

UNION CITY
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2017
7:00 P.M.

Present: Mayor Vince Williams, Councilmember Brian Jones, and Christina Hobbs; City Attorney, Dennis Davenport; Finance Director, Tarsha Calloway (in absence of City Manager); and Interim City Clerk, Shandrella Jewett

Staff Present: Rhonda Jones – Human Resources, Zach Montgomery – Community Development, Lonnie Ferguson – Public Services, Trey Bennings – Information Technology, Lee Blich – Parks and Recreation, Cassandra Jones – Police Chief, and Joe Maddox – Fire Chief

Absent: Councilmembers Angelette Mealing and Shayla Nealy

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

I. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

Invocation by Mayor Vince Williams

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

Public comments were made by the following:

Mrs. Cherokee Hill of 5141 Dixie Lake Road spoke on behalf of her friend, Ms. Roslyn Crider. Ms. Crider was planning to attend council meeting to make a statement, however, she was in a car accident and unable to attend.

Mrs. Hill mentioned a safety issue concerning cars and trucks parked at the old Georgia Military College throughout the night. She would like to have more police protection in the area.

III. PRESENTATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OF AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Acknowledgement of achievement by Parks and Recreation Director, Lee Blich regarding UC Eagles 10U Girls Basketball Team for winning League Championship on March 4, 2017. A photograph was taken with Mayor and Council.
- Acknowledgement of achievement by Parks and Recreation Director, Lee Blich regarding UC Eagles 12U Girls Basketball Team for winning District Championship on February 25, 2017. A Photograph was taken with Mayor and Council.
- Union City “Employee of the Month” Standard of Excellence Award and plaque was presented to Paul Cleckler (Public Works Department) for the month of March 2017. A photograph was taken with Mayor and Council.

IV. 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 Agenda for separate consideration.

1. Council to consider approval to adopt Ordinance 2017-02 regarding revisions to Section 6-23 pertaining to “Electric coil cooking devices”, of the Code of Ordinances by removing Subsection (c).
2. Council to consider approval to adopt Ordinance 2017-03 regarding revisions to Section 10-28, pertaining to “Use of vehicle immobilization devices”, of the Code of Ordinances.
3. Approval of the Minutes:
 - 01/17/2017 Worksession Meeting
 - 01/17/2017 Regular Council Meeting
 - 02/15/2017 Called Council Meeting
 - 02/21/2017 Regular Council Meeting – *(State of the City Address)*
4. Council to consider approval of Resolution #2017-03 to adopt the 2016 Comprehensive Plan Update and transmit Resolution #2017-03 to Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA).
5. Council to consider approval of a fuel adjustment rate increase for commercial sanitation.
6. Council to consider approval to enter into an agreement with Utility Service Group in the amount of \$150,000 for painting of the water tower.

On motion of Councilmember Hobbs, seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

V. REGULAR/NEW BUSINESS:

1. Council to consider a proposed Food Truck Ordinance and obtain guidance.

Director Montgomery asked Council to review a proposed Food Truck Ordinance and provide feedback by Friday, March 24, 2017. A revised Food Truck Ordinance will be brought before Council at the April 18, 2017 Regular Council Meeting for review and consideration of approval.

VI. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION:

City Manager Report(s):

- TSPLOST Update – Finance Director Calloway advised that the city should be receiving funding towards the end of May or early June 2017.
- Customers now have more option when paying their property taxes and utility bills.

They can pay their property taxes online. This is a new feature for online payments.
They can pay their utility bills and property taxes via phone.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS:

- Introduction of Assistant District Attorney, Jocelyn R. Watkins from the Fulton County District Attorney's Office, 136 Pryor Street, S.W., Third Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303.

Attorney Watkins introduced herself as South Fulton's Community Prosecutor. She discussed what community prosecution consist of and her role in the community. The new District Attorney's Office is scheduled to open in April 2017 on Jonesboro Road.

- Service Delivery Strategy with Fulton County.

Attorney Davenport stated that he is waiting for the final documents to come forward, and the City will have to revisit this soon and be ready to execute.

VIII. REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR & COUNCIL:

Councilmember Nealy spoke regarding the following:

- Technology and Innovation taking place at Union City.
- Thanks were extended to staff and colleagues for all that they do.
- Congratulations extended to our Union City Ladies Basketball Team.
- Acknowledgement of Paul Cleckler for receiving the "Employee of the Month" award for March 2017.
- Get Well Soon extended to our City Manager.
- Thanks to Rhonda Jones, HR Manager for facilitating Union City's Boot Camp.
- Best wishes to all candidates in the City of South Fulton in regard to elections.

Councilmember Hobbs spoke regarding the following:

- Thanks were extended to staff, department heads and residents for keeping the city well.
- Congratulatory remarks to Mayor Williams, staff, K-12 student and the Color Guard on a job well done at the State of the City Address.
- Attended a committee meeting regarding Council for Quality Growth, South Metro Advisory Committee Meeting on March 21, 2017.
- Attended the National League of Cities Conference last week in Washington, DC.
- Expressed appreciation to Zach Montgomery, Director of Community Development.
- Thanks extended to the citizens of Union City who voted in favor of the Bond Referendum.
- Looking forward to the renovation of our multi-purpose community center.
- Request staff to look into the feasibility of a Closed Circuit TV in Union City. Would like to see cost comparisons with implementation, baseline for what other cities are doing and how we can collaborate for economy of scale.
- Best Wishes to the new City of South Fulton on voting for their leadership.
- Congratulations to UC Girls' Basketball Teams.
- Congratulations to our new "Employee of the Month".
- Happy birthday wishes to Councilmember Nealy

Councilmember Jones spoke regarding the following:

- Great turnout for the State of the City event.
- Expressed concern for utility companies leaving unburied cable or utility lines running down the curbs from one house to another.
- Good voter turnout regarding the election for the new cities.
- Appreciation to staff and participants at the Father Daughter Dance event.
- Attended National League of Cities Conference and received some good information.
- Last Thursday, the President's budget came out and it's a hard (skinny) budget. There are cuts that could have an impact on Union City. Encourage residents to call their congressmen on this current budget. Let's try to keep these grants available for our city.
- Great turnout for the 14th Annual Mayor's Bike Race. Had over 250 bicyclist participating.
- Discussed the possibility of having a hospital in South Fulton, particularly Union City. In the past we did not have the population for it. Request staff to find what is needed to obtain a Certificate of Need so that we can get a hospital in Union City.

Mayor Williams spoke regarding the following:

- Gratitude and appreciation to everyone for their team effort in making the State of the City a successful event. Thanks to the entire team of Union City professionals. It's all about UC.
- Shared information regarding TSPLOST initiative. Mr. Antonio Andrews accepted the appointment, on behalf of Union City, to be a part of the TSPLOST Initiative Oversight Council. Thanks to Council for their support.
- Union City was given the Georgia Initiative for Community Housing Opportunity to participate in its first retreat. All members of the Council are invited to participate.
- Close to a positive resolve as it relates to our jail relationship with Fulton County.
- Requested a full scope on the conditions of the old movie theatre on Hwy 138 in the old Kroger's Shopping Center. Directed staff to work collectively and provide this information.
- The South Fulton Municipal Association Meeting will be held on March 23, 2017 in East Point at the East Point Annex. Would like for the elected officials to attend, if possible.
- March 22, 2017 is the 37th day of the legislation session. Concerned about bills that relates to storm water, property tax bill, and Firefighter Cancer Insurance, etc. Stay engaged with what is going on and with the people that you have elected.
- Etris Senior Connect Center. Should be able to share some information in the coming week. We have a ribbon cutting ceremony to make sure everyone knows where the facility is and to see the exciting things that will be there.
- Keep our City Manager and her family in your prayers.
- Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) meeting was held last week at the Etris Community Center to improve our transportation and infrastructure needs, specifically Hwy 138 and the I-85 bridge. There is a plan layout in the front lobby of City Hall. The deadline for any questions or concern must be addressed with (GDOT) by the end of next week.
- Annual Community Health Day will be held on April 22, 2017.
- Georgia Cities Week sponsored by the Georgia Municipal Association will be held April 23-29, 2017.
- Thanks given to Tarsha Calloway, Finance Director for filling in while our City Manager is temporarily out of the office. She has been doing a wonderful job.
- Celebrating women this month. Special thanks and appreciation given to all women.

- Participated in the following events over the past month:

February 23, 2017 – The Annual South Metro Development Outlook was successful with its 15th year anniversary of events. Focused on regional transportation.

February 28, 2017 – The Atlanta Press Club Luncheon where Mayor Kasim Reed was the guest speaker. He mentioned Union City in a positive light. Everybody around the Metro Atlanta area and the country are recognizing what we are doing here.

March 1, 2017 – The Ombudsman College and Career Fair. Ombudsman is an alternative school in Union City.

March 2, 2017 – Celebrated Dr. Seuss' birthday. Read Across America. Had the privilege to read to 50 preschoolers at the Central Library, 35-45 second graders at C.H. Gullatt Elementary School, and 30 third graders at Feldwood.

March 7, 2017 – Quality Inn Hotel Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. Applaud their efforts in the remodeling of their hotel. They certainly took to heart "Next Level". Please stop by and look at their new hotel and all of the work they put into transformation. They believe in rebranding and revitalizing and certainly it shows.

March 9, 2017 – South Fulton Day at the Capital in support of all of the cities in South Fulton.

March 10-17, 2017 – National League of Cities in Washington, DC.

March 18, 2017 – Grady Hospital 125th Birthday Celebration at the Georgia Aquarium.

March 18-19, 2017 – Participated in the 14th Annual Mayors' Bike Race

March 20, 2017 – Teacher Appreciation Day at Seaborn Lee Elementary School.

March 21, 2017 – Keynote Speak at the Council for Quality Growth, South Metro Advisory Committee Meeting.

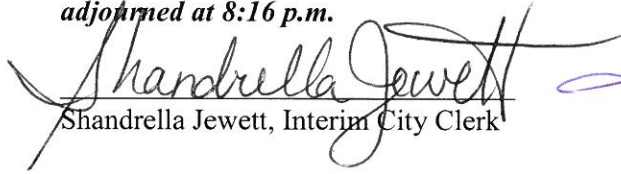
On motion of Councilmember Hobbs, seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried, Council entered into Executive Session to discuss two items regarding threatened litigation, one personnel item, and to review the Executive Session Minutes from January 17, 2017 and February 15, 2017.

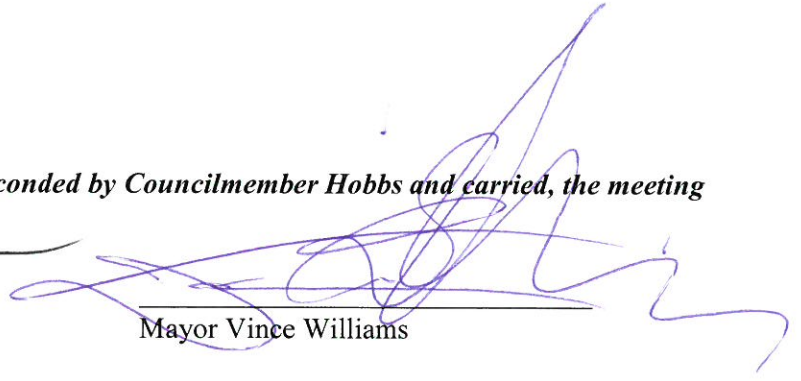
On motion of Councilmember Hobbs, seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried, Council reconvened to Regular Session. Vote was unanimous.

On motion of Councilmember Hobbs, seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried, Council agreed to renew the City Manager's contract.

IX. ADJOURNMENT:

On motion of Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Hobbs and carried, the meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.


Shandrella Jewett, Interim City Clerk


Mayor Vince Williams