

# MINUTES



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## CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

7:00 P.M.

In Council Chamber

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### ROLL CALL:

#### Present:

Mayor Pro Tem Christina Hobbs  
Councilmember Angelette Mealing  
Councilmember Brian K. Jones  
Councilmember Lawanna Owens-Twaites  
City Manager - Sonja Fillingame  
Assistant City Manager - Tarsha Calloway  
City Clerk - Shandrella Jewett  
Community Development Director - Anthony Alston

Court Services Director - Kristie Tucker  
Finance Comptroller - Britney Gordon  
Human Resources Director - Brittany Sainnatus  
Operations Director - Cindy Givens  
Park & Recreations Director - Lee Blitch  
Police Chief - Cassandra Jones  
Public Services Director - Lonnie Ferguson

#### Absent:

Mayor Vince R. Williams

Fire Chief - Joe Maddox

### 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 Minister Gavin Lane

### III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

*On motion of Councilmember Mealing, seconded by Councilmember Owens-Twaites and carried, Council approved the agenda. Vote was unanimous.*

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

**Cheryl Poythress** – Spoke regarding Deerhaven Subdivision Rentals

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

- Acknowledgement & Recognition of Employee of the Month

Juan Ruiz (Public Services Laborer II) was selected as the Employee of the Month

**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 08/22/2023.
- B. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes dated 08/22/2023.
- C. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve the Public Meeting Minutes regarding the FY23-24 Budget Presentation dated 08/23/2023.
- D. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve the Public Hearing Minutes regarding the FY23-24 Budget and Millage Rate dated 08/23/2023.
- E. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve the Public Meeting Minutes regarding the Final Adoption of the FY23-24 Budget and Millage Rate dated 08/30/2023.
- F. Council to accept the submittal of a request to adopt the "Metro Water District - Water Efficiency Code Requirements - Local Amendment to Plumbing Code" to the City's ordinance and accompanying resolution.
- G. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve an agreement with GrantWorks, Inc. as a Consultant to Administer Grant Services to Small Local Businesses as part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) (RFP-OPS-23-01).
- H. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve a resolution regarding the intent to purchase parcel 09F-1503-0063-1213 from Bright-Meyers Union City Associates, L.P. for Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00).

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

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS:**

None

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

- A. A **Public Hearing** for Council to approve the submittal of a request for an alcoholic beverage license application submitted by Sonali Patel and Meetkumar Patel for a license for package sales of malt, vinous, and spirituous for Strong Water Liqor (701 Roosevelt Highway, Union City, GA 30291).

Britney Gordon (Interim Finance Comptroller) led the discussion.

Public Hearing Opened

Patricia Christian, Nicholas Thompson, and Thomas Hayes spoke against the request.

Public Hearing Closed

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

- B. A **Public Hearing** for Council to approve the submittal of a request for an alcoholic beverage license application submitted by Rajesh Palakurthy for package sales of malt and vinous liquor for Niknak Citgo, LLC (5000 Roosevelt Highway, Union City, GA 30291).

Britney Gordon (Interim Finance Comptroller) led the discussion.

Public Hearing Opened

No one came forth to speak

Public Hearing Closed

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

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

None

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

City Manager Fillingame provided the following event dates:

- 10/02/2023 - Deadline to submit artwork
- 10/03/2023 - National Night Out at Highway 29 Ballfield
- 10/07/2023 - 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Breast Cancer Walk
- 10/07/2023 - Homecoming Activities
- 11/09/2023 - Veterans Day Ceremony

**XII. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:**

Executive Session - None

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

**Comments by Councilmember Jones:**

*Congratulatory acknowledgements and remarks extended to:*

- Juan Ruiz (Public Services Laborer II) for being selected as the Employee of the Month
- Assistant City Manager Calloway and the finance team for the hard work performed during the budget process

*Remarks:*

- Spoke regarding Citizens Academy
- Spoke regarding "Build to Rent" homes in the community
- Thanked everyone for attending the meeting
- Thanked staff for making Union City a place to live, work, play, and stay
- 09/29/23 - Starbucks Grand Opening in Union City

**Comments by Councilmember Owens-Twaites:**

*Congratulatory acknowledgements and remarks extended to:*

- Juan Ruiz (Public Services Laborer II) for being selected as the Employee of the Month
- Assistant City Manager Calloway and the finance team for the hard work performed during the budget process

*Remarks:*

- Great to see Union City moving forward
- Spoke regarding limitations on rentals within residential communities
- Encouraged residents to attend upcoming events

- Thanked everyone for attending the meeting
- Thanked staff for making Union City a place to live, work, play, and stay

**Comments by Councilmember Mealing:**

*Congratulatory acknowledgements and remarks extended to:*

- Juan Ruiz (Public Services Laborer II) for being selected as the Employee of the Month
- Assistant City Manager Calloway and the finance team for the hard work performed during the budget process
- Kudos to the Marketing Team for showcasing the art work of local talented individuals
- Kudos to the Human Resources Department for spearheading the Leadership Trainings by Ms. Lewis
- Public Services for making sure Union City looks beautiful
- Police Chief Jones for a great Police Department

*Remarks:*

- Spoke regarding the upcoming Art Showcase
- Spoke regarding Deerhaven
- Soccer Tournament was crowded and fun. UC represented well
- Looking forward to attending the Citizens Academy and encouraged everyone to stay engaged
- Thanked everyone for attending the meeting
- Thanked staff for making Union City a place to live, work, play, and stay
- 10/07/2023 - 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Breast Cancer Walk
- 10/07/2023 - Homecoming Activities

**Comments by Mayor Pro Tem Hobbs:**

*Congratulatory acknowledgements and remarks extended to:*

- Juan Ruiz (Public Services Laborer II) for being selected as the Employee of the Month
- Congrats to the cohorts that were selected to participate in UC Citizens Academy
- Assistant City Manager Calloway and the finance team for the hard work performed during the budget process
- Kudos to Director Blitch and the team for introducing Pickleball

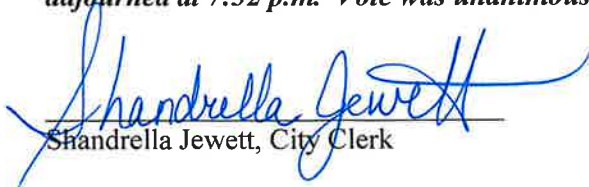
*Remarks:*

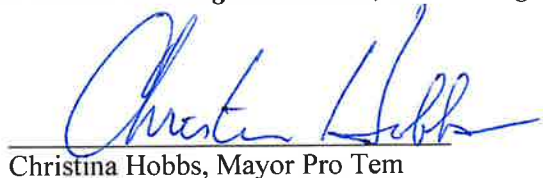
- Attended the 9/11 event that was held at Banneker Benjamin High School
- Acknowledged that September is Spanish Heritage Month, Suicide Prevention Month, and Rail Safety Week
- Spoke regarding Deerhaven
- Thanked everyone for attending the meeting
- Thanked staff for making Union City a place to live, work, play, and stay
- Statement was made on behalf of Mayor Williams - "I love ya'll and their ain't nothing you can do about it."
- 09/29/23 - Starbucks Grand Opening in Union City
- 10/16/23 - 11/03/23 Early Voting

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

***On motion of Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Mealing and carried, the meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m. Vote was unanimous.***

  
 Shandrella Jewett, City Clerk

  
 Christina Hobbs, Mayor Pro Tem