

**MINUTES  
COUNCIL WORKSHOP  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 2016  
4:00 P.M.**

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{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).}

A council workshop was held on August 29, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Municipal building with the following present:

**COUNCIL:** Mayor Harold Thompson, Mayor Pro Tem Robert Garner, Councilmembers Tommy Anthony, Yates Giles, Ricky Todd Harris, Pamela Sloss and Jim Wilson.

**DEPARTMENTAL STAFF:** Gloria Rogers, Municipal Clerk/Personnel Director; Sam White - Public Safety Director; Walker Gallman – Finance Director; Perry Harmon- Public Service Director and Laura Hembree – Accounting Supervisor.

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

**OTHERS:** Frank Hart – County Supervisor

**1. Call To Order**

Mayor Thompson called the meeting to order. Invocation was given by Councilmember Giles. The Pledge of Alliance was given by all present.

**2. Business**

A. Discussion – Main Street Junction

Debbie Woodard, Administrative Services Staff in the Mayor’s Office, addressed Council regarding the Main Street Junction. She presented a checklist of questions and concerns that she has encountered since the Grand Opening of the Main Street Junction such as key responsibility; rules and regulations; catering; security, insurance and alcohol license. Next she gave an update on the scheduling for the Main Street Junction. Ms. Woodard states that so far she has scheduled 18 events and receives 4 to 5 calls a day inquiring about the Main Street Junction pricing and tour scheduling of the building.

Mayor Thompson states that he is working on a job description for position to hire someone to run the Main Street Junction and most issues and concerns will be dealt with by that individual. He will forward the job description for Council’s review.

B. Local Option Sales Tax

Frank Hart, County Supervisor made a presentation to Council on the Local Option Sales Tax. A Local Option Sales Tax is a local 1 cent tax imposed locally and is collected by the SC Department of Revenue. This must be approved by a referendum in a general election year. The collections would start May 1<sup>st</sup> after the general election referendum. Mr. Hart states that max tax items are exempt from the tax such as cars, boats, etc. and 71% of

collections must be used for property tax relief. He also states that 29% of revenue may be used for county/municipal operations. Union County has committed that all funds received by the county be used for property tax relief. Next he gave a summary as to why we should vote for the Local Option Sales Tax - Union County has committed to apply all monies received to property tax relief; committed to remove the public safety fee and road user fees which was put in place to support EMS operations; revenue will be collected from people traveling into Union County who are not resident of our county and Union County could gain another \$300,000 to \$500,000 dollars for property tax relief in outside dollars. On average this is a free 25 cents for every 5 cents we collect in Local Option Sales Tax. This is free money to help our resident taxpayers with their property tax bill. This Local Option Sales Tax referendum will be on the November 8, 2016 ballot.

C. DISCUSSION – PINCKNEY STREET WALL

Mayor Thompson discussed the Pinckney Street Wall. He states that the stucco continues to deteriorate on the wall. He had previously obtained an estimate from Stoddard Plaster Company almost a year ago in the amount of \$46,726. He recently contacted Stoddard and they will still honor the estimate. Material warranty on the wall is 5 years and labor warranty is for a year. The original stucco work was done under a previous Downtown Grant. After discussing, Councilmembers had reservations about investing that amount of funding on a privately- owned building. Other options for the Pinckney Street Wall will be discussed at a later date.

D. DISCUSSION – TRAIN MURAL

Mayor Thompson states that the Train Mural is in desperate need of repair. He made contact with Blue Sky, the original artist, several years ago and Blue Sky gave him an estimate of \$5,000 to make repairs. After discussing the Train Mural, Council asked Mayor Thompson to contact Blue Sky to obtain a new updated estimate to repair train mural.

E. AWARD BID – SOLID WASTE TRANSPORTATION SERVICE

Perry Harmon, Public Service Director addressed Council. He states that bids for the Solid Waste Transportation Services from the City's transfer station to the Republic landfill were received on August 25, 2016. Two (2) bids were received. The bids have been review. Bids are summarized as follows: Smith Backhoe & Construction, LLC - \$187.50 amount per load and Ray Lemons Bulldozing - \$215.18 amount per load. The low bidder is Smith Backhoe and Construction, LLC. The projected cost for the three year contract is projected to be \$87,750.00. Smith Backhoe & Construction has performed the transportation services work for the City since 2003. Their work performance has been satisfactory.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Sloss to award bid to Smith Backhoe & Construction.

**SECOND** by Councilmember Giles.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**3. ADJOURNMENT:**

Council workshop adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

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Gloria J. Rogers, Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved \_\_\_\_\_ 2016.