

# MINUTES



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## CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, January 19, 2021

7:00 PM

Zoom Tele-Conference (Meeting ID: 828 6025 3461; Passcode: 002035) and In Council Chambers

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### ROLL CALL:

### PRESENT:

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

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

### I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

### II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

Invocation by Mayor Williams

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

Tramaine Clark, 6450 Buffington Road - Spoke regarding commercial development and residential values

### IV. PRESENTATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OF AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS:

Announcement and Recognition of Employee of the Year (2020)

- Officer Emmitt Stringer (Police Department) - Employee of the Year

Announcement and Recognition of Employee of the Month

- Meletta Clayton (Parks and Recreation) - Employee of the Month

COVID-19/Vaccine Presentation by Dr. Amber Schmidtke, Ph.d.

V. CONSENT AGENDA:

*All matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine 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 amended Regular Council Minutes dated November 17, 2020 (regarding the GMA contract).
- B. Council to approve the Work Session Minutes dated 12/15/2020.
- C. Council to approve the Regular Council Minutes dated 12/15/2020.
- D. Council to approve a request to adopt a resolution to fix and publish the qualifying fee for Mayor and Councilmembers for the 2021 Municipal Election. The qualifying fees for Mayor is \$749.70 and Councilmembers is \$475.50. (3% of the Total Gross Salary - Fee must be published no later than February 1, 2021.)
- E. Council to approve a request to re-appoint Councilmember Nealy as a Board Member for the Middle Chattahoochee Regional Water & Sewer Authority.
- F. Council to approve a request to re-appoint City Manager, Sonja Fillingame as a Board Member for the Middle Chattahoochee Regional Water & Sewer Authority.
- G. Council to approve a request for submittal of an application for a KaBoom Grant to help construct a playground at the Highway 29 Ballfields.
- H. Council to approve a request to enter into agreement with RDJE, Inc. to complete the FY 2021 Citywide Stormwater Improvements Project, RFB-PS-21-02.
- I. Council to approve a request to enter into an agreement with RDJE, Inc. to complete the Sanitary Sewer Flow Metering, Phase 1 Project, RFB-PS-21-03.
- J. Council to approve a request to enter into an agreement between Fulton County and the City of Union City for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to construct ADA sidewalks along Dixie Lake Road. (FY 2020)
- K. Council to approve a request for the submittal of an application for FY 2020 Assistance to Firefighters Grant program.
- L. Council to approve a request to extend Judge Freeman's Employment Agreement until April 20, 2021.
- M. Council to approve a request to enter into agreement with The Collaborative Firm, LLC for Certain Professional Services.

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

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Council to approve a request to select TSPLOST (Transportation Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax) transit option.

*On motion of Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Nealy and carried, Council approved option C3 with flexibility. Vote was unanimous.*



- B. Council to approve a request to purchase an additional pool car for the Mayor.

*On motion of Councilmember Mealing, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Hobbs and carried, Council approved the request to purchase an additional pool car for the Mayor. Vote was unanimous.*

**VII. OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**VIII. PUBLIC HEARING(S):**

- A. A **Public Hearing** for Council to approve a request to transmit an update to the Union City Comprehensive Plan to Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) and Department of Community Affairs (DCA).

*On motion of Councilmember Mealing, seconded by Councilmember Nealy and carried, Council agreed to transmit an update to the Union City Comprehensive Plan to ARC and DCA.*

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

None

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

- Recognized Mayor Williams or being honored by Georgia Trend Magazine as “Most Influential”
- Ms. Lazarus (Comptroller) provided a brief update regarding funding for rental assistance by Fulton County. It is scheduled to go before the Fulton Board of Commissioners in March 2021.
- Director Ferguson provided an update regarding the Kenneth L. Johnson Depot – The plans were approved by Safe Built. The City is in the process of finalizing new construction costs and the company is scheduled to mobilize on January 25, 2021.

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

**Comments by Councilmember Jones**

*Congratulatory acknowledgments extended to:*

- Officer Emmitt Stringer (Police Department) – Employee of the Year (2020)
- Meletta “Buffy” Clayton (Parks and Recreation Department) – Employee of the Month
- Staff for all you do for the City

*Remarks:*

- Looking forward to TSPLOST. Need to do a big “push” to representatives
- COVID-19 Presentation was impactful. ICU beds in Georgia are maxed out and it would be great to have a hospital in Union City
- Stay safe and wear your masks
- Happy New Year

**Comments by Councilmember Nealy**

*Congratulatory acknowledgments extended to:*

- Officer Emmitt Stringer (Police Department) – Employee of the Year (2020)
- Meletta “Buffy” Clayton (Parks and Recreation Department) – Employee of the Month
- Councilmember Mealing – Happy Birthday
- Staff for all you do for the City

*Remarks:*

- COVID-19 Presentation was informative
- Would like to see an appeal video regarding “Mask-Up”

- Looking forward to the updated Comprehensive Plan
- Time for “Map The Vision” Check-in
- Thanked Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated Chapter President, Regina McClure-Freeman and Vice President, Michelle Langham-Robinson for attending Council Meeting
- January 15, 2021 - Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated Founders’ Day
- January 16, 2021 - Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated Founders’ Day.
- January 18, 20201 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
- Happy New Year

**Comments by Councilmember Mealing**

*Congratulatory acknowledgments extended to:*

- Officer Emmitt Stringer (Police Department) – Employee of the Year (2020)
- Meletta “Buffy” Clayton (Parks and Recreation Department) – Employee of the Month
- Mayor Williams for being honored by Georgia Trend Magazine as “Most Influential”
- Staff for all you do for the City

*Remarks:*

- COVID-19 Presentation was impactful. Would like to see a FACT Sheet on the website
- Kudos to Ms. Stevens and UC Team for working on the Comprehensive Plan Update
- Kudos to Human Resources for providing training with Paycom
- Thanked everyone for acknowledging her birthday on January 18<sup>th</sup>
- “Map The Vision” Check-in
- Happy New Year

**Comments by Mayor Pro Tem Hobbs**

*Congratulatory acknowledgments extended to:*

- Officer Emmitt Stringer (Police Department) – Employee of the Year (2020)
- Meletta “Buffy” Clayton (Parks and Recreation Department) – Employee of the Month
- Mayor Williams for being honored by Georgia Trend Magazine as “Most Influential”
- Staff for all you do for the City

*Remarks:*

- Happy New Year

**Comments by Mayor Williams**

*Congratulatory acknowledgments extended to:*

- Officer Emmitt Stringer (Police Department) – Employee of the Year (2020)
- Meletta “Buffy” Clayton (Parks and Recreation Department) – Employee of the Month
- Nydia Akins (Grant Specialist) for finding grant opportunities
- Councilmember Mealing – Happy Birthday
- Operation and Marketing Team for revising the mask message
- Staff for all you do for the City

*Remarks:*

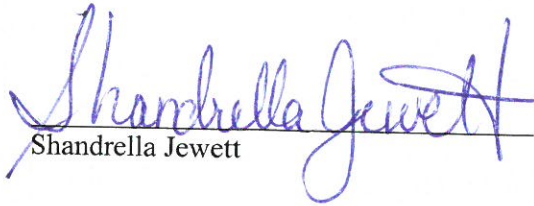
- Requesting a new awareness campaign regarding the mask message
- Prayers extended to Trey Bennings
- February 2021 - No Planning Commission Meeting
- March 16, 2021 - Virtual State of the City
- Requested Councilmember Jones to provide his expertise and work closely with the Finance Department regarding procurement
- Requested Councilmember Nealy to provide her expertise and work closely with Public Services
- Requested Mayor Pro Tem Hobbs to provide her expertise and work closely with Community Development

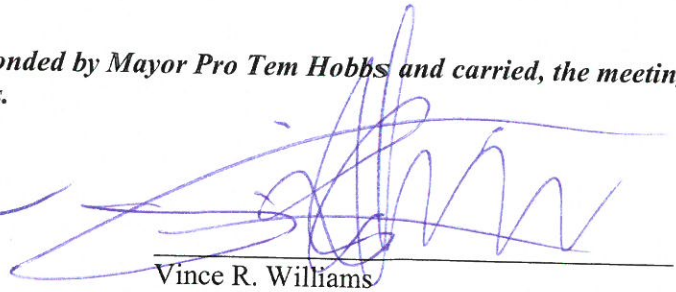
- Requested City Attorney, Councilmember Hobbs, City Manager, Director Still and Comptroller Lazarus to get together and discuss possibly creating a 501c3
- Would like to see two (2) passive parks completed by the second quarter of 2021 (trail experience, walking trail, etc.)
- Place Making Opportunities - Spoke regarding the placement of out of commission trains around the City
- Thanked Steve Smith from the Pendleton Group for attending Council Meeting
- CDBG - COVID-19 Rental Assistance
- Stay safe, social distance, and wear your masks
- Happy New Year

**XII. ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

*On motion of Councilmember Mealing, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Hobbs and carried, the meeting adjourned at 9:29 p.m. Vote was unanimous.*

  
Shandrella Jewett

  
Vince R. Williams