

Union Point City Council Minutes
Monthly Meeting – October 13, 2020 – 6 p.m.
Four Room School House – 211 Veazey Street, Union Point, GA

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

Mayor Lanier Rhodes called the October meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and opened the meeting with prayer. A quorum was present.

A motion was made by Council Member Boswell to approve the agenda; seconded by Council Member Clifton. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously passed.

A motion was made by Council Member Clifton to accept the minutes presented from the September 8, 2020 council meeting; seconded by Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Legal Matters: Attorney Reitman reviewed the proposed IGA with Greene County for the provision of fire protection in the incorporated area of the City of Union Point and advised that it was clearly stated how the future services would be managed through the county and city fire departments. More details to follow under new business. Attorney Reitman noted that due to COVID-19 the rulings from the City's court case vs. Willie Calvin related to the property at 101 South Rhodes Street had been delayed for several months. All documents have now been properly filed and submitted on the property and the City may demolish the structure and place a lien against the property. Attorney Reitman reported that he was waiting on USDA to finalize the additional funding to move any further with the legal closing financing documents that will be necessary to begin on the new Water Plant construction.

DDA Report: Jill Rhodes reported on behalf of the Downtown Development Authority. The new restrooms and warming kitchen area in the Downtown Development Authority building on Sibley Avenue are almost complete. Once the additions are completed, everyone will be welcome to come see the results. Plans on what to do with the building are still being discussed. Jill gave an overview of a grant that Greene County is applying for with Oglethorpe County for the remaining portion of the unincorporated areas of the Fire Fly Trail. Union Point may want to consider joining in on the grant as funds will potentially be available for additional improvements to extending Union Point's section of the trail into or closer to downtown.

GA Xtracts – Don Barden CEO of GA Xtracts gave an overview of their move to Union Point and the transition they recently made by moving to the former Chipman-Union Hosiery Mill. Current production of the sanitizer products they are making are now available in Home Depot, Food Lion, and several other major chain stores. Plans to develop the entire complex into both a manufacturing/distribution center and potential multi-purpose complex for future economic growth are soon. A rendering of the complex plans will be forthcoming.

Law Enforcement Update – Sheriff Harrison distributed a report on calls and citations for the year for the City of Union Point. Officers continue to work 24 hours per week and he and his staff will continue to update the City on a regular basis.

Clerk’s report –

Becky Cronic included a report in the council packet and highlighted that the Fire Fly Trail amenities committee would like to confirm the location of the restrooms for the Trail as soon as possible to post proper signs along the trail. No action was taken as to the location at the meeting. Parking for trail riders will be downtown.

Unfinished business:

Two winning bids were posted on the GovDeals Auction for the 1972 Fire Truck and the 1999 Blazer. **A motion was made** by Council Member Clifton to deny the bid in the amount of \$775 for the 1972 Fire Truck and that the City keep the truck. Seconded by Council Member Boswell. Opportunity for discussion. Motion carried with Members Boswell, Rhodes, Mundy, Scott, and Clifton approving of the decision; Council Member Brown opposed.

A motion was made to accept the bid in the amount of \$8,300 for the 1999 Blazer by Council Member Clifton. Seconded by Council Member Mundy. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously carried.

New Business:

A motion was made by Council Member Rhodes to approve the 2021 budget for the General Fund, the Water/Sewer Fund, and the Natural Gas Fund for the City of Union Point; seconded by Council Member Clifton. Opportunity for discussion. Motion passed with Council Members Mundy, Rhodes, Boswell, Clifton, and Scott approving; Council Member Brown opposed.

A motion was made by Council Member Boswell to approve and enter an IGA for Fire Protection Provision with Greene County for the incorporated areas of Union Point for \$24,000 a year; and to enter into a SPLOST IGA to receive remaining SPLOST due from SLOST VI and the SPLOST VII funds designated for Union Point for a total of \$230,000 over the next six years. Seconded by Council Member Clifton. Opportunity for discussion. Motion unanimously carried.

Department Reports:

Animal Control – Will Wright gave a report on the past three months calls and citations. A total of 90 calls have come in either through 911 or into City Hall. Fines are being paid and notices have been sent for outstanding fines. Council Member Mundy reported that the date for the Christmas Parade is slated for December 12th. A notice will run in the newspaper and based on response from potential participants, a decision will be made in November to confirm if the parade will be held due to COVID-19.

Public Comments: Katie O’Neal from Lake Oconee News requested a copy of the budget and reports from the Sheriff.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. by Council Member Clifton; seconded by Council Member Rhodes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Rhodes closed the meeting with a prayer.

Mayor

City Clerk

Date