

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 15, 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, May 15, 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 Ricky Todd Harris. Councilmember Orangelow Ruff was absent due to illness.

CITY ATTORNEY: Billy Whitney was absent.

DEPARTMENTAL STAFF: Gloria Rogers, Municipal Clerk/Personnel Director; Sam White, - Public Safety Director; Joe Nichols – Utility Director; Walker Gallman – Finance 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: Jim Wilson, Mike Stevens, Sonja Craig, Ben Powles and Ms. Lindsey.

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. April 17, 2012 Regular Council Meeting

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

B. April 17 & 18, 2012 Budget Work Session

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 Garner.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. BUSINESS

A. ORDINANCE – 1ST READING – PROPOSED BUDGET ORDINANCE –
FY 2012-2013

The FY 2012-2013 proposed budget totals \$41, 771,510. The General Fund Budget of \$5,566,600 includes a tax rate increase of 7.7% or 5.7 mills. The Solid Waste proposed budget totals \$899,370. The monthly charge of \$14 will not increase and will fund SWM along with a transfer of \$48,370 from the general fund. The combine Utility Fund's proposed budget totals \$34,012,670. Electric and gas base rates will increase by an average over all by 5%. The PPA (Purchase Power Adjustment) and a PGA (Purchase Gas Adjustment) will continue. Water and wastewater rates will increase 9% by volume used. Security light monthly charge will increase by 5% and the cost to install a water tap will increase by \$100. The General Fund, Solid Waste and Utility Funds will use fund balance/cash reserves to balance. The following is a list of special revenue funds and their FY 2012-2013 Proposed Budgets: Local Hospitality Tax and Accommodations - \$200,000; PMPA Promotional - \$16,870; Drug Fund - \$4,000; Community Change - \$18,000; Debt Service – Tax Increment District - \$104,000; Multi-Purpose Events Center - \$950,000. A 3% cost of living increase for City employees is included in this budget. The recommendation is to pass 1st reading of ordinance to adopt budget for FY 2012-2013.

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

B. ORDINANCE – 1ST READING – ADOPT TAX LEVY – FY 2012-2013

The proposed Tax Levy will increase from 74.3 to 80 mills for FY 2012-2013. The increase from increase from 74.3 mills to FY 2012-2013. The increase of 7.7% or 5.7 mills is allowed by South Carolina Code of Laws section 6-1-320 that establishes millage caps for local governments. See attached letter from the SC Budget and Control Board. This increase is offset by a 5.6 mill decrease added FY 2012 to cover a prior year deficit. The recommendation is to pass 1st reading of ordinance to adopt Tax Levy for FY 2012-2013.

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

C. DISCUSSION/MOTION – BOARD VACANCIES – (2) EXPIRED TERMS
FOR THE PLANNING COMMISSION

City Council must fill two (2) vacancies on the Planning Commission board for expired terms. This board works closely with the City of Union Planning Department. They meet to consider and make recommendations to City Council concerning zoning ordinances or resolutions. The Commission also makes regulations for the subdivision of land and appropriate revisions thereof within its jurisdiction. These positions were solicited by public notice in local newspaper.

Request to serve letter, voting ballots and public notice were presented to City Council. City staff recommends that Council appoint qualified candidates to fill these most important vacancies. Oscar Gist received 5 votes; Mary Norman received 3 votes and Ben Powles received 2 votes.

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to appoint Mr. Gist and Ms. Norman to Planning Commission Board.

SECOND by Councilmember Garner.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

D. AWARD BIDS – RENOVATIONS TO YMCA RESTROOMS/LOCKER ROOM RENOVATIONS

Bids were received on 04-30-12, 2:00 pm at City Hall for the YMCA Restrooms/Locker Room Renovations. Three (3) bids were received for this project: Unlimited Construction - \$22,056.50; Kingsmore Construction - \$26,010.89 and Wescad, Inc. - \$44,370.00. Unlimited Construction was the lowest bid; however, this bid was rejected due to the requirements under Information for Bidders, pages IFB-1 of the bid package that reads as follows: A Bid Bond or Cashier's Check is required at the time of the bid in an amount equal to at least five (5) percent of the amount of the bid, payable to the City of Union, as a guarantee that if the bid is accepted, the bidder will execute the contract. Unlimited Construction submitted a company check with the bid instead of a Bid Bond or Cashier's Check, therefore the bid cannot be accepted. The recommendation is to award bid to Kingsmore Construction in the amount of \$26,010.89.

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to accept recommendation.

SECOND by Councilmember Hill.

ABSTAIN: Mayor Pro Tem Henderson.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

E. AWARD BID – WATER & SEWER IMPROVEMENTS

Bids were received on May 3, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. for Water & Sewer Improvements. Four bids were received as follows: Anders, Inc., Smith Backhoe & Construction, Long & Sons Utility Co. and LLC and L-J, Inc. The bid summary and recommendation letter from our consultant was presented to council. The recommendation is to accept bid from Anders, Inc. of Easley in the amount of \$223,815 pending a favorable review of their qualifications.

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Henderson to accept recommendation.

SECOND by Councilmember Garner.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

F. AWARD BID – SEWER IMPROVEMENTS – CLEANING SEWER OUTFALL TO TOSCH CREEK WWTP

Bids were received on April 19, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. at City Hall for cleaning sewer outfall to Tosch Creek WWTP. Four (4) bids were received for this project. The bid summary and the letter of recommendation from the engineer were presented to City Council. Bids are as follows: Bio-Nomic Services - \$54,254.50, KRG Utility - \$69,984.00, L-J, Inc. - \$39,039.72 (Bid withdrawn) and United Sewer Services - \$55,415.50. The recommendation is to award bid to Bio-Nomic Services in the amount of \$54,254.50.

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Henderson to accept recommendation.

SECOND by Councilmember Harris.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. **ANNOUNCEMENT BY MAYOR & COUNCIL**

Mayor Thompson states that Councilmember Ruff is still recovering from her illness. He will be talking with her sister about her condition.

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 Councilmember Hill to adjourn.

SECOND by Councilmember Harris.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council meeting adjourned at 6:48 PM.

Gloria J. Rogers, Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved _____ 2012