

UNION CITY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2019
7:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Mayor Vince Williams
Mayor Pro Tem Angelette Mealing
Councilmember Brian Jones
Councilmember Shayla Nealy
Councilmember Christina Hobbs
City Attorney - Dennis Davenport
City Manager - Sonja Fillingame
Assistant City Manager - Tarsha Calloway
City Clerk - Shandrella Jewett

Linda Goodman – Human Resources Director
Ellis Still – Community Development Director
Lonnie Ferguson – Public Services Director
Lee Blitch – Parks and Recreation Director
Cassandra Jones – Police Chief
Joe Maddox – Fire Chief
Kristie Collier, Court Services Administrator

ABSENT:

Trey Bennings, Information Technology Manager

I. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

Minister Gavin Lane

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

None

III. PRESENTATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OF AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Announcement and Recognition of Employee of the Month

Jamaal Jordan was given the January 2019 Employee of the Month Award

- Induction and Pinning Ceremony of the 2018-2019 Youth Leadership Council Members

Program Coordinators, Shandrella Jewett and Nydia Akins provided an overview of the program and introduced the 2018-2019 Union City’s Youth Leadership Council. Members includes:

- ❖ Prayer Idowu, Senior at Banneker High School
- ❖ Brionna Smith, Sophomore at Langston Hughes High School
- ❖ David Olutoym, Senior at Benjamin Banneker High School
- ❖ Coriana Middlebrooks, Senior at Langston Hughes High School
- ❖ Aziz Onyia, Junior at Creekside High School
- ❖ Faith Foster, Senior at Hapeville Charter Career Academy

The Program Coordinators thanked the following supporters:

- ❖ Tristan Crum - Marketing and Logo Design, Interview Panelist
- ❖ Joyce Lynn - Interview Panelist
- ❖ Department Heads
- ❖ Administrators and Teachers at Benjamin Banneker High School, Hapeville Charter Career Academy, Langston Hughes High School, and Creekside High School
- ❖ Parents

- Proclamation for “A National Day of Racial Healing”

- Presentation by Moreland Altobelli on the following items:

- ❖ Mayor's Park Phase II Park Renovation

Councilmember Mealing requested signage around the park in advance of the upcoming renovations. City Manager Fillingame advised Council that Union City will inform citizens that the park will be closed temporarily due to upcoming renovations.

- ❖ Highway 29 Phase II Park Renovation

- ❖ Union City Historic Railroad Depot Renovation

Councilmember Mealing requested a sign bearing the new name of the building be placed on the City Depot as soon as possible.

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.

A. Approval of the Minutes:

- 12/18/18 - Work Session Meeting
- 12/18/18 - Regular Council Meeting

B. Council to consider Councilmember Angelette Mealing as the Mayor Pro Tem for 2019.

C. Council to consider approval of a request (via resolution) to fix and publish the qualifying fee for two Councilmembers for the 2019 Municipal Election. Qualifying fee for Councilmembers is \$475.50. (3% of the Total Gross Salary – Fee must be published no later than February 1, 2019.)

D. Council to consider a request for the Union City Municipal Court to hold an Amnesty Program from March 4, 2019 to March 29, 2019.

E. Council to consider approval of a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the Georgia's Tax Refund Intercept Program.

F. Council to consider approval and adoption of a resolution for acquisition of property located at 5041 Union Street, Union City, GA 30291 (Land Lot 77 in the 9th Land District of Fulton County).

G. Council to consider a request for approval to enter into an agreement for Union City Mayors' Park Storm Sewer Rehabilitation (RFB-PS-19-02).

H. Council to consider a request for approval of Union City's proposed fee schedule for 2019.

I. Council to consider a request for approval to purchase City vehicles using an alternate method.

J. Council to consider a request to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement for the Provision of 800 MHz Radio System Access between Fulton County, Georgia and Union City, Georgia.

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

V. **OLD BUSINESS:**

None

VI. **REGULAR/NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Council to consider the reappointment of the City Attorneys, Dennis Davenport (McNally, Fox, Grant & Davenport).

On motion of Councilmember Nealy, seconded by Councilmember Mealing and carried, Council reappointed Dennis Davenport as the City Attorney. Vote was unanimous.

- B. Council to consider the reappointment of the City Clerk, Shandrella Jewett.

On motion of Councilmember Mealing, seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried, Council reappointed Shandrella Jewett as the City Clerk. Vote was unanimous.

- C. Council to consider the reappointment of the City Engineer, Moreland Altobelli, Inc.

On motion of Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Mealing and carried, Council reappointed Moreland Altobelli, Inc. as the City Engineer. Vote was unanimous.

- D. Council to consider the reappointment of the Fire Chief, Joe Maddox.

On motion of Councilmember Nealy, seconded by Councilmember Hobbs and carried, Council reappointed Joe Maddox as the Fire Chief. Vote was unanimous.

- E. Council to consider the reappointment of the Police Chief, Cassandra Jones.

On motion of Councilmember Mealing, seconded by Councilmember Hobbs and carried, Council reappointed Cassandra Jones as the Police Chief. Vote was unanimous.

- F. Council to consider the reappointment of the Medical Director, Dr. Kenneth E. Jones.

Dr. Kenneth E. Jones was not in attendance and Council agreed to table the item for 30 days.

On motion of Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Mealing and carried, Council tabled the item for 30 days. Vote was unanimous.

- G. Council to consider the reappointment of the Public Services Director, Lonnie Ferguson.

On motion of Councilmember Hobbs, seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried, Council reappointed Lonnie Ferguson as the Public Services Director. Vote was unanimous.

- H. Council to consider a recommendation from staff to identify the site and model of the Union City Community Garden.

Giavani Smith, Planner 1 of the Community Development Department, led the discussion and asked Council to vote on a location and style of beds.

Councilmember Jones recommended Union City's Public Storage Facility as the location and he also recommended granite, brick, stone and concrete for the style of beds.

On motion of Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Nealy and carried, Council agreed on Union City's Public Storage Facility as the location and to use granite, brick, stone, and concrete for the style of beds. Vote was unanimous.

- I. Council to consider a request to convert a part-time maintenance position into a full time position.

Assistant City Manager Calloway advised Council that the part-time person is a temporary staff. Therefore, approval would be needed to create a new full time maintenance position to the Facilities and Building Department (under Public Services) instead of converting the position. Also, Mrs. Calloway mentioned that the money would have to come from the Fund Balance.

On motion of Councilmember Mealing, seconded by Councilmember Hobbs and carried, Council agreed to add a full time maintenance position to the Public Services Department. Vote was unanimous.

On motion of Councilmember Mealing, seconded by Councilmember Nealy and carried, Council agreed to resend the motion and remove the newly created full time position. Vote was unanimous.

- J. Council to consider a request to transfer the Parks and Recreation full time position over to a full time maintenance position in the Facilities and Building Department (under Public Services), as opposed to creating a new full time position.

Assistant City Manager Calloway explained to Council that the full time position at the jail was moved over to Parks and Recreation when the jail had closed. Ms. Calloway requested that the full time Parks and Recreation position be transferred to Facilities and Building, as opposed to creating a new full time maintenance position.

On motion of Councilmember Mealing, seconded by Councilmember Hobbs and carried, Council agreed to transfer the full time Parks and Recreation position over to Facilities and Building. Vote was unanimous.

- K. Council to consider a request to add four (4) additional Police Officers.

On motion of Councilmember Nealy, seconded by Councilmember Mealing and carried, Council agreed to add four (4) additional Police Officers. Vote was unanimous.

- L. Council to consider a request to retain Hilliard Starkey Law Firm, in the amount of \$24,000.00, as lobbyist representation for the upcoming Legislative Session.

On motion of Councilmember Nealy, seconded by Councilmember Mealing and carried, the request to retain Hilliard Starkey Law Firm failed. (Vote 2 to 2). Councilmember Jones and Hobbs voted against the motion.

Mayor Williams voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed. (Vote 3 to 2)

Councilmember Jones said he would like for Council to speak with neighboring cities to see if everyone would consider collaborating and come up with a package deal in 2020. Mayor Williams said that would be a great idea.

VII. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION:

None

VIII. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

- Emergency Operations Plan Update - Chief Maddox provided a brief overview.
- Joyce Lynn and Giavani Smith - Received a Level 1A Fundamentals Certificate offered by NPDES Training Institute and sponsored by Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission
- Lonnie Ferguson - Received UST Class A/B Operators Certificate from the Georgia Tank and Environmental Contractors Association
- Shandrella Jewett and Nydia Akins for spearheading the Youth Leadership Council Program
- Chief Jones and the Police Department for conducting the Active Shooter's Training Class
- Anna Robinson-Berry for doing a great job with her presentations regarding procurement

IX. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

- Attorney Davenport thanked Mayor and Council for his reappointment
- City of South Fulton request a renewal of the agreement regarding the use of Union City's Municipal Court Building

At this time, Attorney Davenport stated that he needed to enter into Executive Session to discuss two items regarding threatened litigation.

On motion of Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Hobbs and carried, Council entered into Executive Session to consider two items regarding threatened litigation. Vote was unanimous.

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

X. REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL:

Comments by Councilmember Nealy

Congratulatory remarks and acknowledgments extended to:

- Jamaal Jordan, Employee of the Month
- Shandrella Jewett and Nydia Akins for spearheading the first Youth Leadership Council Program
- Director Lonnie Ferguson, Joyce Lynn, and Giavani Smith for receiving their certifications
- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated for celebrating 111 years of service to all mankind
- Staff

Remarks:

- January 19, 2019 - Community Walk in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. birthday
- January 19, 2019 - Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for “The Union City Gathering Place”
- Completion of an Inspiration Journal published by Councilmember Nealy
- Feedafed.com Website

Comments by Councilmember Jones

Congratulatory remarks and acknowledgments extended to:

- Jamaal Jordan, Employee of the Month
- Moreland Altobelli, Inc. for the designs of the Ballfield, Mayors’ Park, and City Depot
- Youth Leadership Council Program and their anticipated participation at NLC and GMA Conferences
- Staff

Remarks:

- South Fulton Parkway – Concerns about people driving 90 mph
- Trucks parking in the median on the parkway. Signage needs to be added to the parkway to prevent truckers from parking and sleeping on the side of the road. Director Ferguson contacted GDOT Representatives
- Possible Retreat Item – Police and Fire Precinct on South Fulton Parkway

Comments by Councilmember Mealing

Congratulatory remarks and acknowledgments extended to:

- Jamaal Jordan, Employee of the Month
- Youth Leadership Council Program
- Union City App
- Lakeisha Lamar, Assistant City Clerk
- Director Lee Blitch for his dedicated services to the Parks and Recreation Department
- Staff

Remarks:

- Pray for the Federal Employees
- Union City App – Would like to see the app up and running at the beginning of the year
- January 8, 2019 - Community Garden Citizen Engagement Meeting was successful
- January 19, 2019 - Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for “The Union City Gathering Place”

Comments by Councilmember Hobbs

Congratulatory remarks and acknowledgments extended to:

- Jamaal Jordan, Employee of the Month

- Director Lonnie Ferguson, Joyce Lynn, and Giavani Smith for receiving their certifications
- Giavani Smith for coordinating the Community Garden Engagement Meeting and to Atlanta Region Commission for their support
- Councilmember Nealy on the publication of her Inspirational Journal book
- Shandrella Jewett and Nydia Akins for spearheading the first Youth Leadership Council Program
- Lakeisha Lamar, Assistant City Clerk

Remarks:

- January 18, 2019 - Attended the Fairburn State of the City
- January 19, 2019 - Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for The Union City Gathering Place
- January 22, 2019 - National Day of Racial Healing

Comments by Mayor Williams

Congratulatory remarks and acknowledgments extended to:

- Jamaal Jordan, Employee of the Month
- Cindy Givens for a successful Food and Toy Drive that was held on December 20, 2018
- Staff

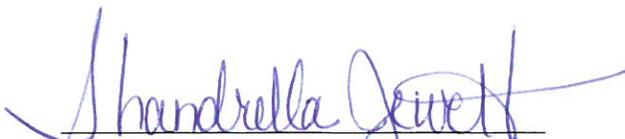
Remarks:

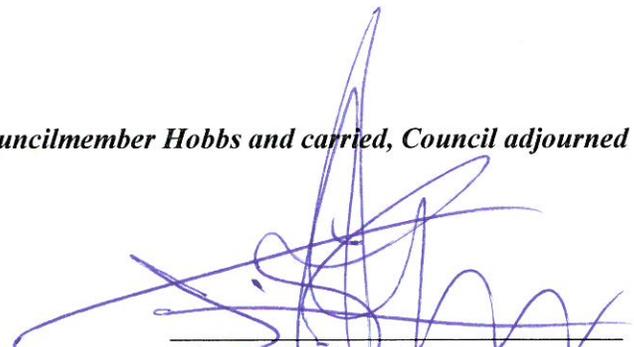
- Union City App
- Shopping Cart issue at Walmart
- Scooters being placed throughout the City
- Appearance of the thrift store on the corner of Watson and Union Street
- Homelessness in Union City
- Data Privacy and Cyber Security
- Accident on South Fulton Parkway that took place on January 2, 2019
- Attended the Fulton County Board of Commission Swearing-In Ceremony
- Attended the State of Marta event (new CEO, Jeff Parker)
- Attended the Senior's luncheon that was held on January 11, 2019
- Attended Governor Kemp Swearing-In Ceremony that was held on January 14, 2019
- State Legislative Swearing-In Ceremony was held January 14, 2019
- Fairburn State of the City Address was held January 14, 2019.
- Keep Mayor Elizabeth Carr-Hurst in your prayers
- Union City needs a Chaplin
- January 18, 2019 - Closing Date for the property located at 5041 Union Street, Union City, GA
- January 19, 2019 - Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for "The Union City Gathering Place"

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

On motion of Councilmember Nealy, seconded by Councilmember Hobbs and carried, Council adjourned the meeting. Vote was unanimous.


 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 **15th** day of **January, 2019**.

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 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.

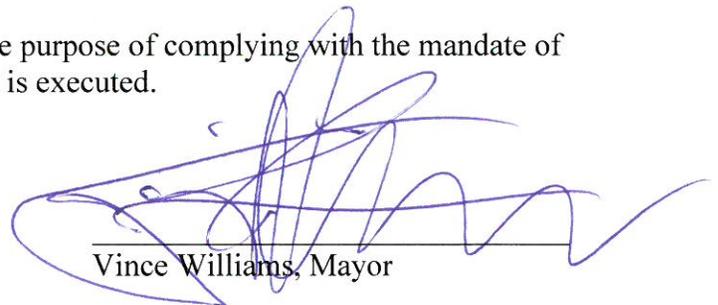
3.

The subject matter of the closed meeting or closed portion of the meeting held on the **15th** day of **January, 2019**, which was closed for the purpose(s) of **two threatened litigations** as allowed by O.C.G.A., Title 50, Chapter 14, was devoted to matters within those exceptions and as provided by law.

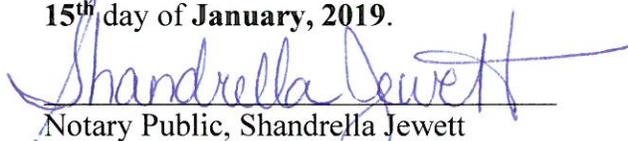
4.

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
15th day of **January, 2019**.


Notary Public, Shandrella Jewett

