

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 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, October 21, 2014 at 6:30 P.M. in the City Municipal Building with the following present:

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

CITY ATTORNEY: Larry Flynn

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. Perry Harmon – Public Service Director and Mike Petrie – Maintenance Shop Director was absent.

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

OTHERS: Curtiss Hunter, George Bruce, Frank Pennas, Jean Pennas, Heather Sealy, Tommy Anthony and David Yarborough.

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. September 16, 2014 Regular Council Hearing

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to approve minutes.

SECOND by Councilmember Wilson.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. September 18, 2014 Council Workshop

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to approve minutes.

SECOND by Councilmember Giles.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Monthly Reports

MOTION by Councilmember Hill to accept monthly reports.

SECOND by Councilmember Harris.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Retiree Recognition – David Yarborough

Utility Director Joe Nichols recognized David Yarborough for his years of service at the City of Union.

C. Ag & Art Committee – Jean Pennas and Curtiss Hunter

Jean Pennas states that she and Curtiss Hunter were asked to be on the Ag & Art Committee as members of the Bee Keepers Association. She said that this will enable Union to showcase its Agriculture and Art. Ms. Hunter added that they wanted the citizens of Union to become aware of the annual Ag & Art Event. She states that last year was huge for the four counties that participated. She presented council with an informational brochure for the Ag & Art Tour and states that 2015 will be the first year for Union's participation in the event, along with Chesterfield County. The event will be a free self-guided two day tour of farms featuring local farmers. There were approximately 8,000 visitors that participated in the 2012 and 2013 Ag & Art Tour. Mayor Thompson commended Ms. Hunter for a job well done and thanked her for getting Union involved in events and others activities. He states that he has seen a lot of light in the tourism department since Ms. Hunter's position as Interim Tourism Director.

4. BUSINESS

A. ORDINANCE – **1ST READING** – REZONE PROPERTY AT 719 NORTH DUNCAN BYPASS

Lynn Eaves, Chairman of the Planning Commission, states that the owners of the property located at 719 North Duncan Bypass requests that the property be rezoned to allow a church house and coffee house. The property is currently zoned A-5 (Shopping Center) and the proposed change is A-2 (Highway Commercial). This property is adjacent to A-2 (Highway Commercial) and R-15 (Residential) zoned properties. A public hearing was held prior to meeting. Mr. Eaves read the following recommendation from the Planning Commission:

“The Planning Commission for the City of Union recommends that City Council approve the proposed rezone of the property located at 719 North Duncan Bypass from A-5 (Shopping Center) to A-2 (Highway Commercial) to allow a Church”.

Lynn Eaves – Chairman
Bobby Lee Gibbs

Oscar Gist – Vice Chairman
Mary B. Norman

MOTION by Councilmember Wilson to accept recommendation.

SECOND by Councilmember Giles.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. AWARD BID – WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

Utility Director Joe Nichols states that bids were received on September 16, 2014 for replacing 6” and 20” valves and plugging a 4” water line. Three (3) bids were received: Smith Backhoe & Construction - \$78,900; Construction Resource Group - \$90,115.29 and Dillard Excavating - \$128,515.00. The bid summary and recommendation letter from the consultants was presented. The recommendation is to award bid to Smith Backhoe & Construction in the amount of \$78,900.00.

MOTION by Councilmember Giles to accept recommendation.

SECOND by Councilmember Hill.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. DISCUSSION/MOTION – CIVITAS MEDIA MYOWN COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

Mayor Thompson states that Civitas Media will publish and distribute a Community Directory around the end of December 2014 or early January 2015. This directory will be distributed via mass mailing of 5000 copies, placed in the Chamber of Commerce office for visitors and new comers and advertisers will receive copies to place in their businesses. An advertisement will be placed in the Union Daily Times advising people that copies will be available in the Union Times Office. The Publication contains residential and business telephone numbers and address listings, also advertisements for local businesses.

MOTION by Councilmember Wilson not to participate in the Civitas Media MyOwn Directory.

SECOND by Councilmember Harris.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

D. DISCUSSION/MOTION – UNION COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL

Heather Sealy with Union County Animal Control has voiced an interest to Mayor Thompson in regards to the City of Union doing a match to the County’s \$2,000 to aid in operations to have pets spayed or neuter. Ms. Sealy states that the Union County Animal Shelter stays overflowing because of unwanted pets and unwanted litters and the shelter is trying to help control the animal population.

MOTION by Councilmember Giles to provide match in the amount of \$2,000 to the Union County Animal Shelter.

SECOND by Councilmember Harris.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

E. DISCUSSION/MOTION – “WBCU TRUCK FULL OF TOYS” CAMPAIGN

Mayor Thompson states that WBCU will be doing their annual, “Truck Full of Toys” campaign again this year. All items that are collected during this campaign will be donated to UCARE of Union and distributed in the community.

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to donate \$500 to “WBCU TRUCK FULL OF TOYS” Campaign.

SECOND by Councilmember Hill.

CARRIED: 4 to 1

FOR: Thompson, Hill, Harris and Wilson.

OPPOSE: Giles

F. **DISCUSSION/MOTION – NOVEMBER MEETING DATE**

Mayor Thompson states that the regular city council meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month. Due to a scheduling conflict on November 18th, the Mayor would like to request moving the November meeting date from the 18th to the 11th. The recommendation is to reschedule the November City Council Meeting from the 18th to the 11th.

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to accept recommendation.

SECOND by Councilmember Wilson.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. **ANNOUNCEMENT BY MAYOR & COUNCIL**

Councilmember Giles states that earlier this year he served on the Beautification Committee, a campaign to clean-up Union County. There was about a ton of trash picked up by the committee and volunteers. Codes for the City and County were amended to reflect unification. Councilmember Giles also states that he is concerned about garbage carts being left out on the curb, especially on Sunday mornings and some carts are being left on curb continuously. Section 10- 9 of the City Code deals with the placement and removal of carts from the curb on pick- up day. He feels that this code needs to be enforced. Mayor Thompson recommends that an insert regarding Section 10-9 of the City Code be sent out in customer's utility bill and run in newspaper enforcing this code. He states that the ordinance has been in place for many years.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

7. **EXECUTIVE SESSION – TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL AND CONTRACTUAL MATTERS**

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to go out of regular session into executive session to discuss contractual matters.

SECOND by Councilmember Harris.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION by Councilmember Giles to go out of executive session into regular session.

SECOND by Councilmember Harris

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

No action taken.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Councilmember Wilson to adjourn.

SECOND by Councilmember Hill.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Regular Council Meeting
October 21, 2014

Council meeting adjourned at 7:37 P.M.

Gloria J. Rogers, CMC
Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved _____ 2014