

**Union Point City Council Minutes**  
**Monthly Meeting – March 12, 2024 – 6 p.m.**  
**Four Room School House – 211 Veazey Street, Union Point, GA**

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

Mayor Lanier Rhodes called the March 12, 2024, meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and opened the meeting with prayer. A quorum was present for the meeting.

**A motion was made** by Council Member Boswell to approve the agenda for the March 12, 2024, meeting. Seconded by Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. The motion unanimously passed.

**A motion was made** by Council Member Rhodes to approve the minutes from February 13, 2024, with minor changes. Seconded by Council Member Scott. Opportunity for discussion. The motion unanimously passed.

**Legal Matters:** Attorney Reitman was not in attendance.

**Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Update:** Jill Rhodes, DDA Chair, reported the plans and activities for the March 23<sup>rd</sup> Ticket 2 Ride and Birthday Celebration event are in place and there will be something for all ages at the event including the Firefly Trail Bike Ride, 5k Sock Trot, Music, a Kids Area, Craft vendors, a book signing, and a homesteaders venue area. The day begins with a 9 am bike ride and ends at 4 pm. Jill encouraged all in attendance at the council meeting to attend the event.

**Clerk's Report:** Becky Cronic reported that there has been great concern with postal service delays in delivering mail to our customers. This delay in the delivery according to the USPS is due to consolidation changes in Atlanta that have affected our area. Penalties for the utility bills will be waived this month until after the 20<sup>th</sup> of March due to the delays.

**Old Business:** David Stephens reported that the five-day start up trial for the new water plant has been delayed. The processes required by EPD began March 4<sup>th</sup>, however due to system challenges, the trial stopped after day two. The trial causes the water to be discolored and Mr. Stephens reported that it will get worse when the trial starts again. Clerk Cronic and David will post notices in advance to better prepare the customers. After the five-day process, EPD will have final review and submit an operational permit upon approval.

Council Member Scott reported that he is spearheading the Sock Trot 5K Run in conjunction with the March 23<sup>rd</sup> event. Classic City Race Services is coordinating the race registration prior to the race-day, and you may register on the day of as well. Council Member Scott reported that there will be additional T-shirts available to sell on the day of the event.

**New Business:**

The Viasat Gateway lease agreement for leasing property from Union Point was presented by Becky Cronic for renewal. The lease is in consideration of the payment of \$800 by Tenant to Landlord. Landlord hereby agrees to extend the Option Period for an additional term of twelve months until April 12, 2025. The option period for the lease may be extended by Tenant for an additional twelve (12) months upon written notice to Landlord and payment of \$800 at any time prior to the end of the option period. **A motion was made** by Council Member Pinkney to renew the Viasat Gateway lease for twelve months. Seconded by Council Member Rhodes. Opportunity for discussion. Becky Cronic reported that the satellite construction project for this lease agreement is in the testing stage and no construction has started on the property referred to in the lease. The motion unanimously passed.

Becky Cronic reported that in years past, the City of Union Point hosted “Clean-Up Week” as a service to citizens. Last year the cost for the dumpsters and pick-up services was almost \$12,000. The increase in the cost was due to the pick-up and return of the dumpsters, fuel costs, and the weight of the items in the dumpsters. Although the city requests that residents place discarded household goods out for pick-up, large furniture and additional items from outside the city have been dumped in town for the pick-up. **A motion was made by** Council Member Scott to not host the Clean-Up Week in 2024. Motion was seconded by Council Member Boswell. Opportunity for discussion. Clerk Cronic reported that she would notate that the city would not host the clean-up week in the local newspaper, on the website and on the next two month’s utility bills. The motion unanimously passed.

Becky Cronic reported that she is researching “Text Alert” companies to enhance communication with customers. The text alerts via phone would be a quick way to notify customers in emergency situations and in non-emergency situations.

**Department Reports:** Fire Chief Will Wright gave a report on the FEMA Grant that the fire department submitted for a new firetruck. The grant is a matching grant and the city’s match is \$23,880. Chief Wright commended the following firemen for their assistance with gathering the data for the grant: David Stephens, Troy Shelton, Chris Finch, Brock Davis, Chris Shockley, and Ryan Yearwood. Chief Wright and Clerk Cronic worked together to submit the grant in a timely manner and the award recipients will be contacted by FEMA this summer.

**Public Comment:** Jill Rhodes thanked the firemen for their efforts and the time they spent on the grant, and for all they do for the community.

There being no further business **a motion was made to adjourn** the meeting at 7:00 pm by Council Member Boswell; seconded by Council Member Mundy. The motion unanimously passed.

Council Member Rhodes closed the meeting with prayer.

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Mayor

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City Clerk

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Date