

MINUTES



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, December 17, 2024

7:00 PM.

Council Chamber

5047 Union Street, Union City, Georgia 30291

ROLL CALL

Mayor Vince R. Williams
Mayor Pro Tem Brian Jones
Councilmember Angelette Mealing
Councilmember Christina Hobbs
Councilmember Lawanna Owens-Twaites
City Attorney – Dennis Davenport
City Manager – Sonja Fillingame
Assistant City Manager – Tarsha Calloway
City Clerk – Darryl J. Terry, II

Present:

Deputy City Clerk – Sharday Freeman
Police Chief – Cassandra Jones
Public Services Director – Lonnie Ferguson
Human Resources Director – Brittany Sainnatus
Operations Director – Cindy Givens
Fire Chief – Joe Maddox
Community Development Assistant Director – Janna Keller

Absent

Court Services Director – Shenika Wright

Finance Comptroller – Britney Gordon

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

The invocation was given by Minister Gavin Lane.

III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

On motion of Councilmember Owens-Twaites, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Jones, the Council approved the agenda. Vote was unanimous, 4-0.

IV. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: (2 Minutes Per Person)

No comments were made.

V. PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS:

- A. An **Acknowledgement** in recognition of the Employee of the Month for December

Albert Anderson was recognized as Employee of the Month for December

- B. An **Acknowledgement** in recognition of the Employee of the Year for 2024

Sharday Freeman was recognized as Employee of the Year for 2024

- C. An **Acknowledgement** in recognition of the Citizen of the Year for 2024

Marilyn McCain was recognized as Citizen of the Year for 2024

- D. An **Acknowledgement** in recognition of Hon. State Representative William Boddie

Mayor Vince Williams presented Hon. State Representative William Boddie with an award

- E. An **Acknowledgement** in recognition of Hon. State Representative Mandisha Thomas

Mayor Vince Williams presented Hon. State Representative Mandisha Thomas with an award

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A **Public Hearing** to review a city-initiated text amendment to amend Section 6-9 of Article VI of the Zoning Ordinance of Union City by adding "Data centers" as a conditional use in the O-I Office Institutional zoning district; and to amend Section 10-7 of Article X of the Zoning Ordinance of Union City by establishing parking requirements for "Data centers". Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval. Staff recommends approval.

Jeremy asked to defer the item to January 21 for reconsideration.

On motion of Councilmember Hobbs, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Jones, the Council agreed to table the item until the January 21, 2025 meeting of the Council. Vote was unanimous, 4-0.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA:

All matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered 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 review the submittal of a request to approve the Work Session Minutes dated November 19, 2024.
- B. Council to review the submittal of a request to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes dated November 19, 2024.
- C. Council to review the submittal of a request to reappoint Sonja Fillingame, City Manager, to the Middle Chattahoochee Regional Water and Sewer Authority for a one-year term.
- D. Council to review the submittal of a request to reappoint Cassandra Jones, Chief of Police, to the South Fulton Municipal Regional Jail Authority for a four-year term.
- E. A **Resolution** of the Mayor and City Council pledging to practice and promote civility in the City of Union City, and for other purposes.

- F. Council to review the submittal of a request to enter into an agreement with EMS Calls RightSite Connect for in-dispatch and on-scene services for non-emergent patients, and for other purposes.
- G. Council to review the submittal of a request to accept revisions to the Union City Employee Handbook, and for other purposes.
- H. Council to review the submittal of a request to enter into an agreement with the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) to provide community planning services for the City's Comprehensive Plan update.
- I. Council to review the submittal of a request to discuss the implications of House Bill 581 on Local Homestead Exemption Administration.
- J. Council to review the submittal of a request to approve a one-time Retention Pay Incentive of two percent (2%) for all City employees.

On motion of Councilmember Owens-Twaites, seconded by Councilmember Mealing, the Council approved the Consent agenda. Vote was unanimous, 4-0.

VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION:

- A. A **Public Hearing** to review a city-initiated text amendment to amend Section 6-15 of Article VI of the Zoning Ordinance of Union City by revising language pertaining to industrial uses in the TCMU Town Center Mixed Use zoning district so that such uses are considered conditional uses and to create a new Section 5-43 of Article V of the Zoning Ordinance of Union City by establishing provisions clarifying that conditional uses are allowed by right in a zoning district, provided that the conditions for such uses are met, and clarifying that no additional permit is required. Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval. Staff recommends approval.

The Public Hearing opened at 7:48 P.M.

The Public Hearing closed at 7:48 P.M.

On motion of Councilmember Hobbs, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Jones, the Council approved this item. Vote was 3-2.

IX. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

- A. Firefighter PTSD Program

Assistant City Manager Calloway discussed the program with the Governing Authority.

On motion of Councilmember Mealing, seconded by Councilmember Hobbs, the Council approved the program. Vote was unanimous, 4-0.

X. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

- A. Downtown Development Authority

City Attorney Davenport discussed the need to reconstitute the Downtown Development Authority with the Governing Authority. He intends to bring an item back before the body in February.

XI. REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL

Councilmember Hobbs:

Congratulatory acknowledgments extended to:

- Thanked UC Staff for their hard work
- Congratulated the Employee of the Month Albert Anderson
- Congratulated the Employee of the Year Sharday Freeman
- Congratulated the Citizen of the Year Marilyn McCain
- Congratulated Hon. William Boddie and Hon. Mandisha Thomas
- Congratulated Deputy Chief Jeffery Collins and Battalion Chief Dennis Moore on their retirement
- Congratulated the graduates of the Citizens Academy

Remarks:

- Thanked the participants of Youth Leadership Council and thanked Clerk Terry for his dedication to the program
- Discussed participation in a Shark Tank Competition at Banneker High School
- Discussed the productivity of 2024 and the consistency of project completion within the R3 plan
- Thanked Min. Lane for his prayers

Councilmember Mealing:

Congratulatory acknowledgments extended to:

- Thanked UC Staff for their hard work
- Congratulated the Employee of the Month Albert Anderson
- Congratulated the Employee of the Year Sharday Freeman
- Congratulated the Citizen of the Year Marilyn McCain
- Congratulated Hon. William Boddie and Hon. Mandisha Thomas

Remarks:

- Discussed anticipation of the ribbon cutting for each of the new parks
- Reminded staff of her commitment to transparency
- Thanked Fire & Police Departments for assisting her with the accident that she was involved in

Councilmember Owens-Twaites:

Congratulatory acknowledgments extended to:

- Thanked UC Staff for their hard work
- Congratulated the Employee of the Month Albert Anderson
- Congratulated the Employee of the Year Sharday Freeman
- Congratulated the Citizen of the Year Marilyn McCain
- Congratulated Hon. William Boddie and Hon. Mandisha Thomas
- Thanked City Clerk Terry for his efficiency

Remarks:

- Discussed her excitement to be a part of a city that is involved in community policing

Mayor Pro Tem Jones:

Congratulatory acknowledgments extended to:

- Thanked UC Staff for their hard work

- Congratulated the Employee of the Month Albert Anderson
- Congratulated the Employee of the Year Sharday Freeman
- Congratulated the Citizen of the Year Marilyn McCain
- Congratulated Hon. William Boddie and Hon. Mandisha Thomas

Remarks

- Discussed his excitement for the forthcoming new parks and trail system.

Mayor Williams:

Mayor Williams requested a motion for the Council to amend the holiday closure days for Union City.

On motion of Councilmember Mealing, second by Councilmember Owens-Twaites, the Council approved additional days of closure for December 26th and December 27th, 2024.

Vote was unanimous, 4-0.

Congratulatory acknowledgments extended to:

- Thanked UC Staff for their hard work
- Congratulated the Employee of the Month Albert Anderson
- Congratulated the Employee of the Year Sharday Freeman
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- Congratulated Hon. William Boddie and Hon. Mandisha Thomas

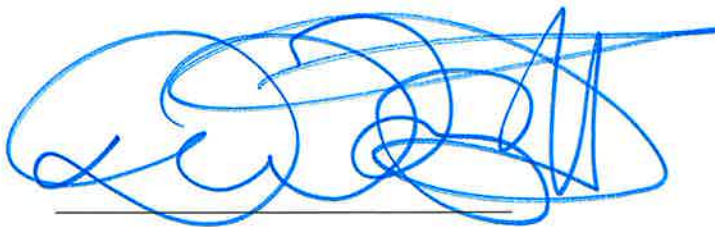
Remarks

- Reflected on the progress of Union City and all that is to come in the New Year.

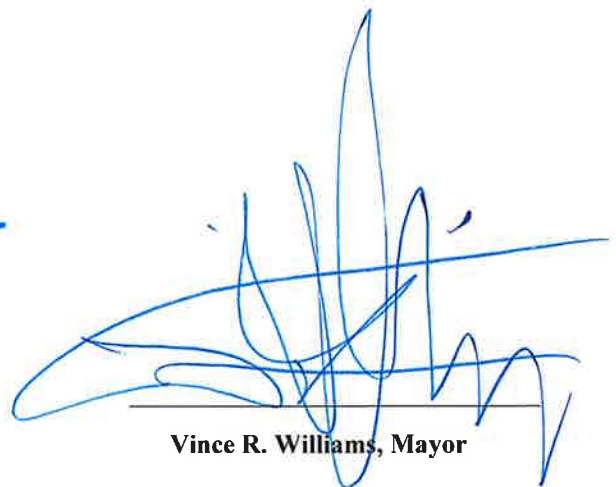
XII. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilmember Owens-Twaites, seconded by Councilmember Hobbs, the Council adjourned the meeting. Vote was unanimous, 4-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 P.M.



Darryl J. Terry, II, City Clerk



Vince R. Williams, Mayor