

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2018
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

The regular meeting of City Council was held on August 21, 2018 at 6:30 P.M. in the City Municipal Building with the following present:

COUNCIL: Mayor Harold Thompson, Mayor Pro Tem Robert Garner, Councilmembers Tommy Anthony, Vicki Morgan, Ricky T. Harris, Pamela Sloss and Sonja Craig

CITY ATTORNEY: Larry Flynn

DEPARTMENTAL STAFF: Gloria Rogers, Municipal Clerk/Personnel Director; Laura Hembree – Finance Director; Joe Nichols – Utility Director; Adam Harris – Assistant Utility Director; Perry Harmon – Public Service Director; Leroy Edwards, Sr. – Maintenance Shop Director; Sam White – Public Safety Director. Rebecca Lance – Accounting Supervisor was on annual leave.

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

OTHERS: Curtiss Hunter, Amy Belue, Larry Robinson, Kathy Teague, Katherine Pendergrass, Elise Ashby, Jamie Trammell and Rita Drinkwine and others.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Thompson called the meeting to order. He 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. July 17, 2018 Regular Council Meeting

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to approve minutes.
SECOND by Councilmember Sloss.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. July 25, 2018 Special Council Meeting

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to approve minutes.
SECOND by Councilmember Sloss.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **COMMUNICATIONS**

A. Monthly Reports

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to accept monthly reports as information.
SECOND by Mayor Pro Tem Garner.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. **BUSINESS**

A. ORDINANCE – 2ND READING – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
INCENTIVE PROGRAM 101 WEST MAIN STREET APARTMENTS

Mayor Thompson states that property owner, 101 West Main, LLC, requests that City Council consider granting approval for Economic Development Incentives for 101 West Main Street Apartments. The estimated private investment is \$400,000 and the eligible incentive is \$6, 422, 50 based on fees paid to date. Additionally, when the apartments are leased a second business license will be required and will be eligible for a 50% rebate on an annual basis for up to five years. Staff recommends the council approve 2nd reading of an ordinance for Economic Development Incentive at 101 West Main Street Apartments.

MOTION by Pro Tem Garner to accept recommendation.
SECOND by Councilmember Harris
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. DISCUSSION/MOTION – APPOINTMENT TO THE MUNICIPAL ELECTION
COMMISSION BOARD

Mayor Thompson states that there is a vacancy on the City of Union Municipal Election Commission Board for an expired term ending June 2024. The vacancy was advertised in the Union County News and the Union Daily Times. There was one letter of interest received from Mamie J. Holmes requesting to be re-appointed, Staff recommends that Ms. Holmes is re-appointed to the City of Union Election Commission Board.

MOTION by Councilmember Morgan to accept recommendation.
SECOND by Councilmember Pro Tem Garner
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. DISCUSSION/MOTION – UNION COUNTY FARM & CRAFT MARKET
REQUEST FOR FUNDING

Mayor Thompson states that the City received a letter from Union County Farm & Craft Market request for funding. He asked if council had any questions. Mayor Pro Tem Garner asked how is the EBT/Credit Card machine purchases are being divided among the vendors of the EBT/Credit Card machine. Alise Ashby, representative of The RobinHood Group states the purchases for the Farm & Craft Market, it will be used for the benefit of farmers and the craft artisan at the Market. She also states that the vendors will give the customer the receipt for what has been purchased and then they will give that receipt to the manager of the Market and then vendor will be written a check at the end of the week or the end of the month. Ms. Ashby also discussed the health bucks program where the customer will have their card swiped and if they swipe \$5.00, they will get \$10 in tokens to spend at the market. Then the farmer will turn that in to get their money. Councilmember Craig asked if there will be only one person in control of the machine and Ms. Ashby answered yes. Ms. Ashby added that the farmers will be there two (2) days out of the week and on Saturdays. Mayor Pro Tem Garner asked how big the

EBT/Credit Card machine is. Ms. Ashby answered that it is a little hand held machine. He then asked who is going to cover fuel cost for transporting seniors. Ms. Ashby states that there will be a couple of people driving the van and the van is being donated by the County. Councilmember Morgan asked how much the County has contributed. Ms. Ashby states that the County is donating the van, but as far as a dollar amount, they have not contributed any funding yet. Councilmember Harris asked what line item it would come out of if the City decided to fund the market. Mayor Thompson states that it would come out of special events. Lastly Mayor Pro Tem Garner asked where will the portable freezers and refrigerator be located, as mentioned in the request letter. Ms. Ashby states that they will be at the market in a building so that they could be secured there. Ms. Ashby further states that the market is growing and they have an official board that has been voted in. Mayor Pro Tem Garner asked the cost of the machine. Ms. Ashby states that the machine is about \$400 but also there are swipe fees.

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to give The RobinHood Group \$500 to purchase the SNAP/EBT (credit card machine) for the Union County Farm & Craft Market

SECOND by Councilmember Sloss

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. DISCUSSION/MOTION – MAIN STREET BANNERS

Jamie Trammell, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce addressed City Council. She states that upon the request of the Mayor and Union City Council, the research for banners on Main Street was placed in the hands of the Union County Chamber of Commerce. The banners will line up on Main Street and not just generic banners but images that was specific to Union. The Chamber of Commerce went out and sought a design firm to help target some of the quality of life items and things that make Union unique and special. The firm helped to create the images for the banners. There will be eight banners per 4 blocks. Ms. Trammell presented two quotes from Allegra Marketing, Spartanburg, SC and Downtown Decoration, Inc. Syracuse, NY. The quotes were for Quality of Life banners and Christmas banners. The Chamber did spend an upfront cost for the design fee and they would like to request reimbursement if at all possible in the amount of \$2,000. She has also looked at other agencies and businesses to be a sponsor for a block of banners. The Chamber is responsible for hanging baskets on Main Street and as part of the Main Street beautification; the Mayor and City Council felt that the banners should be included in this project also. Staff recommendation is for council to make a motion for the banners so that the Chamber can move forward with this project.

MOTION by Councilmember Morgan to fund the project in the amount of \$6,500

SECOND by Councilmember Craig

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Jamie Trammell announced that as part of their commitment with the County, the Chamber has been working on retail recruitment and they are fortunate enough to have their first release today. Union will be the first S.C. store for Label Shopper. Label Shopper is a sister company to Peter Harris Clothes. Label Shopper will offer name brand clothes at retail prices similar to a Marshall's.

E. AWARD BID – CLASS “A” FIRE APPARATUS

Sam White, Public Safety Director, states that the Public Safety Department advertised for bids by means of the South Carolina Business Opportunities (SCBO) website on Friday, May 18, 2018. Sealed bids were received and opened in a public setting on June 19, 2018 at 2pm at the City of Union Council Chambers located at

101 Sharpe Ave. in Union South Carolina. Bids were received from three vendors:

Kovatch Mobile Equipment		\$319,200.00
Pierce	(A)	\$306,476.00 (Did not meet required specifications)
	(B)	\$336,462.00

Rosenbauer \$331,462.00

All bids were checked by the Public Safety Department to verify that all specifications were met. Of the three (3) bids that met the required specifications, Kovatch Mobile Equipment (KME) has the lowest bid. The Public Safety Department recommendation is that the bid of \$319,200.00 from Kovatch Mobile Equipment (KME) be accepted. (Contingent upon approval of the South Carolina Department of Commerce)

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to go forward with the purchase as recommended by the Public Safety Department in the amount of \$31,200.00 for Fire Apparatus.

SECOND by Councilmember Harris.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. **ANNOUNCEMENT BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

None

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- A. Please address the Mayor and Council from the lectern and state your name and address for the record. (Comments are limited to 3-5 minutes)

Rieta Drinkwine, Director of the Union Carnegie Library states

Smithsonian Exhibit is Saturday, September 8, 2018 starting at 2:00 p.m.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to adjourn.

SECOND by Councilmember Sloss.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Meeting adjourned at 7:03 P.M.

Gloria J. Rogers, Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved _____ 2018