

MINUTES



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, June 20, 2023

7:00 P.M.

In Council Chamber

ROLL CALL:

Present:

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

City Clerk - Shandrella Jewett
Community Development Director - Anthony Alston
Finance Comptroller - Francis Harley
Fire Chief - Joe Maddox
Human Resources Director - Brittany Sainnatus
Operations Director - Cindy Givens
Police Chief - Cassandra Jones

Absent:

City Attorney - Dennis Davenport
Public Services Director - Lonnie Ferguson

Parks & Recreation Director - Lee Blich
Court Services - Kristie Tucker

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 Mayor Pro Tem Hobbs, 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)

- Kerry Gossett expressed concerns regarding the D.R. Horton's subdivision proposal on Vickers Road. Mr. Gossett spoke regarding the entrance way, school buses, and traffic signals.
- Bryant Burns spoke against D.R. Horton's subdivision proposed project on Vickers Road. Mr. Burns spoke regarding a secondary entrance, vegetation, trees, and a response to a request for records.

- Joyce Baul asked the following question regarding D.R. Horton's subdivision proposal - "Does the amount of houses determines how many entrance ways will be added?"
- Luvenia Jackson spoke regarding the pot holes in certain communities and the development of the land.
- T. Ross Bullock asked Mayor Williams if he could relinquish his time to Bryant Burns.
- Bryant Burns spoke regarding an acceleration lanes (north bound on Vickers road), other communities not being properly notified of Public Hearings, school bus access, road improvements at Highway 92/State Route 138, and a secondary subdivision entrance.

V. PRESENTATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OF AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS:

- A. Acknowledgement & Recognition of Employee of the Month
 - Officer John Mays (Police Department) was selected as the Employee of the Month
- B. Mayor Williams welcomed special guest Honorable Louisa Arde, Municipal Chief Executive of Jomoro Consistuecy, Ghana
 - Honorable Louisa Arde introduced herself to the Council and shared information regarding her municipality in Ghana.
- C. Swearing-in Ceremony of the following Development Authority Board Members by Assistant City Attorney Patrick Stough:
 - Denise M. Anderson
 - Tracie S. Arnold-Dixon
 - Brandon Banks
 - Nikki Blakely-Simmons
 - Roslyn Crider
 - Linda Johnson
 - Xavius R. Robinson
 - Rickey A. Sewell
 - Mayor Vince R. Williams
- D. FY22-23 Youth Leadership Council End of Program Presentation

YLC President (Natiyah Parker), Vice President (Anjola Adetolo), and Youth Councilmember (Karnell Weaver) shared their experience with Mayor and Council.

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. A **Public Hearing** for Council to approve the submittal of a request by Bruce A. Rippen (c/o D.R. Horton, Inc.) to rezone 44.52 +/- acre tract of land (Parcel IDs: 09F210100880087, 09F170200751242, 09F170200750012, 09F170100744685, and 09F170100742382) on property zoned PUD (Planned Unit Development) to create a new PUD with an underlying residential of R-6, Single Family District generally located east of Vickers Road and approximately 150 feet from Highway 92 to construct 136 single family dwelling units. *(Planning Commission & Staff Recommends Approval with Conditions) (This item was previously tabled for 30 days).*

Director Alston led the discussion.

Petitioner (Michelle Mccauley) spoke on behalf of applicant, Bruce Rippen.

David Spearman spoke regarding the rental restriction process and the entrance way. Mr. Spearman thanked the residents for their feedback as well.

Public Hearing Opened.

Bryant Burns, Honorable Linda Davis, Luvenia Jackson, Tremisha Willis Burns, and Joyce Baul spoke against the request.

Public Hearing Closed.

On motion of Councilmember Mealing, seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried, Council denied the above mentioned request. 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 accept the submittal of a request to approve the Work Session Minutes dated 05/16/2023.
- B. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes dated 05/16/2023.
- C. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve a renewal of the Intergovernmental Agreement for the Provision of 800 MHz Radio System Access between Fulton County and the City of Union City, Georgia.
- D. Council to accept the submittal of a request to approve a Cooperation Agreement with Fulton County Community Development Block Grant Program for years January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2026 with accompanying resolution for adoption.

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

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

None

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

None

X. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

Spoke regarding the FY22-23 Youth Leadership Council and thanked City Clerk Jewett for leading the YLC program.

XI. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

Executive Session - None

XII. REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL:

Comments by Councilmember Jones:

Congratulatory acknowledgements and remarks extended to:

- Officer John Mays (Police Department) for being selected as Employee of the Month
- Staff for planning a great retreat
- Development Authority Board Members – Swearing in Ceremony
- Youth Leadership Council – Great to see YLC members in local government

Remarks:

- 100 Black Men of America - 37th Annual Conference was held in Las Vegas, Nevada. "It was a great experience to see students present and participate in programs across the country"
- Happy Father's Day to all the fathers

Comments by Councilmember Owens-Twaites:

Congratulatory acknowledgements and remarks extended to:

- Officer John Mays (Police Department) for being selected as Employee of the Month
- Youth Leadership Council for participating in the FY22-23 YLC Program
- YLC Program Coordinator Jewett for spearheading the program

Remarks:

- Development Authority Board Members – "Looking forward to the amazing projects coming down the pipeline"
- Thanked everyone for coming to the meeting tonight and for their participation
- The Mayor & Council Planning Retreat was outstanding
- GMA Convention – "Looking forward to attending the convention"
- "We are a City that's on the move"

Comments by Councilmember Mealing:

Congratulatory acknowledgements and remarks extended to:

- Officer John Mays (Police Department) for being selected as Employee of the Month
- Derrick Jackson (Georgia House of Representative District 68) for winning the Special General Runoff Election
- Staff for hosting a great retreat
- Director Blitch for a great cheer and football program which has been going well
- Human Resources Department for a successful Employee Appreciation event
- Youth Leadership Council for being engaged and for participating in other events around the country
- YLC Program Coordinator Jewett for spearheading the program
- Nydia Akins for bringing grants to the City
- Development Authority Board Members for bringing quality development to Union City
- All departments for an awesome Juneteenth event
- Director Alston for reviewing the City's Zoning Ordinances and Policies, etc.

Remarks:

- Police Department - "Union City's Police Department is one of the finest Police Departments in the world"
- Thanked Councilmember Linda Davis (City of Fairburn) and Resurrection House of All Nations for attending the meeting

Mayor Pro Tem Hobbs:

Congratulatory acknowledgements and remarks extended to:

- Welcomed all new employees
- Officer John Mays (Police Department) for being selected as Employee of the Month
- Development Authority Board Members regarding each of their appointments and for being sworn in tonight
- Hats off to FY22-23 Youth Leadership Council – "Thank you for your leadership"
- Kudos to Nydia Akins for the excellent job she has been doing
- Chief Jones for a powerful police presence at the Juneteenth event

Remarks:

- Thanked staff for their ongoing superior work
- Thanked Councilmember Linda Davis (City of Fairburn) for attending the meeting

- Team UC is the A-Team “I love it when a plan comes together”
- Planning Retreat was amazing “Let’s stick to the plan”
- Looking forward to the upcoming Creative Exchange Art Show and the GMA Convention

Mayor Williams:

Congratulatory acknowledgements and remarks extended to:

- Officer John Mays (Police Department) for being selected as Employee of the Month
- Youth Leadership Council for their participation in the program
- Staff for putting together an awesome Planning Retreat

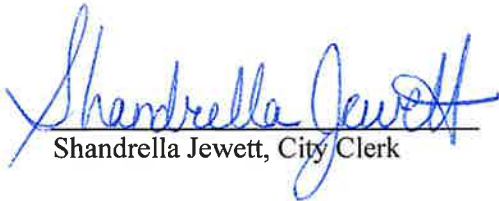
Remarks:

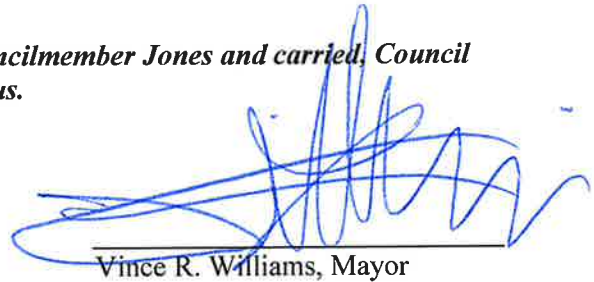
- Thanked Honorable Louisa Arde (Municipal Chief Executive of Jomoro Consistuecy, Ghana) for attending the meeting
- Thanked Councilmember Linda Davis (City of Fairburn) and Resurrection House of All Nations for attending the meeting
- Thanked everyone for attending the meeting tonight
- June 23, 2023 - Job Fair at The Gathering Place
- June 29, 2023 - Creative Exchange Art Show
- July 18, 2023 - Work Session & Regular Council Meeting will be canceled due to a lack of a quorum

XIII. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Hobbs, seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried, Council adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m. Vote was unanimous.


Shandrella Jewett, City Clerk


Vince R. Williams, Mayor