

MINUTES  
WORKSESSION  
COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2013  
6:30 P.M.

Present: Mayor Vince Williams Councilmembers Shirley Jackson, Brian Jones, Angelette Mealing and Joyce Robinson City Attorney Dennis Davenport, City Manager Sonja Fillingame, City Clerk Jacqueline R. Cossey and Assistant City Clerk Ricky Clark Jr.

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:27 p.m. by Mayor Williams.

I. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT/PRESENTATIONS:

Presentation to Councilmember Shirley Jackson

Union City Eagles Cheerleaders

Metro Atlanta Arterial Traffic Signal Timing Program (S.R. 138 Union City)

II. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Council to consider approval of an ordinance regarding vehicle immobilization devices in Union City.

At this time Police Chief Chuck Odom stated that an ordinance was drafted to regulate immobilization devices. He added that some of the contractors working for the commercial properties in the City were booting illegally parked vehicles and since there is a lack of regulation on the State level, he wanted to draft an ordinance to try and regulate some of that activity.

Councilmember Jones asked if the ordinance had been revised.

Chief Odom stated that he wanted to wait and discuss it with the Council. He then stated that he was aware of one revision that needed to be made with regards to the signage which should be visible from every parking space. Chief Odom stated that it should read that the signage should be placed at the ingress and egress of the property as well as about the property.

Mayor Williams stated that he spoke with several business owners regarding this issue and they are in support of it due to the damage to their property from the large trucks. He added that Councilmember Jones addressed the issue with the \$150.00 minimum fine and feels that it is too low. He added that a trucker can easily pay \$150.00 and we need to be sure that this makes sense. Mayor Williams stated that this is to protect the citizens and their property as well as the businesses because they deserve it. He then asked for input from the Council.

Councilmember Robinson stated that after reviewing the ordinance, she is in agreement with Councilmember Jones with regards to the fine being too low. She added that \$150.00 is not a deterrent for truckers.

Councilmember Mealing stated she did some research of her own and looked at other jurisdictions regarding this matter and the fines that they impose. She added that several jurisdictions limits are from \$50.00 to \$75.00. She further added that she understands that the ordinance should have some teeth so that when the fines are imposed it leaves an impression on the violators, but in light of looking at the cities in Metro Atlanta; their fees are from \$50.00 to \$75.00. Councilmember Mealing stated that she wants to be sure that the ordinance requires the businesses to have a telephone number that the truckers can call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and speak with a live person to get the booting device removed.

Councilmember Jackson stated that she agrees that there should be more teeth in the ordinance. She added that \$500.00 is not too much for a trucker and she would like to see the fine raised from \$75.00 to \$150 for the light vehicles.

Mayor Williams stated that this was the same concern that he heard from Walmart. He added that the tractor trailers were destroying the asphalt and leaving Walmart with the financial impact.

Mayor Williams asked City Attorney Davenport if this item should be deferred for 30 days or revised tonight.

City Attorney Davenport stated that the Council could do either, but if he was given direction as to what amendments should be made, those amendments could be placed in the ordinance upon the Council’s adoption tonight. He concluded that if the Council is more comfortable with waiting 30 additional days and looking at the final product with all of the amendment, they could do that also.

After a brief discussion the Council decided to amend the ordinance with the following amendments: Fee structure for large vehicles from \$150.00 to \$500, from \$75.00 to \$150.00 for light vehicles, and amend the signage requirements to be placed at the ingress, egress and about the property and the size of the signs would be consistent with the sign ordinance.

Attorney Davenport stated that he would amend the ordinance and present it for execution after the fact.

This item was added to the consent agenda with the aforementioned amendments.

### III. REGULAR/NEW BUSINESS:

1. Approval of the Minutes:                      Worksession Meeting, 11/19/2013  
    Regular Council Meeting, 11/19/2013

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

No corrections were made; the minutes were added to the consent agenda as written.

2. Council to consider approval of the South Fulton Comprehensive Transportation Plan.

Public Services Director Cedric Clark addressed the Council and stated that this item was regarding the South Fulton Comprehensive Transportation Plan. He then stated that in July 2013, staff presented the Council with the preliminary recommendations for the South Fulton Comprehensive Transportation Plan and provided recommendations and received the Council's feedback. He added that he took that information back to the project team and tonight he wanted to provide an update for the final recommendation for the plan. He then introduced Tim Priest to provide the presentation and concluded that staff recommends adoption of the plan if there were no revisions.

Tim Priest provided the Council with a brief PowerPoint presentation regarding recommendations for the South Fulton Comprehensive Transportation Plan.

Councilmember Jones asked if all cities do not approve the plan, if it would kill the plan for everyone or just kill the plan in that particular city.

Mr. Priest stated that it would be the latter.

This item was placed on the consent agenda.

3. Council to determine whether to demolish or clean up and secure the property located at 8245 Oakley Circle, Union City, Georgia. (Public Hearing)

City Building Inspector David Mundt of Safebuilt led this discussion and stated that this was a very unique situation. He then presented the Mayor and Council with photos of the building.

At this time Attorney Davenport interjected and stated that this item will be a public hearing when presented during the Regular Council Meeting.

Mr. Mundt stated that the town house was destroyed by fire and he was called in September to come out and inspect and find out if it would be demolished or repaired to the point to where the two adjoining units could be repaired. He added that he ran into some difficulties finding the resident of the property and was informed that the person living in the home gave the property to a non-profit, which complicated the situation. Mr. Mundt stated that the problem is regarding the unit that burned. He added that the burned unit has affected the units on both sides and the residents are affected as well. He further added that we need to decide whether to demolish the burned unit completely out and secure the two units on each side or go back after the center section has been demolished and build an envelope back to protect the two units on each side as well as secure the property. He then recommended the latter.

Councilmember Jackson asked if the two units on each side were livable.

Mr. Mundt stated that they are livable however they have smoke damage and damage to the firewall and those repairs would have to be made.

At this time Mayor Williams stated that this item would be revisited during the Regular Council Meeting as it is a public hearing.

At this time Mayor Williams stated that seeing that this is a school night he would like to recognize the Union City Cheerleaders. He then turned it over to Councilmember Mealing.

Councilmember Mealing stated that she invited them because they have had an outstanding year and she wanted to recognize and congratulate the cheerleaders, parents, cheer coordinator, team mom and coaches. Councilmember Mealing read aloud the many awards won by the cheerleaders. Following the announcements the cheerleaders provided a cheer for the Mayor and Council.

City Manager Fillingame thanked the cheer coordinator, Moletta Clayton, and presented her with flowers for all of her hard work.

Ms. Clayton thanked the Council and stated that she has been fortunate to have continuity and she could have not done it without the coaches and the girls love Coach Blich.

Mayor Williams congratulated the cheerleaders and released them to go home and finish their homework.

4. Council to consider approval of a contract with Reeves Contracting Company in the amount of \$54,320.00 for the Shannon Boulevard Pipe Replacement Project.

Public Services Director Cedric Clark led this discussion and stated that this item was regarding the 2013 CDBG Shannon Parkway Pipe replacement. He added that the City was proposed to use CDBG funds to replace a 54 inch corrugated metal pipe with two 42 inch reinforced concrete pipes and headwalls. He added that the project would provide drainage improvement to address flooding, sinkholes, and low water pressure for residents in the Shannon Boulevard vicinity. Mr. Clark stated that CDBG funds totaling \$57,255.00 was allocated to the City to complete this project. He added that the City received a total of eight bids and the three lowest bids were received by the following: Reeves Contracting Company in the amount of \$54,320.00, Construction 57 Incorporated in the amount of \$58,125.00 and Crawford Grading and Pipeline, Inc. in the amount of \$74,000.00. Mr. Clark stated that based on the review of their qualifications staff recommends award of this project to Reeves Contracting Company.

This item was added to the consent agenda.

5. Council to consider rejoining Georgia Municipal Association's City of Ethics program.

Mayor Williams stated that he was approached by Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) with regards to this matter. He added that several members of this Board are GMA board members and GMA is concerned that Union City used to be a City of Ethics and being leaders we should continue to be a City of Ethics. He further added that he informed GMA that he would share this with his colleagues as we have nothing to hide and we are ethical. He then asked the Council if there were any concerns with rejoining GMA's City of Ethics program. He concluded that we would be reinstated at the Mayors' Day Convention in January.

City Attorney Davenport interjected and stated that there were two documents. He added that one document was the model ordinance from GMA and the other was the ordinance that the City had the last time that it was in place. He further added that he included it for the Council to review because the Council did not like it before for whatever reason and it is the same one that was taken off line. Mr. Davenport stated that he wanted to be sure that the Council was comfortable with the item included in the documents and the Council could adopt it this evening and it would put it back in place with what we had before.

Mayor Williams stated that he has reviewed both documents and has no issues.

The Council concurred.

Attorney Davenport clarified that the Council would be adopting the draft ordinance as opposed to the model because the model is simply a menu item ordinance and this is what the Council used the last time to create the draft.

This item was added to the consent agenda

6. Council to consider the reappointment of Councilmember Brian Jones to the Water Authority.

Mayor Williams stated that this term runs from January to December and Mr. Jones has done an outstanding job in troubled times on the Water Authority. He then stated that we need to make sure that we have continuity and he supports him. He then asked his colleagues for questions or concerns.

This item was added to the consent agenda.

At this time Mayor Williams stated that in the spirit of saving time, he would like to discuss items number 7, 8 and 9 during Regular Council Meeting. He then transitioned to the Regular Council Meeting.

7. **Public Hearing** to consider an application submitted by Tasia Murrille for a license for on-premise consumption of malt, vinous and spirituous liquors with Sunday Sales for Legends Sports Bar located at 5851 Buffington Road.
8. **Public Hearing** to consider a petition submitted by Ibrahim Musleh for malt and vinous liquor license for package sales for Shell Food Mart located at 4597 Jonesboro Road.
9. **Public Hearing** to consider an application submitted by Sohil Charania for malt, vinous and spirituous liquor license for package sales for Shannon Beverage Outlet located at 6900 Londonderry Way.
10. ~~Council to consider the adoption of the updated 2012 State Minimum Standard Building Codes.~~ (This item was removed from the agenda)

11. ~~Council to consider removing “Exemption K” from Section 11-33 of the Union City Soil Erosion, Sedimentation and Pollution Control Ordinance. (This item was removed from the agenda)~~

V. RECOMMENDATION FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION: None.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS:

- Worksessions and Council Meetings
- Jail Authority Membership

City Manager Reports:

- Inflow Infiltration – Project Update
- Community Development Update

VII. REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR & COUNCIL: None.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: