

Union Point City Council Minutes
Monthly Meeting – June 13, 2023 – 6 p.m.
Four Room School House – 211 Veazey Street, Union Point, GA

Attendees: Mayor Lanier Rhodes **Council Members:** William Harris, Jr., Mary Mundy, John Rhodes, Jim Scott
Others: Deputy Clerk Sheila E Jordan
Absentees: **Council Members:** Sally Boswell, Teneisha Pinkney, Joe Reitman

Mayor Lanier Rhodes called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and opened with a prayer.
It was noted that a quorum was present for the meeting.

A motion was made by Council Member Mundy to approve the agenda for the June 13, 2023, meeting. Seconded by Council Member Harris. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously passed.

A motion was made by Council Member Rhodes to approve the minutes from the May 9, 2023, meeting. Seconded by Council Member Harris. Opportunity for discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Legal Matters: Attorney Reitman was not at the meeting.

Downtown Development Authority Update: Jill Rhodes gave a brief report from the DDA and shared that the two bathrooms were partially complete, and the “Green Room” was completed at the Union Theatre. These recent renovation costs at the theatre totaled \$81,200. DDA covered just over half of this and the remaining \$40,000 was the FTI grant that was received. A campaign for additional funds has begun with donation letters being mailed and plans for an upcoming fundraiser concert. The concert will be held at Festival Hall in Greensboro on Fri. September 22, 2023. Volunteer Sherely Selman recently attended a Fox Theatre Workshop in Athens and received additional information for grants that could potentially be utilized for the Theatre.

Sheriff's Report: Sheriff Donnie Harrison gave a report on the calls/incident stats that were reported within the city limits of Union Point. A copy was provided to the Council and Mayor for reference. Since Union Point shares its zip code with a large northeastern part of our county, all calls and incidents will be shown in the report. Nixel is currently used for public awareness which is costing the county about \$4,000 a year. The Sheriff's Office is changing over to “My Sheriff App” which is a free app with important public information notifications. He encourages everyone to download this link. There is no charge, and it keeps the public informed and aware of current incidents.

Old Business: Comprehensive Plan, Goals and Vision - Mayor Rhodes asked if anyone had any questions at this time regarding the Comprehensive Plan. No questions. The city will continue to follow up and present more information in the weeks ahead.

New Business: Mayor Rhodes called on Bill Posey, a concerned citizen, to present his concerns as stated on the agenda. Mr. Posey shared his concern and several others' concerns about the potential housing that had been proposed for the Union Point ballfields at a previous council meeting. The mayor shared that he understood his concern and reassured Mr. Posey that no housing had been approved for that location nor has it been discussed any further since the April meeting. The Mayor and Council thanked Mr. Posey for attending the meeting and sharing his concern on this matter.

Clean-Up Week: Mayor Rhodes stated clean-up week will be addressed and reconsidered for next spring.

There will be work sessions scheduled for 2023-2024 Budget in July. The date will be confirmed in the weeks ahead. Mayor Rhodes reported that Greene County Family Connection Back to School Rally will be hosted on July 10th and a second one in August. Mayor Rhodes shared that Council Member Boswell serves on the Family Connection Board and encouraged all to participate in the July event. A motion was made by Council Mundy for Union Point to support and participate in the July rally. Council Member Rhodes seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENT / COMMITTEE REPORT: Mayor Rhodes shared that the city will be closed on July 4th.

Water Plant update / Public Works: David Stephens Public Works Supervisor informed everyone that the new water plant had started a 30-day trial-run. Today is the 21st day that the new water plant was running. He commented that the plant was money-well-spent.

Clean up week – The dumpsters are scheduled to be picked up by the end of the week, however the timing will depend on the weather and the trash company’s route. A lot of debris continues to collect in the sewer main at Flying J lift station and we are constantly tracking this situation to keep it clog-free to prevent major problems. There are (6) cross drain covers in need of repair within the city. Mayor Rhodes stated he and David have reviewed quotes for these repairs as well as bids for paving and patching several streets. The funds we receive from TSPLOST will cover the cost of these repairs. David reported that he is still waiting on tap fee supplies. The current turnaround time is around August before he will receive the order for supplies.

Fire Department / Animal Control: Will Wright Fire Department Chief reported there were (67) fire calls from April 1st to June 13th, 2023. He reported that he recently attended the Fire Chief’s conference in Vidalia, GA and shared some information from the conference with the council. Will suggested the Fire Department is interested in having a water day/summer breeze event for the kids this year if at all possible. More information to follow.

Animal Control: Currently there are (3) dogs and (7) cats at the pound. The Humane Society has taken 40 cats and 32 dogs from our location over the past several weeks. We had (4) dogs euthanized and (6) complaint calls on dogs, donkeys and goats, all from Woodville. This does not include phone calls received at the office of city hall. On June 9th we mailed 22 certified letters for past due animal control fines/tickets. Payments are slowly coming in.

Public Comment: Cynthia Walker wanted to verify the school rally was on July 29th. She noticed the agenda date was shown as July 10th. This correct date was noted. Bill Posey commented on the new upgrades at the Fire Department and thanked the city for spending funds wisely. He also asked for and received clarification on the ordinance about nuisance squirrels.

There being no further business a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 p.m. by Council Member Mundy; seconded by Council Member Rhodes. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Rhodes closed the meeting with a prayer.

Mayor

Clerk

Date