MINUTES



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:00 P.M. In Council Chamber

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Vince R. Williams
Mayor Pro Tem Angelette Mealing
Councilmember Brian K. Jones
Councilmember Christina Hobbs
Councilmember Lawanna Owens-Twaites
City Attorney - Dennis Davenport
City Manager - Sonja Fillingame
Assistant City Manager - Tarsha Calloway

Court Services Director - Kristie Tucker

PRESENT:

City Clerk - Shandrella Jewett
Deputy City Clerk - Chanelle Campbell
Community Development Interim Director - Jana Keller
Fire Chief - Joe Maddox
Human Resources Director - Linda Warren
Park & Recreations Director - Lee Blitch
Police Chief - Cassandra Jones
Public Services Director - Lonnie Ferguson

ABSENT:

I. CALLED 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 Vince R. Williams
- Moment of Silence for the families of the victims regarding the mass shooting in Buffalo, New York

III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

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

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

No one came forth to speak

V. PRESENTATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OF AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS:

Acknowledgement and Recognition of the Employee of the Month
 Sargent Emmitt Stringer (Police Department) was selected as Employee of the Month.

- Proclamation recognizing International Firefighters' Day (May 4, 2022)
- Proclamation recognizing the 62nd Annual National Public Works Week (May 15-21, 2022)
- Proclamation recognizing the 47th Annual National EMS Week (May 15-21, 2022)
- Proclamation recognizing Kids to Park Day (May 21, 2022)
- Comments by the Youth Leadership Councilmembers of FY21-22

Program Coordinator, Shandrella Jewett thanked Mayor, Council, Staff, Parents, Guardians, and the Citizens of Union City for supporting the Youth Leadership Council Program of FY21-22.

Timeelah Jones (President), Jamel Williams (Vice President), and Austin Moses (YLC Councilmember) provided feedback regarding their experience with the Youth Leadership Council Program.

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Council to approve the submittal of a request to enter into agreement with Sol Construction, LLC for construction of Christian City Multi-Use Path (RFB-PS-22-02).

On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Mealing, seconded by Councilmember Hobbs and carried, Council approved the request to enter into agreement with Sol Construction, LLC. Vote was unanimous.

VII. 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 Special Called Council Meeting Minutes dated 4/26/22.
- B. Council to approve the Special Called Council Meeting Minutes dated 4/19/22.

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

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Council to approve the submittal of a request to enter into an agreement with Peachtree Recovery Services, Inc. for the processing of insurance claims to recover costs incurred by the City for traffic accidents (cleanup and repair of damages, fixed property replacement costs, first responder costs, and fleet damages).

On motion of Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Hobbs and carried, Council approved the above mentioned request with the following conditions: Peachtree Recovery Services Inc. to remove other noted expenses with the exception of the 19%. Vote was unanimous.

X. PUBLIC HEARING - RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION:

A. A **Public Hearing** for Council to approve the submittal of a request to rezone 15.30 acre +/- acre tract of land (Parcel 09F220100990042) located north of Highpoint Road from R-3 (Single Family Residential) to Town Center Multi- Family District (TCMF).

Community Development Interim Director Keller led the discussion.

Public Hearing Opened

Petitioner, Michelle McCauley spoke regarding the rezoning request.

- Wilfred Durrah, Jr. (Charity Truth Tabernacle Church) spoke in favor of the rezoning
- JoAnn Cummings spoke against the rezoning
- Eddie M. Phillips spoke in favor of the rezoning
- William Dukes spoke in favor of the rezoning
- Rosie Dukes spoke against the rezoning

Rebuttal by petitioner, Michelle McCauley

At this time, Council requested the following conditions be added to the request:

Amenities:

- Playground
- Fire Pit
- Clubhouse (consistent with the use of 139 families)
- Additional Buffers (15' planted buffer on the East and West side (at the property line side) to be added to the required buffer already in existence in the Zoning Code of Ordinance)

Attorney Davenport asked the petitioner if she was amenable with the conditions. The petitioner agreed to the requested conditions.

Public Hearing Closed

On motion of Councilmember Jones and seconded by Councilmember Owens-Twaites, Council tabled the request for 30-days. Councilmember Jones withdrew the motion.

On motion of Councilmember Hobbs, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mealing and carried, Council approved the rezoning request with the following below mentioned conditions. Councilmember Owens-Twaites voted against the rezoning request. (Vote was 3 to 1)

Amenities:

- Playground
- Fire pit
- Club House (consistent with the use of 139 families)
- Additional buffers (15' planted buffer on the East and West side (at the property line side) to be added to the required buffer already in existence in our Zoning Code of Ordinance.)

XI. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Fillingame:

- Thanked each department that received a proclamation for their commitment and dedication to the City.
- Congratulatory remarks extended to the Youth Leadership Councilmembers for participating in the YLC program.

Assistant City Manager Calloway:

Spoke regarding Union City's Internship Program

XII. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

Executive Session

On motion of Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Hobbs and carried, Council approved the March 22, 2022 Executive Session Minutes. Vote was unanimous.

XIII. REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL:

Comments by Councilmember Hobbs:

Congratulatory remarks and acknowledgements extended to:

- Sargent Emmitt Stringer (Police Department) Employee of the Month
- Mayor Vince Williams for serving as the President for the National League of Cities
- Mayor Vince Williams for running a stellar program at the National League of Cities Congressional City Conference in Washington, DC
- Mayor Vince Williams for an excellent State of the City address

Remarks:

- Thanked City staff who work hard to make Union City a great place to live, work, play, and stay
- Thanked all firefighters and remembered past firefighters for their sacrifices
- Thanked Emergency Medical Technicians
- Thanked those who participated in the Youth Leadership Council program
- Thanked Parks and Recreation for a successful Mother's Day Sip and Paint event
- Thanked Public Services for the Community Spring Clean-up
- Thanked Human Resource Department for bringing additional Health and Wellness Programs to the City staff
- Welcomed new businesses to Union City
- Thanked Community Development Department for providing project updates; even while short staff, they produced quality work to keep the City running smoothly
- Conferences are an excellent opportunity for continuing education; they provide opportunities to learn about federal grant opportunities and how other cities accomplished their goals, to better enhance Union City
- Prayers extended to the families of those murdered and injured in the Buffalo Massacre
- June 19, 2022 Father's Day and Juneteenth

Comments by Mayor Pro Tem Mealing:

Congratulatory remarks and acknowledgements extended to:

- Congratulations to the Youth Leadership Council participants of FY21-22
- Congratulations to the graduating class of 2022
- Sargent Emmitt Stringer (Police Department) Employee of the Month
- Mayor Vince Williams for serving as the President for the National League of Cities

Remarks:

- Thanked the citizens and staff for attending the Council Meeting
- Thanked the parents for allowing youths to participate in the Youth Leader Council program
- Thanked the Police Department for all they do and for doing it with professionalism
- Thanked Battalion Chief Moore and the Fire Department for providing CPR classes and programs to the communities
- Thanked Parks and Recreation for a successful Mother's Day Sip and Paint event
- Thanked Public Services for the Community Spring Clean-up and all their hard work
- Thanked Operations Department for the Georgia Cities week programs including the ice cream social and Customer Appreciation Day
- Spoke regarding outdoor chess, volleyball, soccer, baseball and the skate park at Highway 29 Ballfields
- Spoke regarding the Master Plan and making Union City a great place to raise a family and retire

Comments by Councilmember Owens-Twaites:

Congratulatory remarks and acknowledgements extended to:

- Sargent Emmitt Stringer (Police Department) Employee of the Month
 - Congratulations to the Youth Leadership Council participants of FY21-22

- Mayor Vince Williams for expanding the borders and collaborating with other communities
- Parks and Recreation for a successful Easter Egg Hunt event and for making a difference in the lives of Union City's children

Remarks:

- Thanked everyone for staying until the end of the meeting
- Encouraged those who are 18+ to register to vote
- Early Voting has started Civic engagement is vital to moving the nation forward
- Spoke regarding "Kids to Park Day"
- Thanked Firefighters for all they do
- Thanked Emergency Medical Technicians for rising to the challenge
- Thanked Public Services for going above and beyond
- Thanked Community Development Department and City Staff for being efficient and working collaboratively to ensure everything runs smoothly
- Encouraged Youth Leadership Council participants to be change makers
- Thanked City Attorney Davenport for his patience

Comments by Councilmember Jones:

Congratulatory remarks and acknowledgements extended to:

- Sargent Emmitt Stringer (Police Department) Employee of the Month
- Congratulations to the 464 Morehouse men that graduated on Sunday

Remarks:

- Thanked the entire Union City team for their support and words of prayer
- Encouraged men to get checked by medical professionals, if not feeling well
- Thanked EMS, Fire, and Public Services for all they do
- Thanked Vivian (Marketing Department) for assisting with the completion of the Skate Park
- Thanked the members of the Youth Leadership Council for their participation
- Spoke regarding Infrastructure Week through National League of Cities
- Thanked President Biden, NLC President Vince Williams, GMA, and other leaders across the Country that encouraged the Infrastructure Bill
- Thanked the staff for their work to make Union City the place to live, work and play

Comments by Mayor Williams:

Congratulatory remarks and acknowledgements extended to:

Congratulations to the City Attorney on his wedding anniversary

Remarks:

- Thanked the entire Union City team for doing a phenomenal job
- Thanked the City Attorney for all his hard work
- Stop the hate in the community
- Spoke regarding affordable and quality internet to those who can't afford it

XIV. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

On motion of Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Hobbs and carried Council adjourned the meeting at 9:16 p.m. Vote was unanimous.

Shandrella Jewett, City Clerk

Vince R. Williams, Mayor