

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2012
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 (e).}

The regular meeting of City Council was held on Tuesday, July 17, 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 Tommie L. Hill, Sr.; Robert Garner and Jim Wilson. Councilmember Ricky Todd Harris was absent and Councilmember 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; Laura Hembree – Accounting Supervisor; Mike Petrie – Maintenance Shop Director and Perry Harmon – Public Service Director.

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

OTHERS: Mike Stevens, Sonja Craig, Ben Powles and Charles Coyne.

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

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| A. June 19, 2012 | Public Hearing |
| B. June 19, 2012 | Regular Council Meeting |

MOTION by Councilmember Hill to approve minutes.
SECOND by Councilmember Garner.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Communications

- A. Monthly Reports

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Henderson to accept monthly reports.
SECOND by Councilmember Garner.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Recognition – American Public Gas Association – Safety Award 2011
Presented to the City of Union

Utility Director Joe Nichols states that the City of Union was presented the American Public Gas Association Award in recognition of the successful efforts the City's system has made to ensure the safety of the employees and customers.

4. **BUSINESS**

A. ORDINANCE – 2ND READING – REZONING – 230 LONG TWELVE STREET FROM A-2 HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL TO R-6 RESIDENTIAL FY 2012-2013

The owner of the property located at 230 Long Twelve Street is requesting that his property be rezoned from A-2 Highway Commercial to R-6 Residential. The property is adjacent to properties which are already zoned R-6 Residential and it does comply with the regulation requirements for the R-6 Residential Zone. A copy of the ordinance, rezoning application, rezoning map and public notice was presented to council. City Council passed 1st reading of the ordinance at its June regular meeting.

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

B. RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO SIGN LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL TO REDEEM COMMON STOCK

On January 21, 2005 Winn-Dixie filed bankruptcy. Utilities due the City at the time of bankruptcy was \$21,961.95. On August 31, 2005 a proof of claim was filed as an unsecured, non-priority claim for the above amount. During the course of time the City was issued 1266 book entry shares of common stock in Winn-Dixie. On March 9, 2012 Winn-Dixie merged with a company controlled by Bi-Lo, LLC. As a result of the merger, each share of Winn-Dixie common stock held at the close of business on March 9, 2012, automatically converted into a right to receive a cash payment of \$9.50 per share for a total of \$12,057.00. The City must submit a letter of transmittal to redeem the shares of stock. The letter must be signed by a representative of the City with proper evidence of authority. The recommendation is to pass a resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign the letter of transmittal to redeem the common stock.

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

C. DISCUSSION/MOTION – UNION COUNTY ANTIQUE FARM SHOW

The Annual Union County Antique Farm Show is scheduled for September 15, 2012. The show has been a huge success for the past 10 years and we would like to continue that growth. A large number of citizens from our county, as well as from outside our county, will be in attendance for this event. Will Boyles, our Union County Tourism Director have recently joined the committee that is responsible for this show. Will is requesting, on behalf of the committee, a \$1,000 contribution from the City of Union to help make sure this year's show reaches its full potential. Staff recommendation is to contribute \$1,000 to the Union County Antique Farm Show.

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

D. DISCUSSION/MOTION – MARCH OF DIMES – MARCH FOR BABIES

March of Dimes is one of the most recognizable national health charities saving SC's babies and giving every baby a healthy start. Ninety three cents of every dollar raised in South Carolina funds the mission and 1 in 7 babies are born premature. There are 184 babies a week born premature in South Carolina. Premature birth is the leading cause of infant death. Utility Director Joe Nichols will co-chair the 2012 March of Dimes Campaign. Staff recommendation is to fund the Partnership Commitment level of \$1,000 to the March of Dimes – March for Babies Campaign.

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

E. DISCUSSION/MOTION – WBCU “PEP RALLY”

WBCU and Holcombe Funeral Home host the Union County Pep Rally each year to celebrate a new school year with live entertainment, free food, T-Shirts and give-a-ways. The event will be held at the Union County Fair Grounds, August 16, 2012 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. They are requesting sponsorship at a cost of \$1,000 for a “full service menu” of promotional announcements or \$750 for “appetizer menu” of promotional announcements. Staff recommendation is to donate \$200 toward this event.

MOTION by Councilmember Hill to accept staff recommendation.
SECOND by Councilmember Garner.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. **ANNOUNCEMENT BY MAYOR & COUNCIL**

Mayor Thompson states that there was a recent S.C. Court of Appeals ruling because stating local governments can't add items to their agendas without properly notifying the public before hand. This violates the Freedom of Information Act. Also residents and Council must request to have an item added to the agenda before a meeting takes place. A motion for a rehearing on the case has been filed by Saluda County.

Mayor Pro Tem Henderson congratulated Mayor Thompson for being appointed to the MASC Board of Directors. He also asked Mayor Thompson if he could get feedback on the Arts Council Building. Mayor Thompson states that a Special Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 25, 2012.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

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

None

7. **EXECUTIVE SESSION: TO DISCUSS CONTRACTURAL MATTERS**

None

8. **ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Henderson.

SECOND by Councilmember Garner.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council meeting adjourned at 6:48 PM.

Gloria J. Rogers, Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved _____ 2012