

Union Point City Council Minutes
DRAFT - Monthly Meeting – May 9, 2023 – 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., Teneisha Pinkney, John Rhodes **Absent:** Jim Scott **Others:** City Clerk Becky Cronic

Mayor Lanier Rhodes called the May 9, 2023, meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and opened with a prayer. A quorum was present for the meeting.

A motion was made by Council Member Boswell to approve the agenda for the May 9, 2023, meeting. Seconded by Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously passed.

A motion was made by Council Member Boswell to approve the minutes with minor changes from the April 11, 2023, meeting. Seconded by Council Member Harris. Opportunity for discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Legal Matters: Attorney Reitman was unable to attend the meeting.

Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Update: Jan Brazier gave an update on the progress at the Memorial Firefly Garden on Carlton Avenue. A water line has been installed and volunteers are now able to access water on site to maintain the plants/flowers. Jill Rhodes reminded the council that the “Big Check” presentation from the Fox Theatre Institute in recognition of the recent \$40,000 grant would be held May 10th. All were encouraged to attend. She also noted that fundraising efforts for remaining theatre renovation needs are in process. A concert is scheduled for September 22nd at Festival Hall in Greensboro and other fundraising details will be forthcoming.

Greene County Habitat for Humanity: Executive Director of Greene County Habitat, Elaine Matthews, presented preliminary home site plans for future homes that are requested to be approved and built on the property on Bloodworth Street and the property recently annexed in along Abercorn Street. Three of the four home sites on Bloodworth all have access to utilities; the fourth site does not. The additional home sites proposed for phase 2 in the newly annexed property were presented as information and more details will be forthcoming. A motion was made by Council Member Pinkney to approve that Greene County Habitat for Humanity homes could be built on lots 4, 5, and 6 on Bloodworth Street upon meeting all necessary building permits and requirements. Council Member Rhodes seconded the motion. Opportunity for discussion. The motion unanimously passed.

Clerk’s Report: Becky Cronic reported that an individual, Dameon Woodsman, from Sparta had completed an application to potentially rent the Union Point ballfields for an event on June 17th. The event is on a larger scale than what has been requested in the past and will include guest speakers, music, vendors, etc., therefore the request for use of the fields was presented to the council for approval before moving forward. **A motion was made** by Council Member Harris to revise the rental fees for the ballfields and upon the individual securing security guards for the event, allow Mr. Woodsman from Sparta to rent the ballfields for June 17th. Seconded by Council Member Pinkney. Opportunity for discussion. Utility upgrades, electrical upgrades, and parking spaces need to be addressed on the property especially for events that may draw over 45 – 50 people. The fields and property have been underused over the last 5-8 years. The motion was denied. Council Members Harris and Pinkney in favor and Council Members Mundy, Boswell, and Rhodes opposed.

Becky Cronic reported that the citywide clean-up/pick-up would begin on May 22nd. Employees will also take May 29th off for Memorial Day.

Old Business: Becky Cronic shared the goals and vision statement that the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee had presented in a draft format for review. Council members were asked to review the draft and to contact Mr. Phillip Jones or Becky with any additions or corrections. More details of the 5-Year Comprehensive Plan will follow in the weeks ahead.

New Business:

Jan Brazier with the Union Point Garden Club requested that the city proclaim the week of June 4-10th as Garden Club Week in conjunction with National Garden Club Week. Mayor Rhodes read the requested proclamation for Garden Club Week. **A motion was made** by Council Member Boswell to adopt a City Proclamation to proclaim June 4-10, 2023, as the City of Union Point Garden Club Week in conjunction with National Garden Club Week. Motion seconded by Council Member Harris. Motion unanimously passed.

A motion was made by Council Member Boswell to accept the bid in the amount of \$800 for a 1994 Ford truck which was deemed surplus property by the Council. Motion seconded by Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously passed. **A motion was made** by Council Member Boswell to accept the bid in the amount of \$600 for a 2000 Chev.400 Truck that was deemed surplus property by the City Council. Motion seconded by Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously passed. **A motion was made** by Council Member Boswell to accept the bid in the amount of \$400 for a 2003 Chev. Silverado Truck that was deemed surplus property by the City Council. Motion seconded by Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously passed.

Department Reports: David Stephens reported that he had two contractors he had reached out to about repairing areas on several city streets, but no one had gotten back to him. These are areas where the road edges are collapsing. He will seek other contractors as the repairs are much needed.

Public Comment: Jan Brazier commented that she recently attended a Firefly Trail, Inc. meeting that includes Greene County and the other counties along the trail. Ambassadors are being recruited to be the eyes and ears for the 39 mile trail and anyone interested may reach out to the Firefly Trail Board if they would like to sign-up.

Resident Bobby Mapp asked this new council if they felt a police department was needed again in Union Point. He shared he did not expect an immediate answer, but hoped to hear from them in the days ahead.

There being no further business **a motion was made to adjourn** the meeting at 7:15 p.m. by Council Member Boswell; seconded by Council Member Mundy. Motion unanimously carried.

Mayor Rhodes closed the meeting with a prayer.

Mayor

City Clerk

Date