

UNION CITY MINUTES  
WORKSESSION MEETING  
TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 2016  
6:30 P.M.

Present: Mayor Vince Williams, Councilmembers Brian Jones, Angelette Mealing, Shayla Nealy and Christina Hobbs, City Attorney Dennis Davenport, City Manager Sonja Fillingame, City Clerk Jacqueline R. Cossey and Assistant City Clerk Shandrella Jewett

Dept. Heads: Nicole Dozier – Community Development, Cassandra Jones – Police Chief, Joe Maddox - Fire Chief, Rhonda Jones – Human Resources, Lee Blitch – Parks & Recreation and Trey Bennings – Information Technology

Absent: Tarsha Calloway – Finance

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Williams.

Mayor Williams stated that several items on the agenda required removal.

Council decided to amend the agenda to remove the items.

***On motion of Councilmember Mealing, seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried, items number two, six, seven and eight under Regular/New Business were removed from the agenda. Vote was unanimous.***

I. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

II. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC TO DISCUSS ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA (2 MIN.)

III. PRESENTATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OF AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS:

Presentation by Ms. Janelle Jones regarding the Millennial Engagement Program

IV. CONSENT AGENDA: None

***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 Agenda for separate consideration.***

V. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Council to consider reviewing and revising The Code of Ordinance, Chapter 9 Section 9-17 with regards to salespersons, solicitors, and peddlers; registration. (Deferred for 30-days)

Attorney Davenport led this discussion and stated that there was a memo in City Council's packet that explains the issue thoroughly. He urged the Council to consider adopting a higher registration fee.

Mayor Williams explained that the current \$25 registration fee does not cover the \$35 for a background check and card which is at least \$43.10. He then recommended raising the registration fee to \$100.

Attorney Davenport stated that Mayor Williams' language would be a basis for the new registration fee.

VI. REGULAR/NEW BUSINESS:

1. Approval of the Minutes: Worksession Meeting, 05/17/2016  
Regular Council Meeting, 05/17/2016

These items were added to the Consent Agenda as written.

2. Council to consider the acceptance of the Bureau of Justice Assistance Grant to purchase body worn cameras. (This item was removed from the agenda)
3. Council to consider the acceptance of the Community Oriented Policing (COPS) Grant to create and/or enhance community oriented policing projects.

Assistant Police Chief Lee Brown led this discussion and stated that the funds would be used to create and enhance community oriented policing programs. He added that the Police Department has written a grant for a total of \$35,525. He further added that the grant is to be used to fund a youth police academy and an intra-mural sports program in corporation with Parks and Recreation and Fulton County School Systems. Assistant Chief Brown concluded that although the funds cannot be used for salaries, they will be used for the resources and the equipment for the youth police academy and the intra-mural sports program.

Councilmember Mealing spoke in favor of community policing. She also asked that the Police Department look into the Police Athletic League. She then stated that she would like to see a vehicle designated to transport the youth on outings.

Councilmember Jones stated that he understands that this is designated for teenagers, but if we can reach the children at an earlier age, like ten, they are not set in their teen ways.

Councilmember Hobbs asked who researches, writes, and administers the grants.

Assistant Chief Brown explained that he researches and writes the grants, but the Finance Department administers the grants. He further explained that this grant is 100 percent reimbursed and he will have to buy the supplies and submit the reimbursement request to the Justice Department so they can reimburse the City. He concluded that traditionally the Finance Department has handled the financial reports and he handles the progress reports.

Mayor Williams thanked Assistant Chief Brown for applying for the Community Policing Grant.

This item was added to the Consent Agenda.

- 4 Council to consider the acceptance of the Community Oriented Policing (COPS) hiring grant to hire additional police officers.

Chief Brown also led this discussion and stated that this grant is a three year hiring grant. He added that this is a 25/75 percent matching grant. He then explained that the Justice Department will pay 75 percent of salaries and benefits and Union City will pick up 25 percent of salaries and benefits. He added that the City must guarantee that we will continue to employ the three grant officers for an additional three years after the grant expires. He further added that the numbers that he submitted in his agenda report are incorrect. Chief Brown stated that the total grant is \$596,296.08 with Union City being responsible for \$149,074.02 and the Department of Justice will be responsible for \$447,222.06.

Councilmember Jones thanked Chief Brown for a great job with writing grants.

Councilmember Mealing asked Chief Brown if he collaborated with the City's grant writer on these grants.

Chief Brown explained that he works very closely with the Finance Department and City Hall in general, but the Police Department grants require direct reporting from the Police Department as far as the progress of the grant so finance handles the fiscal aspect and he handles the progress reporting.

Police Chief Cassandra Jones clarified that the Police Department is applying for these grant, but have not yet received them.

Council stated that they understood.

City Manager Fillingame stated that discussions were had during the budget process with the Finance Director, Police Chief and Assistance Chief so that they are prepared for these grants.

Mayor Williams thanked Chief Jones for her leadership.

This item was added to the Consent Agenda.

5. Council to consider the acceptance of the Bureau of Justice Assistance Grant to purchase equipment and services.

Assistant Chief Brown also led this discussion regarding the Edward Byrne Memorial Grant. He added that the amount of money that we are awarded is based upon the amount of crime statistics and population. He further added that we are eligible to receive \$16,731 and he would like to continue the Laptop Computer Program. Chief Brown stated that the funds will be used to replace worn and outdated laptop computers in the patrol cars which allows the officers to stay in the fields longer as opposed to coming back to the station and doing so in the Police Department. He added that this grant is unique because we must spend every penny of the funds and no balance can be left. He further added that ten laptop computers will cost \$1,002.60 over the grant and the City will be responsible for that amount.

This item was added to the Consent Agenda.

6. Council to consider approval of a policy regarding utility billing adjustments. (This item was removed from the agenda)
7. Council to consider approval of an Indigent Defense Agreement for the provision of legal representation to certain indigent defendants. (This item was removed from the agenda)
8. Council to consider approval of an agreement with the solicitor in the Municipal Court of Union City. (This item was removed from the agenda)

VI. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION:

1. **Public Hearing** to rezone 125 acres of property located at 5355 Hunter Road from Industrial (M-1A) and Agriculture (AG-1) to Town Center Mixed Use (TCMU).

Director Dozier led this discussion and stated that during the Planning Commission Meeting last night, the Commission recommended approval with the conditions that the repairs on Hunter Road would be addressed as per staff's recommendation.

2. **Public Hearing** to annex 125 acres of property located at 5355 Hunter Road from Industrial (M-1A) and Agriculture (AG-1) to Town Center Mixed Use (TCMU).

Director Dozier also led this discussion and stated that this is the same site as mentioned above and on June 15<sup>th</sup> the Fulton County Board of Commissioners had no objections to the annexation. She added that during the Called Meeting last night, the Planning Commission recommended approval with the condition that the dam repair and maintenance be the full responsibility of the property owner.

3. **Public Hearing** to rezone 21.45 acres of property located at Chattaron Road from Single Family Residential (R-1) to Town Center Mixed Use (TCMU).

Director Dozier stated that the applicant is present this evening to answer any questions regarding his request.

4. **Public Hearing** to rename Shannon Way to Studio Way. (Planning Commission Recommends Approval)

Director Dozier stated that the applicant was present and willing to address any questions or concerns regarding his application.

5. **Public Hearing** to rezone 1.88 acres of property located at 5345 Stonewall Tell Road from Single Family Residential (R-1) to Town Center Mixed Use (TCMU). (Planning Commission Recommends Approval)

Director Dozier stated that the applicant was present to answer any questions or concerns regarding the rezoning.

At this time Mayor Williams read an email that he received from Mayor Buddy Dyer of Orlando, Florida regarding the event that occurred on June 12, 2016. He then asked everyone to keep Orlando and the families in our prayers.

City Manager Reports:

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS:

IX. REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR & COUNCIL:

X. ADJOURNMENT:

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