

Union Point City Council Meeting
Minutes – August 11, 2026 – 6 p.m.
Four Room School House – 211 Veazey Street, Union Point, GA

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

Mayor Lanier Rhodes called the August 11, 2026, meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and opened the meeting with prayer. A quorum was present.

A motion was made by Council Member Johnson to approve the agenda for the August 11, 2026, meeting. Motion was seconded by Council Member Boswell. Opportunity for discussion. The motion unanimously passed.

A motion was made by Council Member Boswell to approve the minutes of the July 2026 meeting. Seconded by Council Member Harris. Opportunity for discussion. The motion unanimously passed.

Legal Matters: Attorney Reitman reported that the Pregnancy Workers Fairness Act went into effect in 2024 and needs to be added to the City of Union Point's Policy/Handbook. Federal law requires that employers include this policy to protect pregnant and nursing workers through three core clauses: Anti-Discrimination (Title VII/PDA), Reasonable Accommodations (PWFA), and Lactation/Pumping (PUMP Act). These policies must be integrated with the city's FMLA and ADA guidelines. A draft of the policy was presented to the council to review at the August 2026 meeting and a second and final reading will be adopted at the September meeting.

Planning and Zoning: Hal Chitwood, Zoning Official, is working on the revisions for the manufactured home and residential district ordinance in relation to the moratorium that was adopted last month. More details will follow in the coming weeks. All permits for conditional use permits for mobile homes, manufactured homes and zoning changes will remain on hold until November 10th per the moratorium.

Downtown Development Authority (DDA): Jill Rhodes, DDA Chairperson, reported on the Ogeechee River Headwaters mini-park in Union Point. The area has been cleared, and amenities will soon be added to the area. (benches, trashcan, picnic table, etc.) The concrete slab that is next to the park will be pressure washed and signage added in the next several weeks to identify the significance of the park. Sherley Selman reported that the annual Junction Jamboree Jog would be held on September 26th. Sponsors are being sought and over 70 people have already signed up for the race. More details can be found online. Mrs. Rhodes reported that there was no meeting in July and they will not meet in August. Meetings are held on the 4th Monday of each month at the DDA Building/History Museum at 5:30 p.m. and are open to the public.

Clerk's Report: Clerk Cronic reminded the council that employee Dolphin Gouch had retired, and a reception would be held in his honor on August 20th at 3 p.m. Dolphin has been with the City for 20 years. Mrs. Cronic reported that concerns about the current noise ordinance had been brought to her attention. A copy of the current ordinance was reviewed, and consideration will be given to revising the ordinance to include a timeframe and clarification on the distance the noise can be heard. A draft will be prepared by Attorney Reitman and presented for review at the next meeting.

Old Business:

Food Trucks: No one in attendance to speak on this as requested. **Speed Bump for Newsome St.:** Mary Mundy was unable to attend to speak about this request. A budget work session was held on July 30th to review the proposed 2027 General Fund budget, and the second one is scheduled for August 25th at 5 p.m.

New Business:

Clerk Cronic presented a draft of the millage rate & five-year history that is being proposed for 2026. This will run in the legal organ (The Herald Journal) prior to the September meeting as required, and will need to be approved at the September 8, 2026, meeting.

Annexation: Clerk Cronin presented an **Ordinance for Annexation** required by the Department of Community Affairs (DCA). The annexation took place in 2022, and Clerk Cronin was unaware that an ordinance was required. The ordinance is to confirm the annexation of Parcel 122-0-00-004-0 at the corner of Abercorn St. and Bloodworth St. containing 20.50 acres which is being developed by Greene County Habitat for Humanity known as Burdette Circle. This will be submitted to DCA and confirmed for final records. A motion was made by Council Member Boswell to approve the **Ordinance for Annexation** for Parcel 122-0-00-004-0 which is owned by Greene County Habitat for Humanity and is being sub-divided for individual homeowners over a 6-year period; ordinance to file with DCA for final recording. Motion seconded by Council Member Johnson. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously passed.

Department Reports:

Animal Control Officer Wright gave a report from Animal Control. Mayor Rhodes recognized David Stephens for 39 years of service and thanked him for his dedication, loyalty, and his role as Superintendent for the City's Public Works and Water Departments. His employment anniversary was in April.

Superintendent David Stephens reported that the GAC filters are ordered and will replace the worn-out filters which are long overdue for replacement at the Water Treatment Plant. This is a capital improvement and will be installed before the end of the year. EPD requirements have been met; however, other technical challenges are still interfering with the operations at the new water plant. The city is seeking another Water Plant Operator, and the details about the position are on the city's website, Georgia Rural Water website, and is advertised in the newspaper.

Public Comment: No comments.

Attorney Reitman requested the need for Executive Session with the Mayor and Council for the purpose of potential litigation. **A motion was made** by Council Member Johnson to leave Regular Session and move into Executive Session. Seconded by Council Member Boswell. Opportunity for discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Council Member Scott to close Executive Session and move into Regular Session. Seconded by Council Member Harris. Opportunity for discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Rhodes asked for a motion to approve the mediation agreement discussed in Executive Session. **A motion was made** by Council Member Johnson to approve the mediation agreement discussed in Executive Session. Motion seconded by Council Member Harris. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously passed.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm by Council Member Boswell. Motion was seconded by Council Member Harris. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously carried.

Attorney Reitman closed the meeting with prayer.

Mayor

Clerk

Date