

MINUTES  
WORKSESSION MEETING  
MONDAY, APRIL 9, 2012  
6:30 P.M.

I. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS:

Catherine Maddox to share the new Fulton County School District Boundary Map

Catherine Maddox, Fulton County Schools Board Member, addressed the Council and informed them that the Governor signed a Reapportionment Bill regarding the map that was sent to him a few months ago. She then provided the Council with a copy of the map and stated that the only thing that she is waiting on is approval from the Justice Department.

Ms. Maddox thanked the Council for allowing the Fulton County School Board to annex Banneker High School into Union City. She apologized for the politics surrounding the matter and stated that she was only interested in saving taxpayers' dollars and getting the school built. Ms. Maddox informed the Council that they should have received an invitation to Banneker's Open House.

Ms. Maddox stated that it is vital that we have good economic development in our cities and one of the key components of that is making sure that we have great schools. She added that we have a long way to go, but we are on the right track. She then informed the Council that she plans to have a meeting this summer with the economic development people and City Managers in cities that she represents to discuss the great things that are going on in the schools.

Ms. Maddox referred back to the map and stated that her district has doubled. She concluded that she is only a phone call away if anybody needs her.

Ms. Maddox stated that she went to the Capital last week as she has some concerns with the Charter system. She added that she and the Superintendent are going to work very hard to make sure that it works right. She stated that this is critical because this is something new and different, but it will give the schools flexibility to use their monies where their needs are. She concluded that resources should be placed where ever the need is. She then provided the Council with her business card and informed them that she is always available.

The Magic of Union City Essay/Art Contest

Councilman Vince Williams led this discussion and stated that this is a GMA partnership with various cities around the state of Georgia. He added that they have three different levels of lead opportunities for various cities and since this is our first time participating in Georgia Cities Week, he wanted to pull from all of the levels rather than jumping in at level three; which we could not do to some of the intricacies that go into some of the tasks. He then stated that we have carved out a week of events and Union City will be proud to highlight the magic of Union City.

II. REVIEW OF MINUTES:

Worksession Meeting, 03/12/2012 (*Canceled*)  
Regular Council Meeting, 03/20/2012  
Called Council Meeting, 03/29/2012

Mayor Moore asked if there were any corrections to the minutes.

No corrections were made.

The minutes were added to the consent agenda as written.

III. OLD BUSINESS: None.

IV. NEW BUSINESS: (*Determine Items for Consent Agenda*)

***All matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine by the Council and will be approved by one motion. No separate discussion will take place on these items. If discussion of any Consent Agenda item is desired, the item will be moved to the Regular Meeting Agenda for separate consideration.***

1. Council to consider approval of a resolution opposing the use of the former J. C. Larmore Probation Detention Center as a Youth Detention Center.

Councilman Williams led this discussion and stated that he has received a number of calls and have been stopped by several families in the Valley Lakes area regarding the J.C. Larmore Youth Detention Center. He added that he has tried to share with them that the Federal Government has already made a decision and there is nothing that we can do. He further added that they have attended several fruitless meetings because nothing is going to be done and the money is spent. Councilman Williams stated that several facilities have closed over the past two years in the Metro Atlanta area so that facility, which is in pretty good shape, will be used. He added that he did inform families that we are going to show support in a way that does not cause conflict with what will ultimately happen. He then recommended putting together a resolution stating that we certainly stand with the residents who view this as an environmental injustice. He added that if you look up what an environmental injustice is, this is certainly one by having the proximity of the detention center so close to the Union City Jail. He concluded that we have a number of residents who are outraged over that.

Councilwoman Jackson stated that we have been down this road before. She added that people use to think that it was in Union City.

Councilman Williams stated that people were thinking that and he explained that it is not in Union City.

Mayor Moore asked Councilman Williams if he redirected them back to the Commissioner.

Councilman Williams stated that he did and the Commissioner held one of the meetings. He added that he is not aware of what came out of it. He further added that they are either in the process of or have already passed a resolution similar to what we have this evening.

This item was added to the consent agenda.

2. Council to consider approval of a resolution recognizing Georgia Cities Week, April 22-28.

Councilman Williams stated that this is recognizing what we are doing for Georgia Cities Week.

This item was added to the consent agenda.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION:

VI. OTHER BUSINESS:

Council to consider appointment of Jennifer V. Jones to the Housing Authority Board

Councilman Williams led this discussion and stated that he was contacted by Chair Lady Joann Cummings. He added that over the past couple of years they have had working difficulties with Ms. Brittian. He further added that Ms. Brittian's term expired October 31, 2010 and unfortunately there were no candidates. Councilman Williams stated that Chair Lady Cummings contacted him and stated that they have found someone that they are pleased with and requested that he share this with the Mayor and Council to help them because it has been stressful with Ms. Brittian.

Councilwoman Mealing asked if Ms. Brittian was still on the Board.

Councilman Williams stated that she is still there.

Councilwoman Mealing stated that she thought that Ms. Brittian moved outside of the City.

Councilman Williams stated that he has also heard this, but does not know if that is true. He concluded that she is still attending the meetings.

At this time Mayor Moore directed Mr. Rapson to prepare a letter thanking Ms. Brittian for her service. He then stated that presenting her with a small plaque would be in order. Mayor Moore stated that we should invite her to a meeting and present her with the plaque. He then asked if the Council wanted to invite Ms. Brittian to the meeting this month or next month.

Council agreed to invite Ms. Brittian to the April 17, 2012 Regular Council Meeting.

Councilwoman Mealing asked Councilman Williams if he had met Ms. Jones.

Councilman Williams stated that he met with Ms. Jones and Chair Lady Joann Cummings. He added that Ms. Jones is very youthful and very knowledgeable about real estate. He added that this is one piece that they have been missing.

Councilwoman Mealing asked if we could make sure that Ms. Jones is present at the next meeting because she would like to meet her.

Mr. Rapson responded, "Sure". He then asked for her contact information.

Councilman Jones asked if this was the only vacancy.

Councilman Williams responded, "Yes". He added that all of the positions are filled.

***On motion of Councilmember Williams seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried, Jennifer V. Jones was appointed to the Housing Authority Board.***

City Manager Reports:

Mr. Rapson updated the Council regarding the following:

- Market & Sell 54.77 acres land

Mr. Rapson stated that the closing is scheduled for the sewer deal on the 13<sup>th</sup>. He added that in anticipation of that closing, he wanted to get the Mayor and Council's direction with regards to the 54 acres that we bought in 2002 for sewer treatment. He added that if we are going to have the capacity and buy it from Fulton County; that land is no longer needed. He further added that he wanted to pursue marketing it with the Council's approval. Mr. Rapson stated that if we do not get a good price we will keep it, but we should at least take a look at it and try to recoup some of the money and put it back into the fund that it came from.

Mayor Moore stated that it was going to be used for a spray field. He then asked, what was the purchase price?

Mr. Rapson stated that the actual purchase price was \$493,000 but the latest fair market value places it closer to \$356,000. He concluded that he would market it to find out whether it is worth selling as he anticipates getting ready to go into the next budget season.

Mayor Moore asked if he needed a motion to move forward.

Mr. Rapson stated that if he is going to market the land, the City Attorney would want him to have approval to do so.

***On motion of Councilmember Jackson seconded by Councilmember Mealing and carried, the aforementioned request to market the 54 acres was unanimously approved.***

- Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Grant

Mr. Rapson stated that he has been notified that the City will receive roughly \$26,000 and that is predicated on a part one crime analysis that is done each year. He added that it is an automatic grant based on part one.



- H.E.A.T. Grant – DUI, Speeding & Child Safety Grant

Mr. Rapson stated that we are in the process of submitting an application for a H.E.A.T. Grant. He added that H.E.A.T. is a grant that you hire officers for and those officers' sole jobs are to target DUI's, speeding and child safety. He further added that the Police Chief informed him that we do a lot of that, but we do not have a unit for it. He then requested the Council's approval to request three officers. Mr. Rapson stated we may get only one or two or perhaps none.

Councilwoman Mealing asked how much is the grant?

Mr. Rapson stated that it depends on what you actually get. He added that they would pay for three officers, as well as, all of their benefits and a vehicle. He further added that he thinks this is a two year grant and they will pay 100 % for two years.

Councilwoman Mealing asked if the City would have to pick it up after two years.

Mr. Rapson stated that he is not sure, but the window for the grant just came up. He added that they did not think that they had any money but apparently they do. He concluded that he would find out and let her know.

Councilman Williams stated that this would be a big help in the DUI area as well as speeding.

Councilwoman Mealing stated that the State is really pushing the fines for child safety and car seats. She added that the fines are hefty and we will see more of that campaign this summer. She further added that fines will be very large and possible jail time.

- Stone Point Colony Payment Agreement

Mr. Rapson stated that Stone Point Colony came in and signed the contract.

- Easter & Baseball Opening Day

Mr. Rapson stated that both of these events were well planned and successful.

At this time Mayor Moore stated that there were two items for executive session, one personnel matter and one item regarding threatened litigation.

***On motion of Councilmember Williams seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried, Council entered into executive session to discuss one personnel matter and one matter regarding threatened litigation.***

***On motion of Councilmember Jones seconded by Councilmember Jackson and carried, Council reconvened to regular session.***

VII. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Mayor Moore stated that safety is a problem at Banneker High School. He added that when he asked the children how many of them felt safe at school, 50% said yes and 50% said no, so this is a problem. He concluded that he will be sponsoring a resolution recommending that metal detectors be place in Banneker High School for the safety of the children.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

***On motion of Councilmember Jones seconded by Councilmember Mealing and carried, the meeting adjourned.***

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF FULTON

EXECUTIVE SESSION AFFIDAVIT

Personally appeared before me, Ralph Moore, Mayor of the City of Union City, Georgia, who after being duly sworn says:

1.

I was the presiding officer of a meeting of the Union City Mayor and City Council held on the 9 day of April, 2012.

2.

That it is my understanding that O.C.G.A. § 50-14-4(b) provides as follows:

When any meeting of an agency is closed to the public pursuant to subsection a of this Code section, the person presiding over such meeting shall execute and file with the official minutes of the meeting a notarized affidavit stating under oath that the subject matter of the meeting or the closed portion thereof was devoted to matters within the exceptions provided by law and identifying the specific relevant exception.

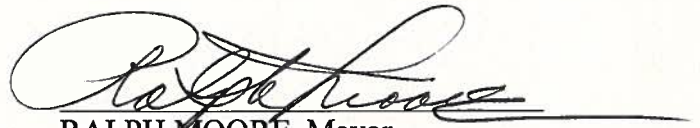
3.

The subject matter of the closed meeting or closed portion of the meeting held on the 9 day of April, 2012, which was closed for the purpose(s) of litigation matter (1) personnel matter as allowed by O.C.G.A., Title 50, Chapter 14, was devoted to matters within those exceptions and as provided by law.

4.

This affidavit is being executed for the purpose of complying with the mandate of O.C.G.A. § 50-14-4 (b) that such an affidavit is executed.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAITH NOT.

  
RALPH MOORE, Mayor

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 9 day of April, 2012.

  
Notary Public