

THE CITY OF UNION CITY  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2017  
7:00 P.M.

Present: Mayor Vince Williams, Councilmembers Christina Hobbs, and Angelette Mealing; City Attorney, Dennis Davenport; City Manager, Sonja Fillingame; and City Clerk, Shandrella Jewett

Staff Present: Tarsha Calloway – Finance Director, Rhonda Jones – Human Resource Manager, Lonnie Ferguson - Public Services Director, Ellis Still – Community Development Director, Lee Blich – Parks and Recreation Director, Cassandra Jones – Police Chief, and Joe Maddox – Fire Chief

Absent: Councilmember Brian Jones, Councilmember Shayla Nealy, and Trey Bennings – Information Technology Manager

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The meeting was called to order at 7:00 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.)**

None

**III. PRESENTATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OF AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS:**

- Proclamation for Parks and Recreation Month was presented to Director Lee Blich.
- Proclamation celebrating the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual National Night Out was presented to Police Chief Jones and Captain Hodges.
- Joan Miller, Criminal Investigation Administrative Clerk, was selected as “Employee of the Month”.
- Presentation by City Interns.

**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. Approval of the Minutes:
  - 06/09/2017 Mayor and Council Retreat
  - 06/10/2017 Mayor and Council Retreat
  - 06/20/2017 Worksession Meeting
  - 06/20/2017 Regular Council Meeting

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

**V. OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**VI. REGULAR/NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Council to consider an ordinance to amend sections 2-26 and 2-41, Compensation for Elected Officials. (This item was tabled for 30 days.)

*On motion of Councilmember Hobbs, seconded by Councilmember Mealing and carried, Council agreed to table this items for 30 days. Vote was unanimous.*

**VII. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION**

None

City Manager Reports:

- Gateways and Water Tower Projects Presentation – Update provided by Director Ferguson
- Multi-Purpose Community Center – Update provided by City Manager Fillingame
  - ❖ Space Analysis to determine if the following items can or cannot be added: Concession Stand, Office Space, Amphitheater, and an Indoor/Outdoor Track.
  - ❖ Monthly Report regarding status of the project.

**VIII. OTHER BUSINESS:**

- Assessments and Property Taxes – Update provided by Director Calloway

Director Calloway led a discussion clarifying how property taxes work with the County. She advised the audience that the County assesses properties and gives the City the values. Union City has to utilize the County's values and apply the Millage Rate to those values. The County froze all of the values and will be sending out new statements the first week of August. New assessments will be sent reflecting 2016 values.

Once residents receive a new statement, there will be 45 days to appeal those values. Appeals will go through the County. When appeals are settled, those values will be sent to the City, and the City will apply the Millage Rate. Director Calloway advised that the City has not sent out any tax bills. Tax bills will be sent once an approved digest is received from the County.

Commercial Property Owners will still pay the new assessment. Residential Property Owners will be assessed at the 2016 value. The freeze is only for residential properties. There is an exception to homes that have been renovated, etc.

- Moment of Silence in memory of Kenneth Johnson.
- Jail Lease Extension - Attorney Davenport requested Council to consider extending their relationship with Fulton County through September 30, 2017.

*On motion of Councilmember Hobbs, seconded by Councilmember Mealing and carried, Council agreed to provide Fulton County with an extension of a leasing arrangement ending on September 30, 2017. Vote was unanimous.*

- Abandon road request regarding Peters Road - Update provided by Mayor Williams  
Attorney Davenport will provide status at the next Council Meeting.
- Staffing – Discussion led by Mayor Williams regarding the following four positions:

1. Request was made to create and fill an Assistant City Manager's position.

*On motion of Councilmember Mealing, seconded by Councilmember Hobbs and carried, Council agreed to the creation of an Assistant City Manager position that will include a job description and duties. Vote was unanimously approved.*

Hiring of an Assistant City Manager. (This item was tabled for 30 days, and upon completion of job description.)

2. Request was made to appoint a permanent City Clerk.

*On motion of Councilmember Mealing, seconded by Councilmember Hobbs and carried, Council agreed to appoint Shandrella Jewett as the City Clerk and will report directly to the City Manager. Vote was unanimous.*

Councilmember Hobbs asked about the reporting structure in the Charter. Attorney Davenport will see if a Charter revision is needed. In the meantime, the City Clerk will continue reporting to the City Manager.

3. Request was made to hire a permanent Water Clerk in the Finance Department.

*On motion of Councilmember Hobbs, seconded by Councilmember Mealing and carried, Council agreed to fill the permanent position of a Water Clerk in the Finance Department. Vote was unanimous.*

4. Request was made to create and fill a second permanent Water Clerk position in the Finance Department.

*On motion of Councilmember Hobbs, seconded by Councilmember Mealing and carried, Council agreed to the creation of an additional permanent Water Clerk in the Finance Department. Vote was unanimous.*

*On motion of Councilmember Hobbs, seconded by Councilmember Mealing and carried, Council agreed to fill the second permanent position of a Water Clerk in the Finance Department. Vote was unanimous.*

Council approved two permanent Water Clerk positions in the Finance Department.

Councilmember Hobbs asked if all of the above positions were funded and the City Manager replied, "Yes".

## **IX. REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR & COUNCIL:**

Councilmember Mealing made comments regarding the following:

- Thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.
- Kudos to Resurrection House of All Nations.
- Acknowledgement of Parks and Recreation Month and the 3-ON-3 Basketball Tournament.
- Special thanks to Parks and Recreation for the Summer Food Service Program.
- Attended the Transportation Transit Meeting held July 11, 2017.
- Acknowledgement regarding the gateway signs.
- Congratulatory remarks extended to the Interns.
- Congratulatory remarks extended to Joan Miller, "Employee of the Month".
- July 29, 2017 - Movies by Moonlight.



- August 1, 2017 - National Night Out.
- Thanks extended to staff.

Councilmember Hobbs made comments regarding the following:

- Thanks extended to everyone for attending Council Meeting.
- Thanks extended to staff and department heads.
- Thanks extended to Police Department for having a Camp 911 Program.
- Special thanks to Parks and Recreation for the Summer Food Service Program.
- Congratulatory remarks extended to Joan Miller, "Employee of the Month".
- August 1, 2017 - National Night Out.
- Congratulatory remarks extended to the Interns.
- Thanks to staff for undertaking the task of the Multi-Purpose Community Center Project.

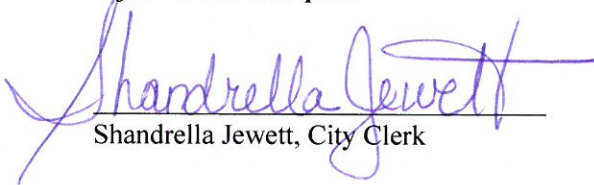
Mayor Vince Williams made comments regarding the following:

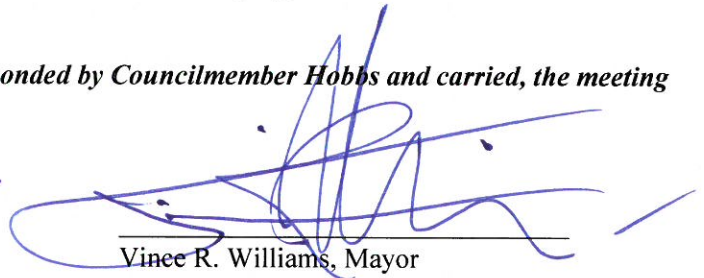
- Thanks extended to staff.
- June 29, 2017 – The renaming of the South Fulton Library to honor Ms. Gladys Dennard.
- June 30, 2017 – Retirement of Bill Davenport from Georgia Power.
- July 11, 2-017 – Met with Ms. Keisha Powell of the Atlanta Water Commission.
- July 15, 2017 – 3-ON-3 Basketball Tournament.
- July 17, 2017 – Customer Service Training held by Georgia Municipal Association at Union City.
- July 31, 2017 – Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Multi-Purpose Community Center.
- Union City to start thinking about creating additional park spaces (Park System) by utilizing donated land for opportunities such as: Skate Parks, Biking & Walking Trails, Golf, Zip Line, Camp Grounds, Dog Parks, etc.)
- Birthday wishes extended to Councilmember Brian Jones.
- Process of project involvement for elected officials regarding the Multi-Purpose Community Center.
- Thanks extended to Reverend Freeman, Cynthia Fifer, and Retina Dawson Young for being present.
- Mayor Williams asked the board to begin thinking about membership regarding a Development Authority.

*On motion of Councilmember Mealing, seconded by Councilmember Hobbs and carried, the Executive Session Minutes from June 20, 2017 was unanimously approved.*

**X. ADJOURNMENT:**

*On motion of Councilmember Mealing, seconded by Councilmember Hobbs and carried, the meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.*

  
 Shandrella Jewett, City Clerk

  
 Vince R. Williams, Mayor

STATE OF GEORGIA  
COUNTY OF FULTON

**EXECUTIVE SESSION AFFIDAVIT**

Personally appeared before me, Vince Williams, Mayor for the City of Union City, Georgia, who after being duly sworn says:

1.

I was the presiding officer of a meeting for the Union City Mayor and City Council held on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2017.

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.

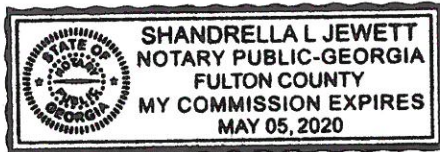
3.

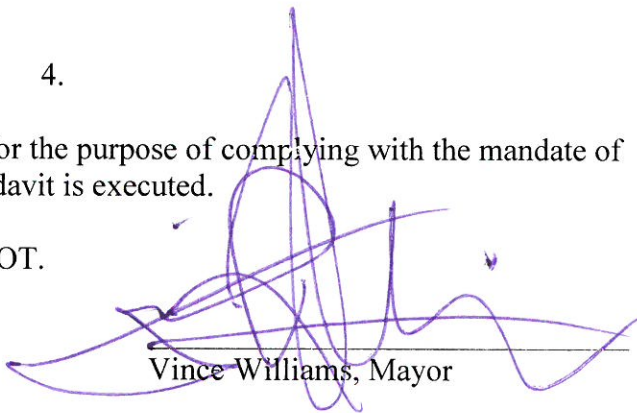
The subject matter of the closed meeting or closed portion of the meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2017, which was closed for the purpose(s) of two pending litigations and review of the Executive Session Minutes dated June 20, 2017 as allowed by O.C.G.A., Title 50, Chapter 14, was devoted to matters within those exceptions and as provided by law.

4.

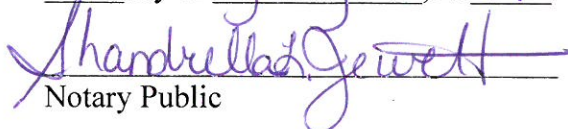
This affidavit is being executed for the purpose of complying with the mandate of O.C.G.A. § 50-14-4 (b) that such an affidavit is executed.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAITH NOT.



  
Vince Williams, Mayor

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2017.

  
Notary Public