

Union Point City Council Meeting
Minutes from September 9, 2025 – 6 p.m.
Four Room School House – 211 Veazey Street, Union Point, GA

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

Mayor Lanier Rhodes called the September 9, 2025, meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. and opened the meeting with prayer. A quorum was present.

A motion was made by Council Member Boswell to approve the agenda for the September 9, 2025, 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 August 12, 2025, meeting. Seconded by Council Member Harris. Opportunity for discussion. The motion unanimously passed.

Legal Matters: – Attorney Reitman reported that a OCGA 45-3-11 now requires that “All persons who are employed and on the payroll of cities throughout the entire state, are required to take an oath that they will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of Georgia”. Employees in attendance: Becky Cronic, David Stephens, and Erica Rodriguez, and Animal Control Officer Will Wright were sworn in by Attorney Reitman. Mayor Rhodes and City Clerk Cronic have the authority to swear in the other employees in the forthcoming days. A signed oath will be filed in the probate office and with the City Clerk.

Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Update: Sherley Selman reported on behalf of the DDA. The Annual 5K, and newly added 10K Race will be held on September 27th. Volunteers are needed and there are almost one hundred runners currently registered as of today. This race will generate visitors from the surrounding area and will begin at 8:30am. Sponsorships are still being secured and all funds raised will benefit the activities of the DDA.

Clerk’s Report: Becky Cronic reported that the delinquent tax sale was held on September 2 with two parcels being sold. The city continues to work with property owners who remain delinquent for 2023-2024. Tax bills are mailed in December each year and due in February the following. Mrs. Cronic reported that a retirement reception was held for Barry Meadows who retired as of August 28th. Barry was the longest employed individual on record. He was with the city forty-four years. Clerk Cronic reported that there were several adjustments in 2025 Fiscal Year budget that needed to be posted. The fire department budget was under budget this fiscal year and funds to offset the expenses to cover the short fall \$8,000 (more or less) for firefighter’s dues, fees, and utilities, are available in the General Fund Public Safety Dept. **A motion was made** by Council Member Scott to allow the city clerk to make the necessary adjustments to the General Fund’s Fire Department expenditures and offset budget in that department from the Public Safety Department where funds remain available. Motion seconded by Council Member Harris. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously passed.

Old Business:

Clerk Cronic reported that another session is scheduled for September 23rd at 4:30pm at the Four Room Schoolhouse to finalize the General Fund budget and the review the Enterprise Funds. All council members are encouraged to attend. Mayor Rhodes presented a Request for Proposal (RFP) from Orlando Mapp at the last meeting about naming a section, or the designation of a street in Union Point in his sister’s memory. Mayor Rhodes asked if all had a chance to review the RFP. **A motion was made by Council Member Harris** to deny the request for proposal to rename or designate a street near the homeplace of Bobbie Lynn Alexander in Union Point. Motion was seconded by Council Member Scott. Opportunity for discussion. Council Member Harris had concerns that others who had done significant things did not have any similar recognition so having time to review was needed. Council Member Boswell noted that Ms. Alexander was very devoted to the school system and suggested that the family consider contacting the school to have something within the school system to honor her memory. Attorney Reitman commented that it may also cause some confusion with emergency responses having more than one street name or section when responding to emergencies. The motion unanimously passed.

New Business:

Clerk Cronin presented an Ordinance to adopt the proposed mileage rate of 6.377. **A motion was made by Council Member Boswell** to adopt both the Millage Rate Ordinance and the rate of 6.377 for the 2025 tax year. The motion was seconded by Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously passed.

Clerk Cronin reported that the renewal of Health Insurance through GMA/Blue Cross & Blue Shield had been submitted with an increase in premium rates of about 8%. **A motion was made by Council Member Scott** to accept the renewal and increase premium rates as information. Seconded by Council Member Boswell. Opportunity for discussion. Council Member Harris recommended that the city request that in addition to the option for employees to pay for dental, and vision, to also offer consider disability options that employees can purchase. Motion unanimously passed.

A motion was made by Council Member Mundy to renew the Clerk of Court contract with Yolanda Callaway for the 2026 fiscal year. Motion seconded by Council Member Boswell. Opportunity for discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Department Reports:

Animal Control Officer Wright gave a report on the month's animal control activity. Several citations and warnings have been given this week. Dogs continue to be an issue on Summer Hill, and dogs will not be returned to the owners since the warnings have been issued if same ones continue to cause problems.

Chief Wright asked the council to consider selling the 1972 Fire Engine as surplus property. It no longer works and would be costly to rebuild for a "show vehicle". **A motion was made** by Council Member Boswell to allow the city clerk to advertise the sale of the 1972 Fire Truck in the local news organ via sealed bids; and bids would be accepted or rejected at the October 14th council meeting. Motion seconded by Council Member Scott. Opportunity for discussion. Council Member Harris suggested that the city consider getting a price to paint the truck and use it in parades, etc. Chief Wright reminded that council that it was investigated several years ago, and it would be more beneficial to use those funds on other needs. Motion unanimously passed.

Public Comment & Adjournment:

Clarence Hillsman, a resident who resides on Bloodworth Street, commented on the odor the water has at his home. He asked if this concern would please be addressed soon. He also presented a petition for a speed bump to be placed on Bloodworth in reference to his requests last month due to added traffic in the area and children at play. The petition listed the required names of residents who would like to have a speed bump on Bloodworth. Mayor Rhodes asked the Clerk and Public Works Director David Stephens to consider placement of the speed bumps and Children at Play signs. Makail Dunn commented on the millage rate and concerns about the water rates due to the construction of the water plant.

No further comments, or need for Executive Session, the meeting was adjourned. **Motion to adjourn** by Council Member Boswell. Seconded by Council Member Mundy. Motion unanimously passed.

Mayor Rhodes closed the meeting with prayer.

Mayor

Clerk

Date