

# MINUTES



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## CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, December 15, 2022

7:00 P.M.

In Council Chamber

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### 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  
City Clerk - Shandrella Jewett

### Present:

Court Services Director - Kristie Tucker  
Community Development Director - Anthony Alston  
Deputy City Clerk - Brittnie Muckle  
Fire Chief - Joe Maddox  
Human Resources Director - Brittany Sainnatus  
Operations Director - Cindy Givens  
Park & Recreations Director - Lee Blicht  
Police Chief - Cassandra Jones  
Public Services Director - Lonnie Ferguson

### Absent:

Finance Comptroller – Francis Harley

### I. CALLED TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

Invocation by Mayor Vince Williams

### III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

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

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

None

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

- Proclamation - The Beatty Team - Union City Community Champion
- Proclamation - Honoring Commissioner Jo Croom, Board Member of the Planning Commission
- UC Citizens' Academy Graduation (Cohort 1)
  - Shunda Belin
  - Cynthia Clark
  - Monique Bently
  - Dana DeMolle

Daphne Dukes  
Chartel Hawkins  
Patricia Howard (Absent)  
Rosa Jackson  
Alicia Murphy  
Eddie Phillips  
Keith Williams

Sabrina Goodson  
Ray Hines  
Derrick Holloway  
Ronald King  
Yolanda Osborne  
Xavius Robinson (Absent)

- Acknowledgement & Recognition of Employee of the Month (November 2022)  
Lionel White (Building & Grounds Supervisor) was selected as November's Employee of the Month.
- Acknowledgement & Recognition of Employee of the Month (December 2022)  
Michal Lewis (Police Officer) was selected as December's Employee of the Month.
- Acknowledgement & Recognition of Employee of the Year (2022)  
Xavier Walker (Marketing Specialist) was selected as the Employee of the Year.
- Acknowledgement & Recognition of Citizen of the Year (2022)  
Commissioner Jo Croom was selected as the Citizen of the Year.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**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 accept the submittal of a request to approve the Work Session Minutes dated 10/18/2022.
- B. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes dated 10/18/2022.
- C. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve the Legislative Town Hall/Hometown Connection Minutes dated 10/26/2022.
- D. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve the Special Called Council Meeting Minutes dated 11/29/2022.
- E. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve the reappointment of Councilmember Brian Jones as a Board Member for the Middle Chattahoochee Regional Water & Sewer Authority.
- F. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve the reappointment of City Manager, Sonja Fillingame as a Board Member for the Middle Chattahoochee Regional Water & Sewer Authority.
- G. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve the below reappointments:
  - City Attorney: McNally, Fox, Grant & Davenport
  - City Clerk: Shandrella Jewett
  - City Engineer: Atlas Technical Consultants, LLC
  - City Planner: The Collaborative Firm
  - Fire Chief: Joe Maddox
  - Police Chief: Cassandra Jones
  - Public Services Director: Lonnie Ferguson
  - Medical Director: Dr. O. Michael Obiekwe

- H. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve elected officials' proposed new salaries in the amount of \$2,333.33 per month (\$28,000.00 per year) and \$1,500.00 per month (\$18,000.00 per year), effective January 1, 2024.
- I. Council to accept the submittal of a request to grant the Housing Authority a waiver of its' Payment in Lieu of Taxes (P.I.L.O.T) for 2023.
- J. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement with Fulton County for the Provision of Congregate Meal/Neighborhood Senior Center Services.
- K. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement with Fulton County regarding the First Extension for the Provision of Animal Control Services.
- L. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve the revised utility service rates and pricing schedule.
- M. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve the final Construction and Right of Way Plans for the Londonderry Way Resurfacing and Streetscape Improvements.
- N. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve the final Construction and Right of Way Plans for the FY23 Citywide Service Waterline Improvements.
- O. Council to approve the submittal of a request to accept the donation (via resolution) of approximately 6.65 acres of property located off of South Fulton Parkway (known as 0 off Koweta Road, tax parcel ID 09F 290001190588) from Dana Longino McClure and Frank Eugene West, as co-executors of the Estate of Charles H. McClure and Dana Longino McClure and Frank Eugene West, as co-trustees named under the Last Will and Testament of Charles H. McClure at paragraph IX and filed in the Probate court of Coweta County on October 14, 2015 (Estate number 2015-462).
- P. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve the Change Order for the Christian City Multi-Use Path.
- Q. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve the Water Service (installment payment) Agreement with Mr. Perlmutter.
- R. Council to accept the submittal of a request to engage the Balch Law Firm in an effort to collect delinquent water accounts.
- S. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve and adopt a resolution to place liens on property owned by Mr. Perlmutter (Oakley Shoals and Shannon Woods apartment complexes) due to unpaid water bills.

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

#### **VIII. NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Council to accept the submittal of a request to appoint Councilmember Christina Hobbs as Mayor Pro Tem for 2023.

***On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Mealing, seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried, Council appointed Councilmember Hobbs as the Mayor Pro Tem for 2023. Vote was unanimous.***

- B. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve Assistant City Manager Calloway to make a budget adjustment to cover the costs of the Change Order for Christian City Multi-Use Path.

*On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Mealing, seconded by Councilmember Hobbs and carried, Council approved the budget adjustment and for money to be taken out of the Contingency Fund. Vote was unanimous.*

**IX. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION:**

- A. A **Public Hearing** for Council to approve the submittal of a request regarding a city-initiated text amendment to Article III – Interpretation and Definitions of the Zoning Ordinance for the City of Union City to amend and add new definitions to the ordinance.

Director Alston led the discussion.

Public Hearing was opened.

No one came forth to speak.

Public Hearing was closed.

*On motion of Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Hobbs and carried, Council approved the above request. Vote was unanimous.*

- B. A **Public Hearing** for Council to approve the submittal of a request regarding a city-initiated text amendment to Sec. 6-11(C)(14) of the Zoning Ordinance for the City of Union City to revise conditions pertaining to mini-storage or self-storage facilities.

Director Alston led the discussion.

The petitioner (1100 Peachtree Street NE) spoke on behalf of the property owner.

Public Hearing was opened.

No one came forth to speak.

Public Hearing was closed.

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

- C. A **Public Hearing** for Council to approve the submittal of a request by Crescent View Engineering to rezone approximately 0.49 +/- acre tract of land, Parcel ID: 09F221501000274 from R-4, Residential Single Family to M-1, Light Industrial to expand the existing adjacent parking area.

Director Alston led the discussion.

The petitioner spoke regarding the request.

Public Hearing was opened.

No one came forth to speak.

Public Hearing was closed.

*On motion of Councilmember Hobbs, seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried, Council approved the above request. Vote was unanimous.*

- D. A **Public Hearing** for Council to approve the submittal of a request by TWAS Properties, LLC (c/o Martie Murphy) to rezone a 0.90 +/- acre tract of land generally located east of Campbellton-Fairburn Road and approximately 594 feet from Hall Road from TCMU, Town Center Mixed Use to GC, General Commercial for the development of a car wash.

Director Alston led the discussion.

Petitioner, Martie Murphy, 124 East Thompson Street – Spoke regarding the request and provided a supporting document to Mayor and Council.

Public Hearing was opened.

No one came forth to speak.

Public Hearing was closed.

***On motion of Councilmember Owens-Twaites, seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried, Council denied the above request. Mayor Pro Tem Mealing and Councilmember Hobbs opposed. Mayor Williams broke the tie and voted against the request. Vote was 3 to 2.***

- E. A **Public Hearing** for Council to approve the submittal of a request to amend the Urban Redevelopment Plan of the City of Union City adopted December 16, 2008, and to approve an application for an Opportunity Zone designation for all or part of the area encompassed by such Redevelopment Plan.

Director Alston led the discussion.

Steve Smith, Partner (Pendleton Group) spoke regarding the request.

Amanda Shailendra (Managing Partner) spoke regarding the Opportunity Zone.

Public Hearing was opened.

No one came forth to speak.

Public Hearing was closed.

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

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

Comments by City Manager Fillingame:

- Thanked Mayor and Council for pushing staff to be better and that it was a privilege to work for them
- Thanked the residents for allowing staff the opportunity to serve
- Thanked UC Team for their hard work and dedication throughout the year

#### **XI. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:**

Executive Session – None

Comments by Attorney Davenport:

- Thanked Mayor and Council for their support throughout the year and he looks forward to continued work for Union City

#### **XII. REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL:**

##### **Comments by Councilmember Hobbs:**

*Congratulatory remarks and acknowledgements extended to:*

- Lionel White (Building & Grounds Supervisor) for being selected as November's Employee of the Month
- Michael Lewis (Police Officer) for being selected as December's Employee of the Month
- Xavier Walker (Marketing Specialist) for being selected as Employee of the Year

- Commissioner Jo Croom for being selected as Citizen of the Year
- Sergeant Jeffrey Forsyth regarding his retirement from the City of Union City
- Graduates/1<sup>st</sup> Cohort of UC Citizens' Academy
- Director Givens and the team for a successful Citizen's Academy
- Congrats to all Fire Department staff that received promotions: Sergeant Michael L. Fitzpatrick, Sergeant Alex T. Hodo, Sergeant Jay Duhon, Brandon L. Smallwood (First Apparatus Operator), Andrew D. Hinesley (First Apparatus Operator), Rafael D. White (First Apparatus Operator), William M. Kee (First Apparatus Operator), and Christopher D. Stephens (First Apparatus Operator)

*Remarks:*

- Thanked the Fire Fighters for serving the residents in Union City
- Thanked the Fire and Police Department for their community involvement such as: providing safety information, attending homeowner's association meetings, hosting National Night Out and the Chili Cook-off events, etc.
- Thanked City staff for organizing wonderful events throughout the year: Jazz Festival, Sip & Paint, Fall Festival, Holiday Celebration, and the Christmas Tree Lighting.
- Thanked Parks & Recreation for the Senior Lunch Program and for providing security, coordinating wellness programs, creative arts, nutrition education, and general support to the seniors
- Stated "and at the end of my seventh year as Council, I am proud to serve the City of Union City. And as we Reclaim, Renew, and Reimagine the City, we have some exciting plans for our future and I'm blessed to be a part of it."
- Happy Holidays and remember those who may be lonely or alone during the holiday season.
- Thanked staff for making Union City a place to live, work, play, and stay

**Comments by Mayor Pro Tem Mealing:**

*Congratulatory remarks and acknowledgements extended to:*

- Lionel White (Building & Grounds Supervisor) for being selected as November's Employee of the Month
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*Remarks:*

- Thanked Parks & Recreation for everything they do with the children and for the Christmas Tree Lighting event
- Thanked Human Resources Department for hosting the Winter Wonderland Holiday Celebration
- Thanked Police and Fire for keeping Union City safe
- Thanked staff for making Union City a place to live, work, play, and stay
- Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and look forward to seeing everyone in the New Year

**Comments by Councilmember Owens-Twaites:**

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- Chief Jones and the team for patrolling South Fulton Parkway
- Director Alston for being a visionary and for being passionate about moving Union City forward
- Director Blitch for spearheading programs geared towards the youth
- Mayor Williams for finishing a successful year as President of the National League of Cities

*Remarks:*

- Spoke regarding first year as a City Councilmember. "It has been quite enlightening and I have learned a great deal. I'm always committed to learning and have been surrounded by incredible folks."
- Thanked The Beatty Team for providing youth with a great employment opportunity
- Attended the Mercedes-Benz of Atlanta South (Groundbreaking Ceremony & Luncheon) on November 30, 2022
- Stated "looking forward to seeing exciting things in Union City and being on the map in a positive way"
- Thanked staff for making Union City a place to live, work, play, and stay
- Happy Holidays and have a blessed New Year

**Comments by Councilmember Jones:**

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*Remarks:*

- Spoke regarding City events: Mayor's Bike Race (Spin the District), Fall Festival, Union City's Homecoming Week, Mercedes-Benz Groundbreaking Ceremony & Luncheon, Celebrated Mayor Williams for being the President of the National League of Cities for 2022
- Thanked Mayor Williams for everything he has done in the State of Georgia (towns, villages, and cities across the United States of America)
- Stated "proud to have been elected by the members of the 100 Black Men Chapter to serve as Vice President for two year and then will become the President of the organization in 2025"
- Reminded everyone to set goals for the New Year and Happy Holidays
- Thanked staff for making Union City a place to live, work, play, and stay

- Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and be safe

**Comments by Mayor Williams:**

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- Welcomed new team members

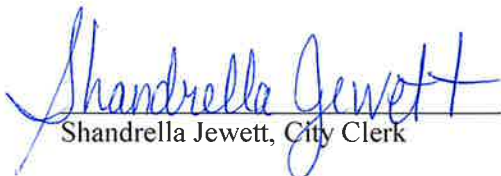
Remarks:

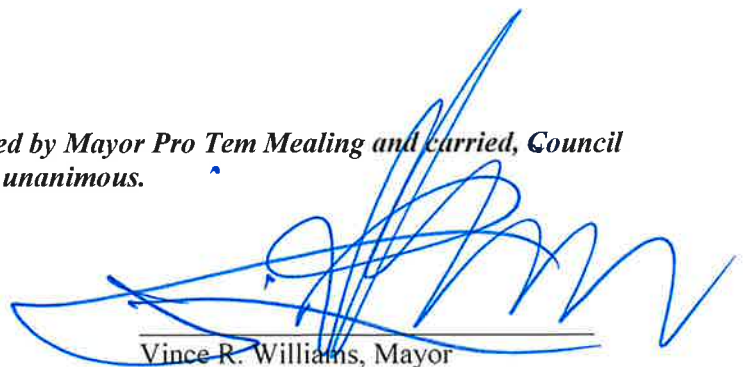
- Thanked Maureen McDonnell and the Atlas Team whom does an amazing job
- Stated "enjoyed my time as President of NLC which was extremely rewarding and I look forward to serving as the Immediate Past President and supporting the New President"
- Thanked everyone who came to the meeting
- Thanked everyone for allowing Mayor & Council to serve the City of Union City
- Thanked Minister Gavin Lane for supporting Union City
- Spoke about Littering being illegal
- December 1, 2022 - Fire Department's Promotional & Life Saving Awards Ceremony
- December 8, 2022 - Cocoa with a Cop
- December 9, 2022 - Winter Wonderland Holiday Celebration
- December 9, 2022 - Attended a holiday event at The White House in Washington, DC
- December 12, 2022 - Christmas Tree Lighting at Mayors' Park
- December 22, 2022 - Christmas Toy Drive
- December 13, 2022 - Retirement Celebration for Sergeant Jeffrey Forsyth
- Thanked staff for making Union City a place to live, work, play, and stay
- Happy Holidays and be safe

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

***On motion of Councilmember Hobbs, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mealing and carried, Council adjourned the meeting at 8:56 p.m. Vote was unanimous.***

  
Shandrella Jewett, City Clerk

  
Vince R. Williams, Mayor