

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2020
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 Tuesday, October 20, 2020 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 Todd Harris, Pamela Sloss and Sonja Craig

CITY ATTORNEY: Larry Flynn

DEPARTMENTAL STAFF: Gloria Rogers, Municipal Clerk/HR Director; Joe Nichols – City Administrator; Mark Brown – Utilities Director; Laura Hembree – Finance Director; Robbie McGee – Interim Public Safety Director; Leroy Edwards – Maintenance Shop Director and Rebecca Lance – Accounting Supervisor

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

OTHERS: Stephen Allen, Gloria Fleming, Jamie Trammell, David Lance, Curtiss Hunter, Danny Quinn, Greg Addison, Penny Jeter, Richie Brown, Carolyn Brown, Patrick Russell, Emily Russell, Katherine Pendergrass 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. September 15, 2020 Regular Council Meeting

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

3. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Monthly Reports

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

4. UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION/RETIREMENT

Patrick Russell – 29 years – Gas Division
Richard Brown – 28 years – Electric Division
Judy Yount - 26- ½ Years – Public Safety Department

Utilities Director Mark Brown recognized Patrick Russell and Richard Brown for their service with the City of Union. They were presented with a retirement gift.

Judy Yount was not in attendance. She was ill. She will be presented with her retirement gift at a later time.

B. OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Mayor Thompson recognized employees with October anniversaries.

Sarah Cobb	17 years	Chad Ferrell	13years
Dwayne Hardy	18 years	Laura Hembree	13 years
Steve Means	19 years	Dell Mitchell	15 years
Mike Nance	26 years	Mickey Parker	19 years
Rusty Young	20 years		

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. NONE

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. ORDINANCE – 1ST READING – IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BAILEY BILL

City Attorney Larry Flynn states that this is an ordinance amending Section 22-29 of the City's Code of Ordinances in order to fully implement the Bailey Bill (Sections 4-9-195 and 5-21-140, South Carolina Code, 1976, as amended in the City and other matters related thereto.

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to pass 1st reading of the ordinance implementing the Bailey Bill as amended

SECOND by Councilmember Sloss

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. ORDINANCE – 1ST READING – TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE A-1 DISTRICT ORDINANCE TO ALLOW DAY CARE CENTERS IN THE A-1 (CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT)

City Administrator Joe Nichols states that the Planning Commission does not recommend or approve the proposed changes to the City of Union Zoning Ordinance regarding Day Care Centers (Adult or Child)

MOTION by Councilmember Morgan to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation not to approve the Zoning Ordinance regarding Day Care Centers (Adult or Child)

SECOND by Mayor Pro Tem Garner
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. RESOLUTION – CONSENTING TO THE PLACEMENT OF CERTAIN PROPERTY WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF UNION INTO A JOINT COUNTY INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS PARK OF UNION AND SPARTANBURG COUNTIES

City Administrator Joe Nichols presented a resolution pursuant to Section 4-1-170 (C), Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended, consenting to the placement of certain property within the corporate limits of the City of Union into a joint county industrial and business park of Union and Spartanburg Counties.

MOTION by Councilmember Sloss to pass resolution
SECOND by Mayor Pro Tem Garner
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO CLOSE CERTAIN CITY STREETS

City Attorney Larry Flynn, along with Interim Chief Robbie McGee discussed a resolution authorizing the City Administrator to temporarily close certain City Streets in the City of Union. City Administrator Joe Nichols states that he has received a letter from Genelle Alexander, Chairman of the Union Housing Authority Board stating that for several years there has been an increase in foot traffic and vehicle traffic by non-housing authority residents entering their property and causing trouble. If the request is approved and once the City has blocked access from this end of West Henrietta Street, they plan to construct a fence across the road connecting the existing fence on both sides of the street. He further states the emergency vehicles will have access to this area from both ends of Lipsey Street, Gage Avenue and the west end of West Henrietta Street. Also Mr. Nichols states that this will not be an expense for the City of Union. Mayor Thompson states that he would like to see a drawing of the road.

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to approve the resolution
SECOND by Mayor Pro Tem Garner
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

E. DISCUSSION – DONATION COLLECTION BINS

City Administrator Joe Nichols states that it has been addressed in past council meetings about the donation bins that have been placed around the city. People are making drop offs of clothing items that sometime do not make it into the container. These items are left on the ground in front of the bin which creates an eye sore in our city. There are very well-known and established donation centers that could benefit from these items; Salvation Army and Good Will. An alternative local recipient of these donations should be considered, in order to help clean up and beautify our City. Councilmember Morgan suggests that companies that places the donation bins around town should have to get a permit. Attorney Larry Flynn states that he will research and give Council direction on how to handle the situation. Stephan Allen, Senior Planner of CRPC will also research to see how other towns handle the situation.

F. AWARD BID – CLEAN AND PAINT LIGHT POLES ALONG MAIN STREET

Mark Brown, Utilities Director states that bids were received on October 13, 2020 at City Hall for cleaning and painting light poles along Main Street.

Six (6) bids were received:

AHW Contracting	\$ 64,400
E & D Coatings Inc.	\$ 94,490
Ray Miles Painting	\$ 37,600
Southern Road & Bridge	\$120,000
Strickland Waterproofing Company, Inc.	\$ 57,000
WESCAD, Inc.	\$ 22,200

MOTION by Councilmember Sloss to award bid to WESCAD, Inc. of Simpsonville, SC in the amount of \$22,200.00

SECOND by Councilmember Craig

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

Mayor Thompson states that the NIP (Neighborhood Improvement Project) properties are available for sale. Cole McKinney is the contact person at the Catawba Region Council of Government.

8. **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)

Reverend Gloria Fleming of 209 Williams Street addressed council. On behalf of the Clowney and Williams families, she would like to thank council for their support on the "Black Lives Matter Mural" at Moorer Ball Park. This was a dream of Tre Clowney, a 22 year old young man who passed away from a dirt bike accident.

Danny Quinn of 200 Barron Street addressed council. He thanked them for allowing him to speak during public comment at the September regular meeting.

9. **EXECUTIVE SESSION – ECONOMIC INCENTIVE AND PERSONNEL**

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to go out of regular session into executive session to discuss an economic incentive and personnel matter

SECOND by Councilmember Sloss

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to go out of executive session back into regular session

SECOND by Councilmember Sloss

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

No action taken.

10. **ADJOURMENT**

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to adjourn

SECOND by Councilmember Sloss

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm

Gloria J. Rogers
Certified Municipal Clerk/HR Director

Minutes approved _____ 2020