

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2015
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, September 15, 2015 at 6:30 P.M. in the City Municipal Building with the following present:

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

CITY ATTORNEY: Larry Flynn

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

NEWS MEDIA: Mike Stevens – WBCU Radio

OTHERS: Curtiss Hunter, George Bruce, Ray Jones, Jessica Turner, Harmony Greer and Elese Arrington.

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. August 18, 2015 Regular Council Meeting

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to approve minutes.
SECOND by Councilmember Harris.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Monthly Reports

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to approve monthly reports.
SECOND by Councilmember Sloss.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. BUSINESS

A. RESOLUTION – CDBG LOCAL MATCH – NORTH GADBERRY, NORTH PINCKNEY, AND ONE BLOCK SECTION OF ACADEMY

Utility Director Joe Nichols, along with Robby Moody states that the City of Union is in the process of applying for Community Development Block Grant Funds (CDGB) through the S.C. Department of Commerce for streetscape improvements to the North Pinckney and North Gadberry Streets, and a one block section of these areas are primary arteries that serve Main Street and the need for these improvements are necessary to enhance the entrance into the City. It is estimated that the cost for improvements for the project is \$558,705. The City intends to submit an application for CDBG funding through the Community Enrichment Program in the amount of \$500,000. The remaining funds will be covered with local funds (estimated at \$58,705) with a total project cost of \$558,705. City staff recommends that council approve the local match resolution for the streetscape improvements to N. Pinckney, N. Gadberry Street, and one block portion of Academy Street.

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to accept recommendation.

SECOND by Councilmember Wilson.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. AWARD/BID – SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS – BUFFALO MILL VILLAGE PHASE IV – PROJECT 2013-050

Utility Director Joe Nichols states that bids were received on August 25, 2015 at City Hall for Sewer System Improvements in Buffalo Mill Village – Phase IV. A summary of the bids and recommendation from consultants were presented. The recommendation is to accept bid from Smith Backhoe & Constuction of Union, SC in the amount of \$539,616.00. Partial funding is through a grant by SC Rural Infrastructure Authority (\$350,000).

MOTION by Councilmember Anthony to accept recommendation.

SECOND by Mayor Pro Tem Garner.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. DISCUSSION/MOTION – MARCH OF DIMES PARTNERSHIP COMMITMENT

Mayor Thompson states that the March of Dimes is requesting to fund a partnership commitment at the \$1,000 Bronze Sponsorship level. The March of Dimes is one of the most recognizable national health charities. The main goal is saving SC's babies and giving every baby a healthy start. The recommendation is to fund the Partnership Commitment level of \$1,000 from the Community Services Special Events Fund.

MOTION by Councilmember Giles to accept recommendation.

SECOND by Councilmember Sloss.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. ANNOUNCEMENT BY MAYOR & COUNCIL

Councilmember Giles states that he has been approached by a resident at Presbyterian Church located at the corner of Pinckney and West South Street regarding wires hanging low in front of the church. He asked Utility Director Joe Nichols to look into the situation.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

Jessica Turner of 109 Park Drive and Harmony Greer of 125 Park Drive addressed council regarding a speed bump being put on Park Drive. This request is due to cars running fast in the neighborhood and drivers using neighborhood street as a cut through. These residents feel that this is a danger to kids playing in the neighborhood. A petition has been signed by residents on Park Drive requesting a speed bump.

Mayor Thompson states the he believes Park Drive is a state-owned road. Chief White states that his department has been notified of drivers going over the speed limit in the area. Public Safety has tried to deter speeders by placing a speed machine in area; having officers patrol/sit in the area as well as writing warnings. The Mayor states that the situation will be looked into and numbers brought back to council to see if it is feasible to perform traffic study regarding request.

7. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** - To DISCUSS CONTRACTUAL MATTERS (MOU with County concerning ESAB) AND PERSONNEL MATTERS (Building Official/Code Enforcement)

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to go out of regular session into executive session to discuss a contractual and personnel matter.

SECOND by Councilmember Harris.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

SECOND by Councilmember Harris.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Councilmember Wilson

SECOND by Councilmember Giles.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council meeting adjourned at 7:43 P.M.

Minutes approved _____ 2015