

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 2016
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, March 15, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. in the City Municipal Building with the following present:

COUNCIL: Mayor Thompson, Mayor Pro Tem Robert Garner, Councilmembers Tommy Anthony, Yates Giles, Ricky Todd Harris, Jim Wilson and Pamela Sloss.

CITY ATTORNEY: Larry Flynn was not in attendance.

DEPARTMENTAL STAFF: Gloria Rogers, Municipal Clerk/Personnel Director; Laura Hembree – Accounting Supervisor; Joe Nichols – Utility Director; Walker Gallman – Finance Director, Sam White – Public Safety Director and Leroy Edwards – Maintenance Shop Director. Perry Harmon – Public Service Director was absent due to illness.

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

OTHERS: Robby Moody, Kimberly Herndon, Torance Inman, Melody Porter, Elise Ashby, Curtiss Hunter, Matt Montgomery, Princess Edwards, Libby Oliver, and Rieta Drinkwine

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Thompson 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. February 19, 2016 Public Hearing

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Garner.
SECOND by Councilmember Anthony.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. February 19, 2016 Regular Council Meeting

MOTION by Councilmember Wilson.
SECOND by Councilmember Sloss.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **COMMUNICATIONS**

A. Monthly Reports

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to accept as information.
SECOND by Councilmember Giles.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. **BUSINESS**

A. ORDINANCE/ZONING – 2ND READING - REQUEST TO ALLOW CREMATORIUM

Robby Moody states that the owner of Lewis Funeral Home request a change to the City of Union Zoning Ordinance to allow crematoriums. Council passed 1st reading at its February regular meeting. The recommendation is to pass 2nd reading.

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

B. DISCUSSION/MOTION – NEEDS ASSESSMENT FINALIZATION

Mayor Thompson states that in order to apply for Community Development Block Grant funds, the City of Union must complete a Needs Assessment. A Needs Assessment Public Hearing took place last year on Tuesday, March 17, 2015 at 5:45 p.m. in the City of Union Council Chambers. At this hearing, comments concerning the City of Union's community needs were taken from Council members and anyone else attending. The 2015 Priority Community Needs List was presented. In order to be eligible to apply for grant funding the city must have a current Priority Needs List. Currently, the City is considering applying for funding to upgrade the sewer lines in the Foster Street community in April. If the project is ranked in the top three of the list, the project will be more competitive for grant funding when the list is reviewed by CDBG staff at the S.C. Department of Commerce. The next funding for the Community Development Block Grant program is April 15, 2016. City Staff recommends that Council prioritize the projects on the Needs Assessment List so that the City will be in position to apply for CDBG grant in April 2016. A public hearing was held prior to meeting.

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to accept recommendation.
SECOND by Councilmember Giles.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. DISCUSSION/MOTION – WBCU 18TH ANNUAL SENIOR EXPO

Mayor Thompson states that the 18th annual WBCU Senior Citizen's Expo will be held Thursday, May 26, 2016 at Tabernacle Baptist Church. May is National Senior Citizen's Month. WBCU Radio and its co-sponsors honor our citizens annually with an event that will have activities, entertainment,

door prizes, give-a-ways and lunch. WBCU would like for the City of Union to be co-sponsor for this event. Two advertising packages are being offered.

Staff recommends that the City co-sponsor the 18th Annual Senior Citizen's expo in the amount of \$300.

MOTION by Councilmember Giles to approve recommendation.

SECOND by Councilmember Anthony.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

D. **DISCUSSION/MOTION – MAIN STREET JUNCTION CHANGE ORDER FOR 105 E. MAIN STREET**

Robby Moody states that City Council acquired the dilapidated building at 105 E. Main Street in January 2016 in order to stabilize the surrounding properties and to incorporate this building into the adjacent Main Street Junction renovation project and new park space on N. Pinckney Street that are underway. The building at 105 E. Main is a single-story storefront with significant damage in the rear of the structure to the roof and floor system caused primarily by water leaks. The Main Street Junction Committee asked the Montgomery Company to prepare cost estimates based on the following proposed scopes which changed considerably once the decision to demolish the building was made: Option #1 – Renovate the building, repair roof and floor as needed. Will be conditioned space with interior details/finishes matching Main Street Junction, install 2 large doors in the shared wall connecting the buildings and new restrooms, Also, install an ADA ramp from the new park; \$388,587; Option #2 – Keep the front and rear facades, repair the roof to create a breezeway with openings for air circulation – no HVAC. Keep other items (2 doors, restrooms and ramp) - \$298,625; #3 – Create an open-air seating area, keep front façade only. Pour concrete floor to match MSJ, install ADA ramp, 2 side access doors and relocate restrooms at rear of MSJ to this space to allow for original deck width- \$175,742; #4 – Same as option 3, but front façade will be demolished and the number of side access doors is reduced from 2 to 1- \$157,642. The advantages of using the Montgomery Company as the design-build team to incorporate this new space into the Main Street Junction project include the fact that this team understands the overall objective of delivering a legacy project to the citizens of Union; has demonstrated knowledge, experience and motivation to keep the project on schedule; is already mobilized which will result in lower project cost and a faster completion timeframe. The committee recommends approval of option #4 this change order request. Councilmember Giles feels that there need to be more than one bid. Councilmember Wilson asked if that would have an effect on the completion date if this is put out for bid. Mayor Thompson states that it would.

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to accept recommendation to approve Option #4.

SECOND BY Councilmember Sloss.

CARRIED 5 TO 2.

FOR: Thompson, Anthony, Garner, Sloss, Wilson

OPPOSE: Giles and Harris

5. **ANNOUNCEMENT BY MAYOR & COUNCIL**

Mayor Pro Tem Garner asked if there were any announcements. There were 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 Wilson to adjourn.

SECOND by Councilmember Sloss.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 P.M.

Gloria J. Rogers, Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved _____ 2016