

**MINUTES  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2020  
6:30 P.M.**

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{Summary minutes of City Council meeting. 8uAudio 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, April 21, 2020 at 6:30 P.M. in the City Municipal Building with the following present:

**COUNCIL:** Mayor Harold Thompson, Mayor Pro Tem Robert Garner (WebEx), Councilmembers Tommy Anthony, Vicki Morgan, Ricky Todd Harris, Pamela Sloss (WebEx) and Sonja Craig

**CITY ATTORNEY:** Attendance not required

**DEPARTMENTAL STAFF:** Gloria Rogers, Municipal Clerk/HR Director; Joe Nichols – City Administrator; Mark Brown – Utility Director; Laura Hembree – Finance Director and Sam White – Public Safety Director

**NEWS MEDIA:** Mike Stevens – WBCU Radio (Webex)

**OTHERS:** David Goia

**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. March 17, 2020 - Public Hearing
- B. March 17, 2020 - Regular Council Meeting

**MOTION** by Councilmember Harris to approve minutes  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Anthony  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- C. March 30, 2020 - Budget Work Session
- D. March 31, 2020 - Budget Work Session

**MOTION** by Councilmember Harris to approve minutes  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Craig  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- E. April 6, 2020 Budget Work Session

**MOTION** by Councilmember Harris to approve minutes  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Anthony  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**3. COMMUNICATIONS**

A. Monthly Reports

**MOTION** by Councilmember Harris to accept monthly reports as information only

**SECOND** by Craig

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**4. UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS/EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS**

A. New Hires

Recently new hires are as follows:

Michael Henderson, III – Water Division

Roy Cornelison, III – Water Division

Timothy Jennings – Maintenance Shop

**5. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. ORDINANCE – 2<sup>ND</sup> READING – AMENDMENT TO REZONE PROPERTY ON TONEY ROAD FROM A-2 HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL TO R-15 RESIDENTIAL**

City Administrator Joe Nichols states that there is a rezoning request for property located on the Toney Road (tax map parcel #064-00-00-156) from A-2 (Highway Commercial) to R-15 (Residential). City Council passed 1<sup>st</sup> reading at its March regular meeting. The recommendation is to pass 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Harris to pass 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the rezoning request

**SECOND** by Councilmember Anthony

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. DISCUSSION/MOTION – UNION HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD VACANCY**

City Administrator Joe Nichols states that there is a vacancy on the City of Union Housing Authority's Board to fill an expired term ending April 6, 2020. A public notice ran in the Union Times and the Union County News soliciting candidates. A request letter was submitted by Genelle Alexander. Ms. Alexander has already served on the board for 20 years. A letter of recommendation for Ms. Alexander by Mickey Gist, Chairman of the Union Housing Authority Board was submitted. The recommendation is to re-appoint Ms. Alexander to fill this most important vacancy

**MOTION** by Councilmember Harris to re-appoint Ms. Alexander to the Union Housing Authority Board

**SECOND** by Councilmember Morgan

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**B. DISCUSSION/MOTION – WBCU 22<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL SENIOR CITIZEN EXPO**

City Administrator Joe Nichols states May is National Senior Citizens month and WBCU 1460 with its co-sponsors want to once again honor the senior citizens

with this 22nd Annual Senior Citizen Expo May 21, 2020. The Expo will be held at the Tabernacle Baptist Church from 9am – 2pm. There will be activities, entertainment and door prizes. The two packages available are Package A in the amount of \$1000 and Package B in the amount of \$750. In the event that the Senior Expo is forced to postpone to a later date due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, all packages will be given an extra 30 ads free of charge and all sponsors will still be available to attend the makeup date of the event at no additional charge. The motion is to sponsor WBCU’s Senior Expo.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Harris to sponsor WBCU 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Senior Citizen Expo in the amount of \$750

**SECOND** by Councilmember Anthony

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**C. DISCUSSION/MOTION – ‘UNION READS’**

City Administrator Joe Nichols states that on March 14, 2020, Jami Trammell addressed Council in regards to a new program called “Union Reads” that is sponsored by the Union County School District. This County-wide program would place reading nooks at different locations around Union to encourage children and adults to grab a book and read. The County has assisted this program by paying for the cost of a marketing plan with Alison South in the amount of \$9,000. Dr. Lucretia Byrd, Director of Instruction for the Union School District and Mrs. Rhonda Hollingsworth, Coordinator of Elementary Education for Union County School District are asking the City to participate in the “Union Reads” program in the amount of \$935.76, which would be used to purchase six books shelves to put in different places about town for the “Union Reads” books. Staff recommends that council approve the request of \$935.76 from the Union Reads” program to purchase six books shelves.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Anthony to accept recommendation

**SECOND** by Councilmember Craig

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**D. AWARD BID – POWER LINE CLEARING AGREEMENT**

Utility Director Mark Brown states that bids were received on March 19, 2020 at 2:00 pm from qualified vendors for a three-year power line clearing agreement. Bids were based on a 40-hour work week that included labor, equipment, overhead & profit. Bids were advertised on the SC’s procurement website, SCBO, and the Union County News. Three (3) bids were received: Caldwell Landscaping & Clearing Inc. - \$2,896.80; Union Tree Service – \$2,993.20 and C & C Tree Professionals, LLC – \$2,799.60. The recommendation is to award the three-year contract bid to the low bidder, C & C Tree Professionals, LLC.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Anthony to award bid to C & C Tree Professionals, LLC in the amount of \$2,799.60

**SECOND** by Councilmember Harris

**CARRIED 6 to 1**

**FOR:** Thompson, Garner, Anthony, Morgan, Harris, Sloss

**OPPOSE:** Craig

**7. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

Mayor Thompson briefly discussed the COVID -19 pandemic. He states that small towns such as the City are losing utility revenue. The State is working on something to compensate utility revenue but it will have to come down from Washington. The Mayor states that whenever a situation arrives because of the pandemic, the City will do what is right for the City, the citizens and employees.

Councilmember Anthony commented on how good City Hall parking lot looks since it has been paved. He also states that because people are staying home more and cleaning up more, the Public Service Department is doing a great job keeping up with extra pickups and he appreciates it. Councilmember Anthony also stated that Chief White's department is doing a great job and he appreciates it.

**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)

David Goia, 411 Foster Street addressed Council regarding motorcycles going fast on Foster Street. He suggests putting up signs or speed bumps.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Councilmember Harris to adjourn  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Anthony  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

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Gloria J. Rogers  
Certified Municipal Clerk/HR Director

Minutes approved \_\_\_\_\_ 2020