



3. **COMMUNICATIONS**

A. Monthly Reports

**MOTION** by Councilmember Sloss to accept monthly reports as information  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Craig  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

B. Town of Jonesville - Michael Tyler

Michael Tyler, Town of Jonesville Administrator addressed council regarding a fee that the City pays the Town of Jonesville for collecting City's utility bills in their area. Mr. Tyler states that in June of 1989, the Town of Jonesville started collecting gas payments for the City of Union as a satellite location for customers that didn't have to come all the way to Union with their services outside the city. The fee was set up at \$45 in 1989 and then as the customer base grew ten years later; the City of Union increased the collection to \$110 in 1999. He further states that it has been 20 years without a re-assessment of the fee on the collection of the gas bills in Jonesville. On an average month, the Town of Jonesville collects about 250 to 300 gas bills at their office. Mr. Tyler further states that the Jonesville Town Council is requesting that the twenty year collection fee of \$110 be raised to \$300 a month so that they can continue giving customer service to the City of Union gas users in the Town of Jonesville. After a brief discussion with City Council and Finance Director Laura Hembree, Michael Tyler made his recommendation to council that \$250 is more in-line with the amount of bills on the data that he had got from Finance Director Laura Hembree. Mayor Thompson states that this will be discussed later on the agenda.

4. **BUSINESS**

A. ORDINANCE – 2<sup>nd</sup> **READING** – ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 14 – MOTION VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC

City Attorney Larry Flynn states that at a recent council meeting questions were raised about parking issues primarily in downtown. Chief White and he met to review current ordinance and recommend amendments. The amendments are designed to address concerns raised by council. City Council passed 1<sup>st</sup> reading at its February 11, 2019 meeting. The recommendation is to pass 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of amendment.

**MOTION** by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to accept recommendation dealing with Main Street Parking  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Morgan  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

B. ORDINANCE – 2<sup>nd</sup> **READING** – TO AMEND CHAPTER 16.2 – 2.1 PARKS AND RECREATION

City Attorney Larry Flynn states that several issues have arisen relating to activities conducted at city parks. Chief White and he reviewed the existing ordinance to streamline and cover issues such as use at the parks by various groups. The amendments are designed to address various issues raised by the police department. City Council passed 1<sup>st</sup> reading at its February 11, 2019 meeting. The recommendation is to pass 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.

**MOTION** by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to accept recommendation of the amended ordinance for regulation of park use for fishing

**SECOND** by Councilmember Harris  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

C. DISCUSSION - BIKE SHARE PILOT PROJECT GRANT RESOLUTION

Robby Moody, Senior Planner, Catawba Regional addressed council regarding the Bike Share Program. The Spartanburg Regional Foundation offers grants to improve public health that will have a positive impact on the quality of life in the communities it serves. This grant will be used for planning and implementation of the Union Bike Share Pilot Project to provide bicycles in and around downtown Union for use by USC-Union students, local resident and visitors. The recommendation is to adopt a resolution to file with the grant application to the Spartanburg Regional Foundation.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Morgan to accept recommendation  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Sloss  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

D. DISCUSSION/MOTION – 5% FEE – TOWN OF JONESVILLE

Finance Director Laura Hembree states that on September 7, 1999, a franchise fee agreement was entered into between the City of Union and the Town of Jonesville. The agreement allowed for the City to charge a 5% fee on the natural gas bills of residents inside the Town of Jonesville. This 5% franchise fee is calculated based on the natural gas billing amount for each resident. The fee was then remitted to the Town of Jonesville by check. On January 2, 2001 the Jonesville town council voted to immediately discontinue the franchise fee, and sent a letter to the City of Union directing the City to discontinue the billing fee on the next billing cycle, which was February 2001. The fee has not been charged since January 2001. After conducting research on this agreement, the Town of Jonesville determined that the franchise fee was inappropriately terminated and voted at the February 2019 council meeting to immediate reenact the agreement because the original agreement was inappropriately terminate, Jonesville Town Council agreed to put the original franchise fee back into place, instead of drawing up a new franchise agreement. Upon the direction of Union City Council, the City of Union can begin billing a 5% franchise fee on the natural gas bills of the residents inside the Town of Jonesville, beginning with the April, 2019 billing cycle. The franchise fee will then be remitted to the Town of Jonesville by check. To reenact the agreement, a motion is needed.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Anthony to table and draw up new agreement with the Town of Jonesville  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Sloss  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

E. DISCUSSION/MOTION – PIEDMONT PHYSIC GARDEN – “FIREFLIES IN THE GARDEN”

Dawn Fallaw of the Piedmont Physic Garden, addressed council. She states that on April 27, 2019 the Piedmont Physic Garden will host its annual fundraiser event, “Fireflies in the Garden”. The event attracts about 150 friends of the garden. Piedmont Physic Garden is asking for support through a corporate sponsorship to help defray the cost of the event. All raised at the event will go towards PPG’s new amphitheater. The handicapped accessible facility designed by Landart Design Group of Spartanburg. Sponsorship Levels were reviewed.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Craig to authorize a sponsorship in the amount of \$500  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Sloss

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

F. **APPOINTMENT– UNION HOUSING AUTHORITY’S BOARD**

Mayor Thompson states that there is a vacancy on the City of Union Housing Authority’s Board to fill an expired term ending April 6, 2024. A public notice was run in the Union Times and the Union County News soliciting candidates. A letter of recommendation for Mr. Gist by Preston Thomas, Chairman of the Union Housing Authority Board was submitted. Requests letters and public notice are attached. City staff recommends that council reappoint Mr. Gist to fill this most important board vacancy

**MOTION** by Councilmember Harris to accept recommendation

**SECOND** by Councilmember Craig

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

G. **DISCUSSION/MOTION** – NACCP FREEDOM FUND BANQUET – SPONSORSHIP

Mayor Thompson states that the Union Branch of the NAACP will host its 38th annual Freedom Fund Banquet on May 11, 2019. The banquet will be at 6:00 pm held at the Pacolet River Association Center located at 168 Lovers, Lane Road. Theme for this year’s banquet is “Our Lives Count-Our Votes Count”. The association is asking for support in the way of ticket purchases or by purchasing an ad the will be in the souvenir booklet and printed for this occasion.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Sloss to support the NAACP Banquet in the amount of \$250

**SECOND** by Councilmember Craig

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

H. **DISCUSSION/MOTION** – CLASSIFICATION & COMPENSATION STUDY

Personnel Director/Municipal Clerk Gloria Rogers states that at the December 5, 2018 council workshop, Mayor and City Council discuss a Wage & Compensation Study for employees to ensure the compensation structure is competitive with relevant labor market for personnel or in-line with other related jobs. The last Wage and Compensation Study performed for City of Union employees was April 1997. A motion and a second were made to approve the Wage and Compensation Study process. Two RFQ’s were received. The quotes are as follows: The Archer Company - \$15,525 and Find Great People - \$22,350. The recommendation is to award bid and authorize the Personnel Director/City Clerk to sign an Agreement for Services for the Wage and Compensation Study.

**MOTION** by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to award bid to The Archer Company and authorize the Personnel Director/City Clerk to sign an Agreement for Services for the Wage and Compensation Study

**SECOND** by Councilmember Craig

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Darren L. Wright, Vice-President of Career Development with Goodwill addressed council regarding a new Goodwill store that will be located at 441 N. Duncan Bypass (Former Belk Building) in Union. The store will employ 16 associates at this location. This is the 1<sup>st</sup> store and Job Connection in Union County. He states that the building is approximately 29,000 feet. It will offer a retail store, donation

center, processing area, as well as Job Connection and Training Room. Goodwill is scheduled to open in late April.

Jami Trammell, Chamber of Commerce Director addressed council. She states that part of their mission is to work to bring quality of life, projects and aspect to the City and County of Union. Mrs. Jami Trammell discussed a piece of property on Main Street that is owned by the City of Union. She is recommending putting a Main Street Park on the property called "The Depot". Mrs. Trammell feels that this project ties in with the Main Street Junction and our Train Mural. The "Depot" would have outside restrooms and could possibly be eligible for Hospitality and Accommodations funds.

6. **ANNOUNCEMENT BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

Councilmember Sloss thanked Jami Trammell for the promotion that she is doing on Facebook by sharing our local business, radio give-ways and the spotlight notices throughout the county and the surrounding areas.

7. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION** by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to go out of regular session into executive session to discuss a contractual matter

**SECOND** by Councilmember Sloss

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**MOTION** by Councilmember Harris to go out of executive session back into regular session

**SECOND** by Councilmember Craig

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

No action taken

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to adjourn

**SECOND** by Councilmember Anthony

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

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Gloria J. Rogers, Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved \_\_\_\_\_ 2019