

UNION CITY, GEORGIA  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2020  
7:00 P.M.

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

Director Linda Warren – Human Resources  
Director Lonnie Ferguson – Public Services  
Police Chief - Cassandra Jones  
Director Ellis Still - Community Development  
Fire Chief – Joe Maddox  
Crystal Lazarus - Finance  
Director Lee Blitch – Parks and Recreation  
Kristie Collier – Court Services

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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 Williams

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

A. Michael L. Pointer, 4500 Shannon Blvd. – Spoke regarding the following:

- Union City Website
- Timeframe to respond to Public Comment Cards
- Renovation of property at 100 Shannon Parkway
- Campaign Contributions and Bidding
- Retention period for Council Meeting Minutes and Financials

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

- Announcement and Recognition of Employee of the Month

Dennis Moore, Battalion Chief, was selected as Employee of the Month.

- Recognition of Police Department State Certification
- Pendleton Group Presentation by Steve Smith

Mr. Smith led the discussion and shared with Mayor and Council a PowerPoint Presentation titled “Comprehensive Strategic Economic Development Assessment”.

*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.*

**IV. CONSENT AGENDA:**

A. Approval of the Minutes:

- 01/21/19 - Work Session
- 01/21/19 - Regular Council Meeting

B. Council to approve a request to adopt an ordinance authorizing the placement and use of speed detection cameras in school zones as outlined in recently passed State Legislation.

C. Council to approve a request to adopt a resolution in support of the National League of Cities’ Leading Together Cities Agenda for the 2020 U.S. Presidential Election”.

- D. Council to approve a request to enter into an agreement with Everlast Construction Group, LLC to complete the renovation of the Historic Railroad Depot (Kenneth L. Johnson Depot).
- E. Council to approve a request for Sutphen Corporation (Williams Brothers) to custom build and design a new rescue pumper for Union City's Fire Department.
- F. Council to approve and adopt the restated Master Defined Benefit Plan.

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

**V. OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. Council to discuss current residential (Waste Industries) and commercial (Advanced Disposal) sanitation agreements.

***On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Nealy, seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried, Council agreed to extend negotiations until April 21, 2020 (next Council Meeting). Vote was unanimous.***

- B. Council to approval a text amendment to revise the TCMU Zoning District. *PLANNING COMMISSION AND STAFF RECOMMENDED APPROVAL.* (The item was tabled until February 18, 2020.)

***On motion of Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Mealing and carried, Council agreed to merge agenda items B and C with item D under Old Business. Vote was unanimous.***

- C. Council to consider the "Removal of Industrial Uses" from the Town Center Mixed Use Zoning District. The issue was remanded back to the Planning Commission for consideration per 09/17/19 Council Meeting. *PLANNING COMMISSION AND STAFF RECOMMENDED REMOVAL OF INDUSTRIAL USES.* (The TCMU Moratorium was extended until February 18, 2020)

***On motion of Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Mealing and carried, Council agreed to merge agenda items B and C with item D under Old Business. Vote was unanimous.***

- D. **Public Hearing** to revise the Zoning Ordinance by restricting the placement of industrial uses in the Town Center Mixed Use (TCMU) zoning district.

Michelle Alexander from The Collaborative Firm led the discussion and distributed a clean version of the revised language regarding the Removal of Industrial Use.

Public Hearing Opened.

- Attorney Woody Galloway, 3500 Lenox Road, NE, #760 - Requested the matter be tabled so that stakeholders can provide their input.
- Chris Doughtie, P.O. Box 856 – Spoke in opposition of the matter.
- Andre Fisher, 549 Dischell Lane – Requested the matter be tabled in order to voice her input as a stakeholder.

Attorney Davenport advised everyone to review the City's website for meeting dates and times concerning the above matter. He recommended tabling the matter until April 21, 2020 (next Council Meeting) and to extend the TCMU Moratorium until April 21, 2020 as well.

Public Hearing Closed.

***On motion of Councilmember Mealing, seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried, Council agreed to table the item until April 21, 2020. Vote was unanimous.***

*On motion of Councilmember Mealing, seconded by Councilmember Hobbs and carried, Council agreed to extend the TCMU Moratorium until April 21, 2020. Vote was unanimous.*

- E. **Public Hearing** to approve a request for an Alcoholic Beverage License (ABL) application submitted by Hussaini Jivani for package sales of malt and vinous liquors for Whitesburg Investment, Inc. d/b/a ATL Food Mart, located at 5036 Union Street, Union City, GA. *(The item was tabled until February 18, 2020)*

*On motion of Councilmember Mealing, seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried, Council approved the request for an Alcoholic Beverage License. Vote was 3 to 1. Councilmember Hobbs voted against the request.*

**VI. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION:**

None

**VII. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:**

A. Grants:

- COPS Hiring Program (CHP)
- Assistance to Firefighter Grant (AFG)
- Community Development Assistance Program (CDAP)
- Livable Centers Initiative (LCI)

**VIII. REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL:**

**Comments by Councilmember Hobbs**

*Congratulatory remarks and acknowledgements extended to:*

- Staff for all that they do
- Battalion Chief Dennis Moore, Employee of the Month
- Chief Jones and entire Police Department for obtaining their State Certification
- Lieutenant Criss Murphy and his team
- Pendleton Group for a great presentation

*Remarks:*

- Black History Month - James Author Bolton
- Sales of Alcohol

**Comments by Councilmember Mealing**

*Congratulatory remarks and acknowledgements extended to:*

- Battalion Chief Dennis Moore, Employee of the Month
- Chief Jones and entire Police Department for obtaining their State Certification
- Lieutenant Criss Murphy and his team
- Pendleton Group for a great presentation
- Michelle Alexander, The Collaborative Firm
- Human Resources and the City Manager's Team for spearheading the Thank You Campaign

*Remarks:*

- February 14, 2020 - Thank You Campaign
- Lights on Flat Shoals Road looks great
- Trash pick up
- Wayfinder Signs
- Art throughout the City

**Comments by Councilmember Jones**

*Congratulatory remarks and acknowledgements extended to:*

- Battalion Chief Dennis Moore, Employee of the Month
- Chief Jones and entire Police Department for obtaining their State Certification

- Lieutenant Criss Murphy and his team
- Pendleton Group for a great presentation
- Michelle Alexander, The Collaborative Firm
- Human Resources and the City Manager's Team for spearheading the Thank You Campaign

*Remarks:*

- February 14, 2020 - Thank you Campaign
- March 24, 2020 – Presidential Primary
- March 17, 2020 - State of the City

**Comments by Mayor Pro Tem Nealy**

*Congratulatory remarks and acknowledgements extended to:*

- Battalion Chief Dennis Moore, Employee of the Month
- Chief Jones and entire Police Department for obtaining their State Certification
- Lieutenant Criss Murphy and his team
- Pendleton Group for a great presentation
- Michelle Alexander, The Collaborative Firm
- Human Resources and the City Manager's Team for spearheading the Thank You Campaign
- Director Ferguson for taking on the Water Assessment
- Brandon Paulk for a great presentation during Council Meeting

*Remarks:*

- March – American Heart Month
- Healthy Heart Campaign
- Grants – Thanked staff for continuing to find federal funding to support Union City
- Map the Vision Check-in
- South Fulton Metro Development
- Black History Month – Thanked Marketing for selecting previous Councilmember Helen Turner as the first African American female to be selected as a Councilmember
- March 17, 2020 - State of the City
- Human Resources and the City Manager's Team for spearheading the Thank You Campaign

**Comments by Mayor Williams**

*Congratulatory remarks and acknowledgements extended to:*

- Battalion Chief Dennis Moore, Employee of the Month
- Fire and Police Department for all that they do
- Human Resources and the City Manager's Team for spearheading the Thank You Campaign
- Pendleton Group for an outstanding presentation

*Remarks:*

- CDBG and federal dollars to assist with a better quality of life in Union City
- Sign branding
- Homelessness
- Census 2020
- March 17, 2020 - State of the City

**City Attorney Report:**

- A. Attorney Davenport provided an update regarding a 2012 gender discrimination lawsuit with a former employee (Ms. Lewis).

*On motion of Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Mealing and carried, Council gave Attorney Davenport approval to move forward with the pending litigation. Vote was unanimous.*

*On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Nealy, seconded by Councilmember Mealing and carried, Council approved the November 19, 2019 Executive Session Minutes. Vote was unanimous.*

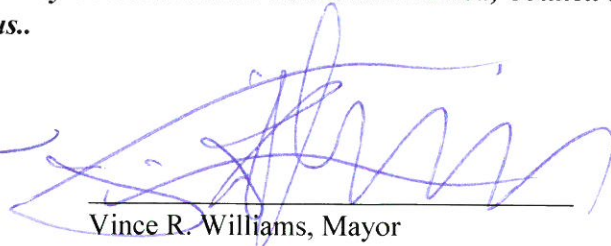
*On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Nealy, seconded by Councilmember Mealing and carried, Council approved both Executive Session Minutes for December 17, 2019. Vote was unanimous.*

**IX. ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

*On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Nealy, seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried, Council adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m. Vote was unanimous..*

  
Shandrella Jewett, City Clerk

  
Vince R. Williams, Mayor