

UNION CITY, GEORGIA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2020
7:00 P.M.

LOCATION: ZOOM TELE-CONFERENCE & IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
(MEETING ID: 814 7076 1271; PASSCODE: 035750)

PRESENT:

Mayor Vince R. Williams	Community Development Director – Ellis Still
Mayor Pro Tem Shayla J. Nealy	Court Services Director – Kristie Collier
Councilmember Angelette Mealing	Finance Comptroller – Crystal Lazarus
Councilmember Brian K. Jones	Fire Chief – Joe Maddox
Councilmember Christina Hobbs	Human Resources Director – Linda Warren
City Attorney - Dennis Davenport	Parks & Recreation Director – Lee Blich
City Manager - Sonja Fillingame	Police Chief – Cassandra Jones
Assistant City Manager - Tarsha Calloway	Public Services Director – Lonnie Ferguson
City Clerk - Shandrella Jewett	

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.)

None

III. PRESENTATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OF AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Announcement and Recognition of Employee of the Month

Ebony Stewart (Department of Community Development) – Employee of the Month for December

- Proclamation recognizing Paul L. Howard, Jr. for his accomplishments as Fulton County District Attorney
- Union City’s Skate Park Presentation – Update provided by Director Ferguson

Council to approval a request to move forward with the drawings of Concept B and to make a budget adjustment (from Contingency Fund 100 over to Federal Grand Fund 240) to cover the extra cost (estimated \$116,000.00).

On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Nealy, seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried, Council approved the request to move forward with Concept B and to move funds from Fund 100 over to Fund 240. Vote was unanimous.

- Greenway Model Mile Project Presentation – Update provided by Project Manager, Lauren Blaszyk and Pedro Torres with Pond & Co.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

A. None

V. 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. Council to approve the following Minutes:
 - 11/17/2020 – Work Session
 - 11/17/2020 – Regular Council Meeting
- B. Council to approve a request to the reappointment of the following Departments:

City Attorney:	McNally, Fox, Grant & Davenport
City Clerk:	Shandrella Jewett
City Engineer:	Atlas Technical Consultants, LLC
Fire Chief:	Chief Joe Maddox
Police Chief:	Chief Cassandra Jones
Medical Director:	Dr. O. Michael Obiekwe
Public Services Director:	Lonnie Ferguson
- C. Council to approve a request to grant the Housing Authority a waiver of its Payment in Lieu of Taxes (P.I.L.O.T) for 2021.
- D. Council to approve a request to appoint the 2021 Mayor Pro Tem.
- E. Council to approve a request to allow the Assistant City Manager to make all necessary budget adjustments for the 2019-2020 fiscal year end in preparation for the audit.
- F. Council to approve a request to enter into agreement with Helix Group to complete the FY 2021 Citywide Water Service Replacement and Resurfacing project (RFB-PS-21-01)
- G. Council to approve a request regarding a \$21,210.00 proposal from Atlas to provide engineering services for Union City's skate park.
- H. Council to approve a request to enter into agreement with Georgia Department of Transportation regarding a Roadside Enhancement and Beautification Council Grant (REBC).
- I. Council to approve two agreements for the facilitation of the City's school zone speed camera program: (1) agreement with Verra Mobility for the management of the program; and (2) agreement with ACI Payments for the processing of payments.
- J. Council to approve a request to enter into an agreement with Rundell Enterprises in the amount of \$15,000.00.
- K. Council to approve a request to submit an application to Fulton County for a second round of COVID-19 funding through CDBG (Submission deadline is December 21, 2020).

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

VI. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION:

- A. A **Public Hearing** for Council to approve a request to remove Section 5-19, pertaining to “Required Buffers in GC, RSC, M-1 and M-2 Districts”, of Article V, in its entirety, and designate Section 5-19 as “Reserved”. This request is to resolve a conflict between Section 5-19 and the dimensional requirements of the M-1 & M-2 zoning districts. (PLANNING COMMISSION & STAFF RECOMMENDED APPROVAL)

Public Hearing Opened

Public Hearing Closed

On motion of Councilmember Jones, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Nealy and carried, Council approved the above request. Vote was unanimous.

VII. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

Congratulatory remarks and acknowledgements extended to:

- Thanked Mayor and Council for their leadership, guidance, and for encouraging staff to meet set expectations. Also, thanked Mayor and Council for their support of a Skate Park
- Thanked the Leadership Team and Staff for their efforts, mindset and hard work in 2020
- Holiday Tree Lighting held December 7, 2020 was great

Update regarding Kenneth L. Johnson Depot

- Director Ferguson advised Mayor and Council the revised final plans have been completed and submitted to Safe Built for permitting. The remobilization to start construction will begin in two weeks after receiving the permit. The timeframe allotted for completion is 120 days. Julie Chestnut was available for questions.

VIII. REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL:

Comments by Mayor Pro Tem Nealy

Congratulatory remarks and acknowledgements extended to:

- Ebony Stewart (Department of Community Development) – Employee of the Month for December
- Paul Howard, Jr. for his accomplishments as Fulton County District Attorney
- Councilmember Hobbs - Happy Birthday

Remarks:

- Tree Lighting Event held December 7, 2020 was successful
- Thanked Department Heads and Staff for everything accomplished in 2020
- Reminded everyone to vote (January 5, 2021 Run-off Election)
- Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Comments by Councilmember Mealing

Congratulatory remarks and acknowledgements extended to:

- Ebony Stewart (Department of Community Development) – Employee of the Month for December
- Paul Howard, Jr. for his accomplishments as Fulton County District Attorney
- Mayor Pro Tem Nealy, Believers House, Inc., and Renew Atlanta for assisting residence with rent and utilities
- Councilmember Hobbs – Happy Birthday

Remarks:

- Tree Lighting Event held December 7, 2020 was successful
- Thanked Department Heads and Staff for everything accomplished in 2020
- Thanked local sponsors, vendors, and staff for providing toys and food for the holiday season
- Reminded everyone to vote (January 5, 2021 Run-off Election)
- Encouraged everyone to stay safe during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Comments by Councilmember Hobbs

Congratulatory remarks and acknowledgements extended to:

- Ebony Stewart (Department of Community Development) – Employee of the Month for December
- Paul Howard, Jr. for his accomplishments as Fulton County District Attorney
- Mayor Pro Tem Nealy, Believers House, Inc., and Renew Atlanta for assisting residents with rent and utilities

Remarks:

- December 5, 2020 is National Food Giveaway
- Thanked everyone for attending the Work Session and Regular Council Meeting
- Thanked Department Heads and Staff for everything accomplished in 2020
- Reminded everyone to vote (January 5, 2021 Run-off Election)
- Encouraged everyone to stay safe during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Comments by Councilmember Jones

Congratulatory remarks and acknowledgements extended to:

- Ebony Stewart (Department of Community Development) – Employee of the Month for December
- Paul Howard, Jr. for his accomplishments as Fulton County District Attorney
- Councilmember Hobbs – Happy Birthday

Remarks:

- Thanked Department Heads and Staff for everything accomplished in 2020
- Thanked community partners and residents for adjusting to the new norm
- Skate Board Park Presentation was great
- Greenway Model Mile Project Presentation was great
- Reminded everyone to vote (January 5, 2021 Run-off Election)
- Encouraged everyone to stay safe during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Looking forward to 2021 Mayor and Council Retreat
- Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Comments by Mayor Williams

Congratulatory remarks and acknowledgements extended to:

- Ebony Stewart (Department of Community Development) – Employee of the Month for December
- Paul Howard, Jr. for his accomplishments as Fulton County District Attorney
- Councilmember Hobbs – Happy Birthday
- Aldi's Grocery Store – Great addition to the community

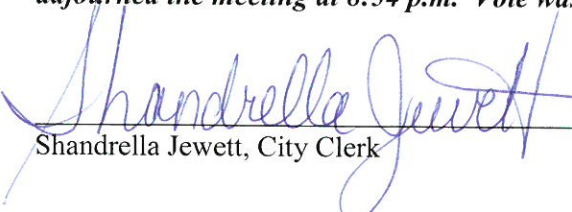
Remarks:

- Thanked his wife and daughter for allowing him to serve the City of Union City
- Thanked each Councilmember for having a heart to serve and for their support in 2020
- Thanked everyone for attending the Council Meeting
- Thanked the Department Heads and Staff for everything accomplished in 2020
- Thanked Jim Moore and the VC3 Team for providing IT assistance
- Thanked Dr. Michael Obiekwe for serving as Union City's Medical Director
- Thanked Steve Smith and the Pendleton Group for assisting Union City with economic development
- Thanked Trevor Cason (Planning Commissioner) for participating in tonight's meeting and for being committed to the Planning Commission
- Thanked Dennis Davenport, Esquire for providing legal services to Union City
- Reminded everyone to vote (January 5, 2021 Run-off Election)
- Spoke regarding adequate staffing in the Fire and Police Department
- Spoke regarding MARTA and the future possibilities of BRT in Union City and other neighboring cities (focusing on Highway 29 and South Fulton Parkway)
- Spoke regarding TSPLOST and the great opportunities coming in the next couple of years concerning GDOT (Highway 138/ I-85 Bridge Project)
- Spoke regarding the Water Authority permit received in 2020
- Spoke regarding the Utility Assistance Program
- Spoke regarding the residential development that is taking place in Union City
- GMA Hometown Connect – December 18, 2020 at 10 a.m.
- Encouraged everyone to stay safe during the COVID-19 pandemic and the vaccine
- Encouraged everyone to push harder and higher in 2021
- Wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Kwanza, Happy Hanukkah, and a joyous New Year

IX. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

On motion of Councilmember Mealing, seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried, Council adjourned the meeting at 8:54 p.m. Vote was unanimous.


Shandrella Jewett, City Clerk


Vince R. Williams, Mayor