

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2016
6:30 P.M.**

{Summary minutes of City Council meeting. Audio tapes of the meeting are on file and are included by reference as part of this meeting. An agenda of this meeting has been either mailed or made available to persons, organizations and local news media as per their request. The agenda gives the date, time and place of the meeting as well as the order of business. This disclosure is in compliance with the South Carolina Code of Laws of 1976, Section 30-4-80 (e).}

The regular meeting of City Council was held on Tuesday, February 19, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. in the City Municipal Building with the following present:

COUNCIL: Mayor Pro Tem Robert Garner, Councilmembers Tommy Anthony, Yates Giles, Ricky Todd Harris, Jim Wilson and Pamela Sloss. Mayor Harold Thompson was absent due to attending a business meeting.

CITY ATTORNEY: Larry Flynn was not in attendance.

DEPARTMENTAL STAFF: Gloria Rogers, Municipal Clerk/Personnel Director; Laura Hembree – Accounting Supervisor; Joe Nichols – Utility Director; Walker Gallman – Finance Director, Sam White – Public Safety Director; Leroy Edwards – Maintenance Shop Director and Perry Harmon – Public Service Director.

NEWS MEDIA: Mike Stevens – WBCU Radio and Graham Williams – Union County News.

OTHERS: Robby Moody, Jean V. Harris, Katherine Pendergrass, Jessica Wise, Princess Edwards, Scott Lewis, Ted Trantham, Leroy Worthy and others.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Garner called the meeting to order. Councilmember Giles gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was given by all present. The roll was called by Municipal Clerk Gloria Rogers.

2. MINUTES

A. January 19, 2016 Regular Council Meeting

MOTION by Councilmember Giles to approve minutes.

SECOND by Councilmember Sloss.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Monthly Reports

MOTION by Councilmember Wilson to accept monthly reports as information.

SECOND by Councilmember Anthony.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. 1. Union County Action Network (UCAN) – Leroy Worthy

Leroy Worthy, 296 Lockhart Drive, addressed council. Mr. Worthy is the Chairman of the Union County Action Network (UCAN). He explained what the group is all about and discussed a 5-year vision plan. The organization is looking at job descriptions for the City and County government and feels that some services can be combined and become as one. However; they need additional information and therefore has asked USC-Union to partnership in the research of additional information. Ted Trantham, Vice-Chairperson of UCAN addressed council. He states that it is time for the City and County government to merge in order to save money by the consolidation of services.

4. **BUSINESS**

A. ORDINANCE/ZONING – 1ST **READING** - REQUEST TO ALLOW CREMATORIUM

Robby Moody states that the owner of Lewis Funeral Home requests a change to the City of Union Zoning Ordinance to allow crematoriums. Copies of the public notice, proposed text amendment, request letter from the property owner and map was presented. A public hearing was held prior to tonight's meeting. The Planning Commission recommendation is to approve the proposed request and allow amendments to Section 109.12, Table of Permitted Uses for Non- Residential Districts and Section 129, Definitions of the City of Union Zoning Ordinance to provide for crematoriums as an accessory use to mortuaries.

MOTION by Councilmember Wilson to accept recommendation and pass 1st reading of the ordinance.

SECOND by Councilmember Sloss.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. DISCUSSION/MOTION – CITY OF UNION ANNUAL BUDGET WORKSHOP DATES

Finance Director Walker Gallman states that the proposed 2016-2017 Annual City of Union Budget Workshop dates have been set for March 29, 30 & 31 beginning at 9:00 A.M. Staff recommends Council to approve these dates for the annual budget workshop.

MOTION by Councilmember Anthony to accept recommendation.

SECOND by Councilmember Giles.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. **AWARD BID - SEWER CLEANING IMPROVEMENTS – UNION MILL VILLAGE – PHASE III**

Joe Nichols, Utility Director states that bids were received on January 12, 2016 at City Hall for Sewer System improvements in Union Mill Village – Phase III. The bid summary including Alternate 1 and recommendation letter from our consultants were presented. The recommendation is to accept bid from Smith Backhoe & Construction, LLC in the amount of \$477,122.50.

MOTION by Councilmember Wilson to accept recommendation.
SECOND by Councilmember Anthony.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. **ANNOUNCEMENT BY MAYOR & COUNCIL**

Mayor Pro Tem Garner asked if there were any announcements. Councilmember Giles asked if there was a scheduled time to clean up railroad area. Mayor Pro Tem Garner states that he does not know but will pass this question on to Mayor Thompson.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- A. Please address the Mayor and Council from the lectern and state your name and address for the record.

Jessica Wise of 1009 East Main Street addressed council regarding homesteading. She states that homesteading is a lifestyle that promotes self-sufficiency through home farming. She wants to raise chickens and have vegetable gardening on her property. She has talked to neighbors and they are fine with the idea of her raising chickens on her property. Ms. Wise is aware of the City of Union ordinance that calls for a 300-foot separation between her and her neighbors but is not possible at this address. Mayor Pro Tem Garner states that council will take this information under advisement and her request would need to go through the proper channels.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Councilmember Wilson.
SECOND by Councilmember Sloss.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Meeting adjourned at 7:03 P.M.

Gloria J. Rogers, Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved _____ 2016