

Union Point City Council Minutes
Monthly Meeting – May 14, 2019 – 6 p.m.
Four Room School House – 211 Veazey Street, Union Point, GA

Attendees: Mayor Lanier Rhodes, Mayor Pro-Tem Jimmy Scott
Council Members: Sally Boswell, Wayne Brown, Dawn Clifton, John Rhodes, Mary Mundy
Attorney Joe Reitman and City Clerk Becky Cronic

Mayor Lanier Rhodes called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and opened the meeting with prayer.
A quorum was present. Mayor Rhodes called for approval of the minutes from the April 9, 2019 meeting.

Mayor Rhodes opened a Public Hearing in regards to a Conditional Use permit request at 304 Church Street. It was noted that advertising for the Public Hearing and signage posted on the parcel had been completed. LaVasia West spoke in favor of the permit to place a mobile home on the parcel. Council Member Brown asked if landscaping and required entry way to the empty lot had been considered as a part of the request. Council Member Boswell asked if other mobile homes were located in the same neighborhood. LaVasia West replied yes to both of these concerns. Mayor Rhodes asked if anyone else would like to speak in favor or against the requested permit. J.D. Carter had questions and concerns about the permit; he was not against the request, however asked about the required setbacks for locating the home on the lot as his property adjoins the lot. No further speakers regarding the permit, Mayor Rhodes stated that the Council would consider the request and notify the party requesting the permit via letter. The hearing was closed.

A **motion** was made by Council Member Brown to approve the minutes from the April 9th council meeting; seconded by Council Member Rhodes. Motion unanimously passed.

A **motion** was made by Council Member Rhodes to accept the Agenda for the meeting as presented; seconded by Council Member Brown. Motion passed unanimously.

Legal Matters: Attorney Reitman recommended that the Council consider the Conditional Use Permit that had been requested at this time. It was noted by the Clerk that the zoning department did not see any issues with a decrease or increase in property value in the Church Street area. A motion was made by Council Member Clifton to approve the Conditional Use Permit for the home at 304 Church Street, Union Point; seconded by Council Member Mundy. Motion passed unanimously.

Attorney Reitman reported that a deed had been prepared and submitted to the Union Point Downtown Development Authority for the property located at Hwy 77 North and Carlton Avenue that had been abandoned by CSX. The Clerk will be filing this with the Clerk of Court. Attorney Reitman and City Clerk Cronic will be meeting with the engineering firm, Williams and Associates, who has submitted an agreement to perform the design and engineering work on the Union Point Firefly Model Mile to address areas of concern before moving forward with the terms of agreement.

Tri County continues to discuss the consolidation efforts. Mayor Pro Tem Scott requested that the attorneys for the three entities meet and come up with a final solution and report back to the Council.

Attorney Reitman advised that the engineering firm and USDA are back on track with the new Water Treatment Facility. Engineering firm will be meeting with the Mayor and Clerk on May 23rd to get more updates.

Advertisements ran in the local newspaper for bids for the sale of property at 1006 Watson Avenue. A bid was received from Habitat for Humanity by the City Clerk by May 10th. A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Scott to accept the bid in the amount of \$5,010 from Greene County Habitat for Humanity; motion seconded by Council Member Mundy. Motion passed unanimously.

Attorney Reitman will submit a final draft of the Intergovernmental Agreement with Woodville on Animal Control this week. He also noted that a sign had been approved for the Barnes Street Park and placed on the property covering the City of Union Point for any liability issues.

Downtown Development Authority Matters: Chairman Jill Rhodes reported on behalf of DDA. Raffle fundraiser for bicycles went well. Around \$2000 dollars was raised to benefit the Firefly Trail Model Mile. Several projects are on the horizon however, due to the funds being moved out of the previous DDA fund in the prior fiscal year, funds are a concern. A motion was made by Council Member Brown to move the previously budgeted \$25,000 from the City's current year's General Fund to the DDA account; seconded by Council Member Boswell. Motion carried 4 to 2.

Police Matters: Chief Cash reported on recent activity within the Police department. He noted that trash is a concern in the Barnes Street Park area. It was noted that a temporary trash can had been placed in the park until a more permanent one could be purchased. To assist with people standing in the street area watching the kids, he recommended that two sets of bleachers be moved from the softball park to the Park. Under code enforcement, Chief reported that thirty (30) grass cutting letters had been mailed and only three (3) had not followed through. The remains of one of the burned homes located on Crawfordville Road are currently being torn down by the family. Other burned structure remains are still being handled in municipal

Clerk's report: Becky Cronic distributed a report to the Council. She noted that the DOT Grant she had applied for had been awarded to the City in the amount of \$8,000. It was also noted that she and the Mayor reviewed the Commercial and Liability Insurance renewal quotes and selected GMA's proposal. Premium is \$48,918. A motion was made by Council Member Clifton to renew the City of Union Point's insurance policy through the Georgia Municipal Association with the premium amount being \$48,918 for the 2019 year; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Scott. Motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business: Police Take Home Car policy – Clerk Cronic presented a revised Take Home Car policy section that she recommended is implemented into the Police Department Car policy when the full police car policy is finalized. After discussion of the revised policy and potential pros/cons, it was recommended that the Council consider looking at the previous option that officers are allowed to reimburse the police department budget for cost of gas for those who may live beyond the limits recommended.

A motion was made by Council Member Brown to approve the following:

To allow assigned vehicles to be driven to an officer's residence that is 25 miles or less from the Union Point Police Department. If an officer resides more than 25 miles from the department, the officer shall drive his or her personal car to the department to report to duty. Mileage limits may be waived for meeting travel, transports, etc., that officers may need to attend or handle. Officers will be given the option to pay the difference in the mileage at a

reasonable rate set by the City Clerk to offset the cost of gas beyond the 25 miles limitation stated above. Funds will be put back into the Police Department budget. Motion seconded by Council Member Clifton. Motion failed 2 to 4.

A motion was made by Council Member Boswell to approve the recommended policy effective June 1, 2019 to allow assigned vehicles to be driven to an officer's residence that is 25 miles or less from the Union Point Police Department. If an officer resides more than 25 miles from the department, the officer shall drive his or her personal car to the department to report to duty. Mileage limits may be waived for meeting travel, transports, etc., that officers may need to attend or handle. Motion seconded by Council Member Mundy. Motion passed 4 to 2.

New Business: Contract for Yolanda Callaway – no update at this time. Clerk Cronin and Council Member Mundy recommended that the City consider changing the current retirement plan through GMA to a "30 and out" plan as opposed to current plan based on age of 65 for retirement. A cost study will need to be administered by GMA prior to the change. Cost is \$1150. Tri-County is interested in this option as well and will share in the cost of the study. (\$575 per entity) A motion was made by Council Member Clifton to have GMA administer the cost study; seconded by Council Member Rhodes. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments: In regards to the Police Department's report, Chamber of Commerce President Terry Lawler encouraged that all consider attending the Active Shooter seminar that would be held on May 23rd.

Committee Reports: Council Member Rhodes gave an update on the Barnes Street Park project. Funds spent on the project thus far are at \$6,595. We should be hearing from the grant writer in the next couple of weeks.

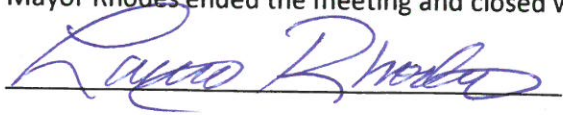
Council Member reported that there were two quotes that were obtained for new mowers for the City. After speaking with the Clerk and PW Director Stephens, he recommended the quote from Sisson's. **A motion** was made by Council Member Brown to purchase three Bobcat mowers from Sisson's in Greensboro in the amount of \$24,549; seconded by Council Member Rhodes. Motion unanimously passed.

Council Member Brown shared that he is waiting on another quote from a subcontractor the lawn maintenance of cemeteries in Union Point to potentially assist with Public Works in the next year.

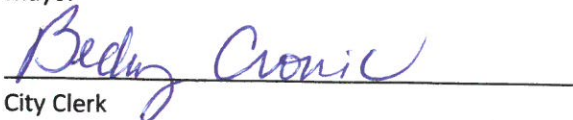
A motion was made by Council Member Brown to enter Executive Session after a 5 minute recess; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Scott. Motion passed unanimously. A motion was made to move out of Executive Session by Mayor Pro Tem Scott; seconded by Council Member Rhodes. Motion passed unanimously.

No further business, a motion was made by Council Member Boswell to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Council Member Clifton. Motion unanimously passed.

Mayor Rhodes ended the meeting and closed with a prayer.



Mayor



City Clerk

6-11-19
Date