount of \$25,000 towards the project. FTI will present an official notice of the award on December 21st. DDA will be participating in the Christmas Parade on December 9th and noted that the DDA was very appreciative of Council Member Mundy for coordinating the parade efforts.

Legal Matters: Attorney Reitman was not at the meeting.

Clerk's Report: Becky Cronic reported that to finalize the financials for the previous fiscal year, there are several adjustments that needed to be made in the General Fund, Water/Sewer Fund and Gas Fund. Total to be reclassified in the salaries/wages accounts in the General Fund in various departments is \$20,621.57. A transfer of funds for reclassifications from the General/Water/Sewer Funds for salaries/wages to the Gas fund is \$48,537.57. The funds were under budgeted in the gas department due to the changes with Tri-Co Consolidation transition. **A motion was made** by Council Member Scott to allow the clerk to make needed adjustments to balance the department budgets as needed in the General, Water and Sewer, and Gas Funds. Motion seconded by Council Member Pinkney. Opportunity for discussion. The motion unanimously passed.

Old Business: Habitat for Humanity's representative Patrick Kozma presented a drawing of the subdivision they are requesting to develop on property on Bloodworth Street. He answered several questions after the council reviewed the drawing. Several homes have already been built for Habitat families in this same area and the new development will adjoin these properties. Formal details will be forthcoming upon approved permits and drawings. **A motion was made** by Council Member Boswell to allow Greene County Habitat for Humanity to proceed with the subdivision process and acquire proper permitting and other necessary permits pertinent to storm water, utilities, as required. Motion seconded by Council Member Harris. Opportunity for discussion. The motion passed 5 to 1 with Council Member Scott opposing.

Mayor Rhodes and Clerk Becky Cronic gave an update on the Firefly Trail and the recent ribbon cutting held for the completion of the trail in Greene County. Greene County has committed to maintaining the clearing/blowing of leaves, grass, etc., for the entire section of trail in both the county and the city. This will take place once a week.

A motion was made by Council Member Mundy to allow the clerk to purchase six signs to post in the downtown area designating parking for Firefly Trail visitors. Motion seconded by Council Member Pinkney. Opportunity for discussion. The motion unanimously passed.

New Business:

Becky Cronic presented the proposed FY2024 budget to the mayor and council. A public hearing was held on November 2, 2023, at 5 pm. for comments and questions. **A motion was made** by Council Member Scott to approve the FY2024 proposed budgets for the general fund, water/sewer fund and the gas fund. Motion seconded by Council Member Pinkney. Opportunity for discussion. The motion unanimously passed.

Department Reports: Will Wright gave a report on recent Animal Control activity. He continues to respond to calls for stray dogs, or dogs wondering at large. Circle of Friends (Humane Society) works closely with Will to house the strays that no one claims. **Fire Dept. Update:** Chief Wright shared that he passed the recent State Fireman Inspector class and continues to seek ways to improve and recruit volunteers for potential firemen. The Mayor and Council are all invited to attend the firemen dinner on December 9th at 7 p.m. Council Member Mundy reported that signs for the Christmas parade would be placed in the community after Thanksgiving. Three bands have committed to participate in the parade and applications for participation continue to be submitted to the city hall. The parade is on December 9th beginning at 2 p.m.

David Stephens reported that the water meter changeout process has been completed except for a few large meters that the men will continue to read manually. Meters will now be read via the new drive-by reading system.

Public Comment: No comments.

A motion was made by Council Member Boswell to leave Regular Session and enter Executive Session to discuss personnel. Motion seconded by Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. The motion unanimously passed.

A motion was made by Council Member Mundy to leave Executive Session and return to Regular Session. Motion seconded by Council Member Rhodes. The motion unanimously passed.

A motion was made by Council Member Scott to approve the personnel recommendations made by the Personnel Committee. Council Member Harris seconded the motion. Opportunity for discussion. The motion unanimously passed.

A motion was made by Council Member Mundy to present the eligible full-time employees with an additional week's stipen during the month of December. Motion seconded by Council Member Boswell. Opportunity for discussion. The motion unanimously passed.

There being no further business **a motion was made to adjourn** the meeting at 7:45 p.m. by Council Member Rhodes; seconded by Council Member Scott. Motion unanimously passed.

Mayor Rhodes closed the meeting with a prayer.

Mayor

City Clerk

Date