

**MINUTES  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2012  
6:30 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).}

The regular meeting of City Council was held on Tuesday, August 21, 2012 at 6:30 P.M. in the City Municipal Building with the following present:

**COUNCIL:** Mayor Harold Thompson; Mayor Pro Tem Keith Henderson; Councilmembers Robert Garner; Ricky Todd Harris and Jim Wilson. Councilmember Tommie L. Hill, Sr. was absent due to eye surgery and Councilmember Orangelow Ruff was absent due to illness.

**CITY ATTORNEY:** Billy Whitney

**DEPARTMENTAL STAFF:** Gloria Rogers, Municipal Clerk/Personnel Director; Walker Gallman – Finance Director; Sam White, - Public Safety Director; Joe Nichols – Utility Director; Perry Harmon – Public Service Director and Gregg Pickens – Captain; Mike Petrie – Maintenance Shop Director was absent.

**NEWS MEDIA:** Steve Ramsey – WBCU and Graham Williams – Union County News.

**OTHERS:** Torance Inman, Mike Stevens, Sonja Craig, Ben Powles, Charles Coyne, Kathy Rose Hicklin, Lawrence Flynn, Andrena Powell-Baker, Faye Henderson, Robbie Littlejohn and Teressa Cawley.

**1. Call To Order**

Mayor Thompson called the meeting to order. Mayor Pro Tem Henderson 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 2012 Regular Council Meeting  
B. July 25, 2012 Special Council Meeting

**MOTION** by Councilmember Harris to approve minutes.

**SECOND** by Councilmember Garner.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**3. Communications**

A. Monthly Reports

**MOTION** by Councilmember Harris to accept monthly reports.

**SECOND** by Councilmember Wilson.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. 2011 AWOP Excellence Award

Utility Director Joe Nichols states that the City of Union Water Treatment Plant was presented the 2011 Excellence Award for successfully achieving the optimization performance goal of Area-Wide Optimization Program (AWOP).

C. Community Foundation Report

Robbie Littlejohn, Chairman of the Union Community Foundation gave a report on the Foundation. As of to-date the Union Community Foundation General Affiliate Fund has a balance of \$1,074,742.57 which is currently being managed by The Spartanburg County Foundation. There are a total of 37 other funds from Union County being held by The Spartanburg County Foundation, twenty-seven of which have signed a Letter of Intent indicating that when the total assets of The Union Community Foundation reach at least \$5,000,000 in the aggregate, they will agree to consider favorably transferring their fund from The Spartanburg County Foundation to the Union Community Foundation where it will be managed in the same manner as The Spartanburg County Foundation. The Foundation has planned a Stakeholder's Meeting on Thursday, October 4, 2012 in the Fellowship Hall of First Presbyterian Church on South Street, Union, SC from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Mr. John Dargan, President & CEO of The Spartanburg County Foundation, will speak to the group on how to leave a legacy for your community. Invitations will be mailed to community leaders and other prospects. Mr. Littlejohn also presented to City Council a copy of the 2012 listing of Officers and Board of Directors of The Union Community Foundation which includes ex-officio members.

D. SC HELP

Kathy Rose Hicklin, of Catawba Regional addressed Council regarding the SC Homeownership and Employment Lending Program. SC Help have been into existence since 2010. Ms. Hicklin states that the U.S. Department of Treasury, in partnership with SC State Housing Finance and Development Authority and SC Housing Corporation has made over \$295 million available to help eligible South Carolina homeowners avoid serious first mortgage delinquency and foreclosure. The funds were awarded under Treasury's Hardest Hit Fund program and are being distributed through SC HELP. SC HELP is available in all 46 counties of the state.

E. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Andrena Powell-Baker, Executive Director of the Development Board gave an update on economic development in Union County. She shared with City Council the Board's first Activities Report. This publication includes activities, success, and milestones that have occurred over the past three years as a result of the efforts of their team of professional Board of Directors and local, regional, and state partners. The purpose of the Board is to prove a unified approach for recruiting new industry, retaining existing industry, encouraging economic development and supporting industry and business expansion.

4. **BUSINESS**

A. ORDINANCE – 1<sup>ST</sup> **READING** – NEW ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE

A public hearing to solicit public comments in connection with the new Animal Control Ordinance was held prior to meeting. Mayor Thompson states that the City will research the fee to have a cat spayed or neutered and try to find a way to get fees reduced. Chief White briefly reiterated the discussion at the public hearing on the new Animal Control Ordinance. The ordinance will repeal and replace all provisions of chapter 3 of the code of ordinances of the City of Union, SC and other matters related thereto.

**MOTION** by Mayor Pro Tem Henderson to pass 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the new Animal Control Ordinance.

**SECOND** by Councilmember Harris.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. ORDINANCE – 1<sup>ST</sup> **READING** – YMCA – MAINTENANCE FUNDS APPROPRIATION

Finance Director Walker Gallman states that on May 15, 2012 City Council awarded bid to Kingsmore Construction to renovate the YMCA restroom/locker rooms. Due to delays in receiving the materials needed, this project was not completed as of June 30, 2012. Also, the appropriated funds for this project lapsed on June 30, 2012. Scott Sandor, Director of the YMCA, has requested that the funds that were appropriated for this project be appropriated for fiscal year 2012 to fund this renovation. The recommendation is to pass 1<sup>st</sup> reading of ordinance to appropriate fiscal 2012-2013 funds from general fund for the YMCA expenditures.

**MOTION** by Mayor Pro Tem Henderson to accept recommendation.

**SECOND** by Councilmember Harris.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

C. ORDINANCE – 1<sup>ST</sup> **READING** – AMENDING AND RESTATING A GENERAL BOND ORDINANCE

Lawrence Flynn of Pope and Zeigler, LCC Law Firm addressed Council. Upon approval of City Council, the City of Union intends to begin negotiations regarding the redemption of its 1997 Bond, 2000 Bond and 2004 Bond. In anticipation of such action, the City has determined to amend and restate its outstanding General Bond Ordinance. Under the terms of this ordinance, the City will be required to issue future series of Bonds pursuant to a Series Ordinance, as opposed to successive supplemental ordinances under the former General Bond Ordinance.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Harris to pass 1<sup>st</sup> reading.

**SECOND** by Councilmember Wilson.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

D. ORDINANCE – 1<sup>ST</sup> **READING** – AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF A COMBINED PUBLIC UTILITY SYSTEM REFUNDING REVENUE BOND OF THE CITY OF UNION SOUTH CAROLINA TO BE DESIGNATED SERIES 2012 AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO

Finance Director Walker Gallman states that Pope and Zeigler, the City's bond attorney, continually reviews outstanding bonds to make sure the City is in compliance with all regulations. Also they analyze bonds with the current market and make recommendations on refunding opportunities that may result in savings to the City. Since interest rates are historically low they have made a recommendation to refund and re-issue 2 maybe 3 of the City of Union outstanding issues. Lawrence Flynn and Teresa Cawley of Pope and Zeigler also addressed City Council on their recommendation.

**MOTION** by Mayor Pro Tem Henderson to accept recommendation.  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Wilson.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

5. **ANNOUNCEMENT BY MAYOR & COUNCIL**

None

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

A. Please address the Mayor and Council from the lectern and state your name and address for the record.

None

7. **ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION** by Councilmember Garner to adjourn  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Harris.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Council meeting adjourned at 7:39 PM.

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Gloria J. Rogers, Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved \_\_\_\_\_ 2012