

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 17, 2014
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, June 17, 2014 at 6:30 P.M. in the City Municipal Building with the following present:

COUNCIL: Mayor Pro Tem Robert Garner; Councilmembers Tommie L. Hill, Sr., Yates Giles; Ricky Todd Harris and Jim Wilson. Mayor Harold Thompson was absent due to attending business meeting. Councilmember Orangelow Ruff was absent due to illness.

CITY ATTORNEY: Larry Flynn - Absent

DEPARTMENTAL STAFF: Gloria Rogers, Municipal Clerk/Personnel Director; Sam White, - Public Safety Director; Perry Harmon – Public Service Director; Laura Hembree – Accounting Supervisor; Walker Gallman – Finance Director; Joe Nichols – Utilities Director and Mike Petrie – Maintenance Shop Director.

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

OTHERS: Jason Vance, Melanie Lawson, Curtis Hunter, James S. Hunter, Steve Ramsey, Barbara Ramsey, George Bruce, Tiffney Smith, Amy Austin, Teresa Glenn, Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Littlejohn.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Garner called the meeting to order. Councilmember Giles 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. Tuesday, May 13, 2014 Public Hearing

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to approve minutes.
SECOND by Councilmember Giles.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Tuesday, May 13, 2014 Regular Council Meeting

MOTION by Councilmember Wilson to approve minutes.
SECOND by Councilmember Harris.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. Thursday, May 29, 2014 Special Council Meeting

3. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Monthly Reports

MOTION by Councilmember Giles to accept monthly reports.
SECOND by Councilmember Hill.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Miracle League Update – Amy Austin

Amy Austin, Executive Director of the Union County Miracle League gave an update on the Miracle League. She thanked City Council for all their support. They had a wonderful season this spring. They are beginning fall registration. Ms. Austin states that the Miracle League of Union County serves Union, Cherokee, Spartanburg, Newberry, York, Chester, Fairfield and Laurens Counties. Their official season begins the week of September 8, 2014. She also mentioned several activities the Miracle League will sponsor.

4. BUSINESS

A. ORDINANCE – 2ND **READING** – PROPOSED BUDGET – FY 2014-2015

Finance Director Walker Gallman states that the FY 2014-2015 Proposed Budget All Funds totals \$45,237,170, an increase of 8.25% over last fiscal year. The main reason for the increase is due to projected increases in wholesale power and natural gas cost. The General Fund proposed budget cost totals \$5,701,850 and includes the following: Property tax rate will remain the same at 92.5 mills. \$121,900 is provided to replace equipment in the General Fund. The Solid Waste Management proposed budget totals \$763,200. No capital expenditures are proposed in this budget. The monthly charge of \$15 per month for garbage pickup is proposed to increase to \$16 per month. The combined Utility Fund totals \$37,634,120. Electric Rate- Basic facilities charges will increase for all classes. Also, demand charge for commercial, churches and industrial customers will increase. The (PPA) Purchase Power Adjustment will continue. Natural gas rates will remain unchanged. The (PGA) Purchased Gas Adjustment will continue. Water rates will increase by 8% and wastewater will increase by 10%. \$368,000 to replace equipment and vehicles and \$2,678,900 for utility infrastructure is included. Personnel- A 1% cost of living adjustment for employees is proposed. The General Fund and Utility Fund will use fund balance/cash reserves to balance. The following is a list of special revenue funds and their FY 2014-2015 proposed budgets:

Local Hospitality and Accommodations	\$390,000
Drug Fund	6,000
Community Change	30,000
Debt Service-Tax Increment District	102,000
Events Center	<u>700,000</u>
Total	\$1,228,000

All Special Revenues are included in the All Funds Proposed Budget of \$45,327,170. City Council passed 1st reading of the budget ordinance at its May regular meeting. The recommendation is to pass 2nd reading of the ordinance to adopt the FY 2014-2015 Budget.

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to adopt the proposed budget ordinance.
SECOND by Councilmember Giles.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. ORDINANCE – 2ND READING – ADOPT TAX LEVY – FY 2014-2015

Finance Director Walker Gallman states that the proposed Tax Levy will remain the same at 92.5 mills. City Council passed 1st reading at its May regular meeting. The recommendation is to pass 2nd reading of the ordinance to adopt the Tax Levy for FY 2014-2015.

MOTION by Councilmember Hill to adopt the tax levy ordinance.
SECOND by Councilmember Giles.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. ORDINANCE – 2ND READING – PROPOSED CHANGES TO CODE:
15.2.6 ABANDONED OR DERELICT VEHICLES

Heath Gregory, Property Maintenance Inspector, presented proposed changes (abandoned or derelict) to council to provide a cost effective alternative for citizens to store their property (manufactured automobile cover) and to eliminate the responsibility of the Code enforcement Officer of accessing the value of a derelict vehicle. City Council passed 1st reading of the ordinance at its May regular meeting. The recommendation is to approve proposed changes to City Code 15.2-6, Abandoned or Derelict Vehicles.

MOTION by Councilmember Giles to approve 2nd reading of ordinance.
SECOND by Councilmember Harris.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

D. DISCUSSION/MOTION – 2ND READING - PROPOSED CHANGES TO
CODE: 15.2-1 NOTIFICATION OF NUISANCE

Heath Gregory, Property Maintenance Inspector, presented an ordinance for proposed changes (notification of nuisance) to City Code 15.2-1 for the revision date of notice from 10 to 14. The Planning Department feels it would be best that the code be consistent countywide. City Council passed 1st reading of the ordinance at its May regular meeting. The recommendation is to approve proposed changes to City Code 15.2-1-Notification of Nuisance.

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to approve 2nd reading of ordinance.
SECOND by Councilmember Hill.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

E. ORDINANCE – 1ST READING – AMENDMENT TO ZONING
ORDINANCE SECTION 109.12 – FARMERS MARKET

Robby Moody, Senior Planner of CRPC, states that City staff is requesting to amend the City of Union Zoning Ordinance, Section 109.12 Table Permitted Uses for Non-Residential Districts and Section 129, definitions to specifically address farmer's market. A copy of the ordinance was presented to council. The recommendation is to pass 1st reading.

MOTION by Councilmember Wilson to accept recommendation.
SECOND by Councilmember Giles.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

F. ORDINANCE – 1st READING – REZONE PROPERTY AT 1306 WEST MAIN STREET FROM R-8 RESIDENTIAL TO A-2 HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL

Robby Moody, Senior Planner of CRPC, states that the property owner made a request to rezone the property located at 1306 West Main Street from R-8 Residential to A-2 Highway Commercial. A public hearing was held prior to the meeting. The Planning Commission does recommend the rezoning of the property at 1306 from R-8 Residential to A-2 Highway. The recommendation is to pass 1st reading of the ordinance.

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to accept recommendation.
SECOND by Councilmember Hill.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

G. RESOLUTION – LOCAL MATCH MCBETH SEWER SYSTEM

Walker Gallman states that the City of Union opened bids for the McBeth Street Sewer Upgrade Project on May 22, 2014. The low bid for the project was \$740,702. The original project budget included \$494,484 for sewer construction which comprised of \$426,584 from CDBG grant funds and \$67,900 from the City of Union. This results in a budget shortfall of \$246,218. The City has been directed by the S.C. Department of Commerce to ask for an additional \$30,916 to maximize the \$500,000 limit of grant funds. Staff proposes to make-up the remaining shortfall by transferring \$150,246 in State Revolving Funds (SRF) to this project from the Industrial Road Sewer Project. The project experienced cost savings. The City has contacted staff at the State Revolving Fund and they will allow this transfer. Lastly, the City would also have to increase their City funds by \$65,056, from \$129,900 to \$194,956. A spreadsheet is enclosed detailing the proposed project budget and the original project budget. The recommendation is to approve a Local Match Resolution for McBeth Sewer System Improvements.

MOTION by Councilmember Hill to approve recommendation.
SECOND by Councilmember Harris.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

H. AWARD BID FOR SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS – MCBETH STREET AREA SEWER REHABILITATION R/C JOB NO 2 MARKET “

Utility Director Joe Nichols states that the McBeth Street Sewer Rehabilitation Project was originally bid on April 15, 2014 with only one bidder and rebid on May 22, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. Three (3) bids were received. They are as follows: IPR Southeast - \$786,402; Layne Inliner - \$740,702 and L-J Inc. - \$825,954.00. The bid summary and recommendation letter from consultants was presented to council. The recommendation is to award bid to Layne Inliner of Charlotte, North Carolina in the amount of \$740,702.00.

MOTION by Councilmember Wilson to accept recommendation.
SECOND by Councilmember Giles.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

I. RESOLUTION – LOCAL MATCH UNION MILL VILLIAGE – PHASE III

Jason Vance states that the City of Union is in the process of applying for Community Development Block Grant Funds (CDBG) through the S.C. Department of Commerce for the Union Mill Village Renaissance Phase III Project. The project activities that are proposed are sewer line upgrades on portions of Erwin Street, off Main & N. Boyce Streets, Mill Avenue, Spring Street, Green Street and Lybrand Street. Portions of sidewalks will be replaced on Lybrand Street, Hicks Street, Lawson Avenue, and N. Boyce Street. Handicap ramps will also be installed on the existing sidewalks at street crossing locations throughout the neighborhood. The project also includes six demolitions of vacant and dilapidated structures and twenty-eight new streetlights on existing utility poles. A total of \$500,000 in CDBG grant funds is being applied for and the enclosed budget reflects \$150,801 in city funds for a total project cost of \$650,801. City staff recommends that council approve the local match resolution for Union Mill Village Phase III.

MOTION by Councilmember Wilson to approve resolution.

SECOND by Councilmember Giles.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

J. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – PIEDMONT PHYSIC GARDEN

Mayor Pro Tem Garner states that a MOU is to foster effective and efficient communication between each and all partners in achieving of mutual goals. Collaboration and coordination may involve a wide range of educational activities for multi-generations, including but not limited to the following: 1) Establish a framework of cooperative program centered on horticulture and/or environmental-based learning the integrate STEM and/or liberal arts curriculums. 2) Celebrate the Piedmont's "sense of place" by promoting the distinct offerings of the region's landscape. Signing the MOU does not obligate any organization/signatory to commit resources to its implementation. City staff recommends that council approve Mayor Thompson to sign the Memorandum of Understanding.

MOTION by Councilmember Giles to approve recommendation.

SECOND by Councilmember Hill.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

K. DISCUSSION/MOTION – COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

Mayor Pro Tem Garner states that Catawba Region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies, (CEDS) to keep the region eligible for EDA Funding. One of the key components of the CEDS is the Priority Capital Improvements list for each local government. The recommendation is to review list and forward any additions or recommendations to Mayor Thompson.

MOTION by Councilmember Wilson to approve recommendation.

SECOND by Councilmember Hill.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. **ANNOUNCEMENT BY MAYOR & COUNCIL**

None

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Councilmember Wilson to adjourn.
SECOND by Councilmember Giles.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council meeting adjourned at 7:02 P.M.

Gloria J. Rogers, CMC
Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved _____ 2014