

Union Point City Council Minutes
Monthly Meeting – January 9, 2024 – 6 p.m.
Four Room School House – 211 Veazey Street, Union Point, GA

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

Mayor Lanier Rhodes called the January 9, 2024, 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 January 9, 2024, meeting. Seconded by Council Member Scott. Opportunity for discussion. The motion unanimously passed.

A motion was made by Council Member Scott to approve the minutes from the December 12, 2023. Seconded by Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. The motion unanimously passed.

Legal Matters: Attorney Reitman was not in attendance. Mayor Rhodes reported that regarding the property at 4760 Lamb Avenue, the owner did not appear in January court as he was ordered to. Therefore, the judge ruled that the city could begin making necessary maintenance changes to bring the building into compliance. The city may begin work on January 19th and a lien will be put against the property. The lien will include all fees pertaining to legal guidance, code enforcement, and the cost that the city incurs to bring it into compliance. The owner has said that he plans to sell the property.

Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Update: Jill Rhodes gave a brief report on the DDA. She reported that the DDA are working with the Firefly Trail Board on the upcoming Ticket-To-Ride event that will be held in March. There will be more details to come in the weeks ahead.

Clerk's Report: Becky Cronic gave a report and noted that tax bills and occupational tax renewals had all been mailed. We have received about 20% of the tax payments to date. The due date is February 15th. She reported that during fiscal year 2023 the City received \$259,124 in T-SPLOST funds and expended \$109,930 patching and repairing the streets and sidewalks.

Old Business: Becky Cronic gave a recap of the funds received and expended from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The city received a total of \$709,156 in 2021 and 2022. Expended as of date is \$512,700 on infrastructure, upgrades to the utility meter reading system, premium pay, and storm water/culvert repairs. A listing of all city properties was presented to the council as information. The gymnasium and the ballpark fields were discussed as priority properties. The council was asked to give thought to potential uses for the properties and share the ideas at a future meeting. Mayor Rhodes noted that the new section of the Firefly Trail had recently been striped by the contractors for pedestrian and bicycle traffic, however the stripes were not as professional as expected. We will be speaking with Greene County in reference to this concern due to the contract for the work being under the County's authority under the grant and contracted agreement.

New Business:

Food Trucks are a growing business throughout the southeast and the city currently has no ordinance pertaining to long-term use of them within the city limits. Mayor Rhodes reported that he had spoken with the health department and there is an application process for State permitting and "safe serve" permits. The city has been contacted regarding Food Trucks therefore it was recommended that we research further details with our zoning officials and create an ordinance soon that addresses this type of business. More details to come in the months ahead.

Department Reports: Fire Chief and Animal Control Officer Will Wright gave a report on recent activity with the Fire Department and Animal Control. Officer Wright is looking at options and speaking with other agencies on how to register or keep a log of the dogs who belong to Union Point residents. There continues to be issues with unclaimed dogs wandering at large.

Public Comment:

There being no further business **a motion was made to adjourn** the meeting at 7:10 p.m. by Council Member Boswell; seconded by Council Member Mundy. The motion unanimously passed.

Mayor Rhodes closed the meeting with a prayer.

Mayor

City Clerk

Date