

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 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, September 16, 2014 at 6:30 P.M. in the City Municipal Building with the following present:

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

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

NEWS MEDIA: Graham Williams – Union County News; Mike Stevens – WBCU Radio and Derrick Vanderford – Union Times.

OTHERS: Torance Inman, Lewis O’Shields, Tommy Anthony, Donna Anthony, Ed Burwell, Mickey Gist, Tyra Parham, Linda Ray, Troy Clark, Vereen Clark, Barbara Byrd, Shaylen Johnson, Don Wilder and others.

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 19, 2014 | Public Hearing |
| B. August 19, 2014 | Regular Council Meeting |

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

3. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Monthly Reports

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to accept monthly reports.
SECOND by Councilmember Wilson.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Don Wilder

Don Wilder, Local Business Development Manager of Civitas Media, gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding Civitas Media launching a website free to all of Union Community residents for announcements, civic/ community activities and updates, etc. The website's address is *MyOwnUnion.com*. Mr. Wilder is seeking sponsorship from the City of Union. The initial cost to build the website is \$2,200 and there is a maintenance fee of \$225 a month. He again states that this site will be available to anybody and everybody in the community to disseminate news. Mr. Wilder states that he has been told that there is a grant available for funding and he will pass this information on to the Mayor when he receives it. There was no action taken. Council received as information only.

C. Torance Inman – Vietnam Memorial

Torance Inman addressed City County regarding a memorial for veterans “Killed in Action” (KIA). This memorial will honor each service member from Union County. Mr. Inman presented an article that explained the project in more detail. The Vietnam KIA Memorial Committee is asking individual groups and organizations to provide the funding for one of the fifteen granite monuments that will be placed in the memorial. The estimated cost of each stone is \$895.00. Mayor Thompson called for a recommendation to council to purchase a marker to honor service members from Union County killed in action.

MOTION by Councilmember Wilson to fund one of the granite monuments in the amount of \$895.00.

SECOND by Councilmember Hill.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. **BUSINESS**

A. ORDINANCE – 2ND **READING** – REZONE PROPERTY AT 510 SOUTH PINCKNEY STREET

Mayor Thompson states that council passed 1st reading of an ordinance for the rezoning of property located at 510 South Pinckney Street at its September regular meeting. The recommendation is to pass 2nd reading of the ordinance.

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to accept recommendation.

SECOND by Councilmember Harris.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. DISCUSSION/MOTION – UNION COUNTY HEALTH CARE FOUNDATION'S ANNUAL “FALL CHARITY GOLF CLASSIC”

Mayor Thompson states that the Union County Health Care Foundation's annual “Fall Charity Golf Classic” will be held on Friday, October 3rd, 2014. The event is a fund raiser to help support the Foundation and the Union Hospital District. This event has helped the Health Care Foundation reach many goals. The Foundation's work is never done. The following are the levels of sponsorship: Gold Sponsor - \$750; Silver Sponsor - \$500; Bronze Sponsor - \$250 and Member Sponsor - \$150. Councilmember Giles states that he wished the Foundation's tournaments would have been held at the golf course here in Union; then it still might be open.

MOTION by Councilmember Wilson to sponsor the “Fall Charity Golf Classic” at the Silver Level Sponsorship in the amount of \$500.
SECOND by Mayor Pro Tem Garner.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. DISCUSSION/MOTION – VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTER
COMPENSATION COMMITMENT

Chief White states that the City of Union currently compensates fire fighters for fire calls, station duty, and monthly training nights. He states that he has been the Chief for eleven years and there have not been any adjustments. The following rates are used: fire calls - \$10.00; station duty - \$10.00 per hour and monthly training night - \$16.00 per meeting. Due to hazardous nature of the work, costs involved in cleaning fire gear and vehicle operations; the Public Safety Department requests that the compensation rates be adjusted as follows: fire calls - \$15.00; station duty - \$10.00 per hour and monthly training night - \$20.00 per meeting. The recommendation is to adjust the compensation rates for Volunteer Fire Fighters. Councilmember Hill and Councilmember Harris commented on training for volunteer fire fighters as well as their qualifications.

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

D. DISCUSSION/MOTION – APPOINTMENT TO THE MUNICIPAL
ELECTION COMMISSION BOARD

Mayor Thompson states that there is a vacancy on the City of Union Municipal Election Commission Board. The vacancy was advertised in the Union Daily Times, as well as the Union County News. There was only one letter of interest received from Annie M. Harris. The recommendation is to appoint Ms. Harris to the City of Union Municipal Election Commission Board.

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

5. **ANNOUNCEMENT BY MAYOR & COUNCIL**

Mayor Thompson states that one of the high school’s graduating class would like to donate benches to the City of Union for Foster Park. Mayor Thompson states that he will get Public Service Director Perry Harmon involved in this project to make sure the benches are suitable for their intended purpose.

Councilmember Wilson states that the Uniquely Union Festival seem to have been successful. Mayor Thompson congratulated the Uniquely Union Board for a great job. He also commended City Staff and their crews for their assistance before, during and after the Festival.

Councilmember Giles states that he talked with some people about the Uniquely Union Festival and they were really pleased with the Festival.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

6. **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 personnel and contractual matters.

SECOND by Councilmember Harris.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

SECOND by Mayor Pro Tem Garner.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

No action taken.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Councilmember Wilson to adjourn.

SECOND by Councilmember Giles.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council meeting adjourned at 7:48 P.M.

Gloria J. Rogers, CMC
Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved _____ 2014