

**Union Point City Council Minutes**  
**Monthly Meeting – October 11, 2022 – 6 p.m.**  
**Four Room School House – 211 Veazey Street, Union Point, GA**

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

Mayor Lanier Rhodes called the October 11, 2022, meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. with a prayer followed by the pledge to the flag. A quorum was present.

**A motion was made** by Council Member Boswell to approve the agenda for the October 11, 2022, meeting. Seconded by Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously passed.

**A motion was made by**

**A motion was made** by Council Member Rhodes to approve the minutes from the Public Hearing on September 29<sup>th</sup> to review the proposed 2023 fiscal year budget. Seconded by Council Member Harris. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously passed.

Mayor Rhodes opened the **Public Hearing** to hear the request to re-zone the property at 3670 Old Union Point Road by Greene County Habitat for Humanity. This hearing is the second hearing for the request as required to re-zone the property from Ag-2 to R-1 Single Family. No one spoke in favor or against the re-zone. Mayor Rhodes closed the hearing.

Mayor Rhodes opened the **Public Hearing** to hear a request to annex property at 3670 Old Union Point Road into the City limits from Greene County by Greene County Habitat for Humanity. Mayor Rhodes asked if anyone present would like to speak against the annexation. Mayor Rhodes asked if anyone would like to speak in favor of the annexation. Opportunity for discussion from the public. Jan Brazier asked about the number of homes that would be built if the annexation was approved and if it would be a subdivision with access from Bloodworth Street. Brinkley Pound with Greene County Habitat was present and answered questions related to the annexation request. She clarified that if the annexation was approved that six homes are currently being proposed to be built and Habitat for Humanity. A development plan will be presented once annexation is complete and will have to be approved by the Mayor and Council before any construction could take place. No further discussion, Mayor Rhodes closed the hearing.

**Legal Matters:** Attorney Reitman briefly updated the Mayor and Council on the formal steps for completing an annexation. Two hearings have been held as required and the council may now move forward with decisions.

**Downtown Development Authority (DDA)** – Jill Rhodes reported that there will be a Townhall Meeting on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Union Theatre at 5:00 p.m. Notices for the Block Party/Meeting will be posted in English and Spanish. All are encouraged to attend this annual DDA Townhall Meeting. Jill also noted that the construction of the Butterfly Garden along the Firefly Trail had been completed. Planting will begin as weather allows. Volunteers will be needed to assist with planting.

Mayor Rhodes reported that graffiti had been painted on the trail and on one of the trashcans along the trail. The Sheriff's Office has been notified.

**Clerk's Report:** Becky Cronic reported that the Flock Safety Camera representative will be sending a final proposal for the two safety cameras that the city is interested in for placing in various places in Union Point. Mrs. Cronic reported that she would have a proposal for the Public Defender position that the Council needs to approve before December at the November meeting.

**Old Business:**

Mayor Rhodes reported that the re-zone and sub-divide requested by Dwayne Bolden on Lamb Avenue had been tabled from the previous meeting. Mr. Bolden was at the meeting and was asked to speak on behalf of the request. Due to miscommunication with the zoning department with Bureau Veritas, Mr. Bolden was asked to contact Hal Chitwood over Planning and Zoning to confirm that all documents and requirements had been met for the requested re-zone. Council members encouraged Mr. Bolden to continue to move forward and due to legal requirements, certain documentation is needed when locating and establishing new construction and businesses in a city.

**New Business:**

**A motion was made by** Council Member Rhodes to annex the property at 3670 Old Union Point Road into the City of Union Point. Motion seconded by Council Member Pinkney. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously passed.

**A motion was made by** Council Member Boswell to re-zone the property at 3670 Old Union Point Road from Ag-2 to R-1 Single Residential. Motion seconded by Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. It was noted that the access road to the property would either be decided in the future proposed plan from Abercorn or Bloodworth Street. Motion unanimously passed.

**A motion was made by** Council Member Boswell to approve the proposed Budget Resolution and FY2023 Budget as proposed. Motion seconded by Council Member Rhodes. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously passed.

Mayor Rhodes recommended that the Council consider increasing the starting wages for new employees to \$14.00 per hour. In addition to be fair to all current employees a \$1.50 per hour raise has been recommended. This would be about a \$65,000 annual increase that has been proposed in the budget for the new fiscal year.

**A motion was made by** Council Member Boswell to approve an increase in wages to \$14.00 per hour for new employees and give each current employee a \$1.50 per hour raise for the 2023 Fiscal Year. Motion seconded by Council Member Pinkney. Opportunity for discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Attorney Reitman reviewed the agreement between the Judicial Alternatives of Georgia, Inc. (JAG) and the City of Union Point/Municipal Court that is scheduled for renewal. The proposed agreement was revised and reviewed by the Council prior to the meeting. **A motion was made by** Council Member Rhodes to approve the agreement between the City of Union Point Municipal Court and Judicial Alternatives of Georgia, Inc. (JAG) for the renewal period beginning December 1, 2022, ending November 30, 2027. Motion seconded Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously passed.

**Department Reports:** The Fire Department will be hosting a Halloween Festival at the fire station on Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup> from 5 – 8 p.m. Council Member Mundy will be chairing the Christmas Tree lighting ceremony on December 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at the City Park by the fountain. Council Member Mundy will also coordinate the Christmas Parade this year and shared that the date would be December 10<sup>th</sup>. Several high school bands have been secured and applications for participating in the parade will be at City Hall.

Council Member Rhodes gave a brief summary of the Flock Safety Cameras that have been recommended and strongly encouraged that the Council purchase these to be located on the two state routes that come through the City of Union Point.

**Public Comment:** Jan Brazier commented in favor of the safety cameras and encouraged incentives for keeping employees long term.

There being no further business **a motion was made to adjourn** the meeting by Council Member Boswell; seconded by Council Member Mundy. Motion unanimously carried.

Mayor Rhodes closed the meeting with a prayer.

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Mayor

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City Clerk

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Date