

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2011
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 September 20, 2011 at 6:30 P.M. in the City Municipal building with the following present:

COUNCIL: Mayor Harold Thompson, Mayor Pro Tem, Councilmembers Tommie L. Hill, Robert Garner, Ricky Todd Harris, Orangelow Ruff and Andy Bailey.

CITY ATTORNEY: Billy Whitney

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

NEWS MEDIA: Charles Warner – Union Times; Graham Williams – Union County News and Steve Ramsey – WBCU.

OTHERS: Todd Pridemore, Dawn Pridemore and Ben Powles

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. August 16, 2011 Regular Council Meeting

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to accept minutes as presented.
SECOND by Councilmember Hill.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Communications

A. Monthly Reports

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

B. Retirement Award- Todd E. Pridemore

Utility Director Joe Nichols presented Todd E. Pridemore with a retirement award for 10 years of service with the City of Union.

4. **BUSINESS**

A. DISCUSSION/MOTION – IN MEMORY PLAQUE

On July 26, 2011 an unfortunate incident took place at Foster Park that took the life of Rosemary Lee Wix. Brenda Davis, mother of Ms. Wix has requested permission, at the family's expense, to place a plaque at the scene of the incident in her memory. Staff recommends that if a placard is placed at the park, that it not be placed on the actual shed where the incident took place. This would be a constant reminder to the public of this horrible crime that was committed. If Council approved the placard, staff suggests that it be placed in a flower bed or somewhere that it is a little less intrusive, and that the wording on the plaque is approved by the Mayor before placement.

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Henderson to approve staff recommendation.
SECOND by Councilmember Garner.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. DISCUSSION/MOTION – SUPER 10 BUILDING – 107 EAST MAIN STREET RECRUITMENT PROJECT FOR DOWNTOWN AREA

The SC Department of Commerce has granted \$18,750 to the City of Union to be used for a market analysis and minimal up fit of a publicly owned building. The former Super 10 building is a publicly owned building and provides adequate space for a retail cluster. It has been identified as the most feasible property at this time to fit the goal of this initiative. It is the desire of the committee to gain approval to use the former Super 10 building in the development of a business recruitment project for the downtown area in Union. The building will be used as a catalyst for applying for grants to renovate said building and/or entice a private developer and/or prospective tenants to locate in our downtown. The oversight of the project will remain the responsibility of the Union County Development Board; however, the committee is recommending that control of the building be granted to the Union County Chamber of Commerce. Staff recommends that Council grant the request of approval to use the former Super 10 building in the development of a business recruitment project for the downtown area in Union and that control of the building be granted to the Union County Chamber of Commerce due to its location and its newly stated commitment to a retail strategy and the development of the downtown area.

MOTION by Councilmember Garner to accept staff recommendation
SECOND by Councilmember Bailey.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. DISCUSSION/MOTION – 107 EAST MAIN – SUPER 10 EXPENSES INCURRED

A detailed breakdown of expenses incurred on the purchase and assessment of the building located at 107 East Main Street (Super 10) was presented to Council. This purchase and assessment was a joint venture between the City of Union and Union County as to where expenses incurred were to be split

between the two entities. If council approves the breakdown of expenses provided, staff recommends the City pays half of the incurred expenses to Union County on the property located at 107 East Main Street which would amount to \$10,750.

MOTION by Councilmember Ruff to approve recommendation to pay County half of the incurred expenses in the amount of \$10,750.

SECOND by Councilmember Bailey.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

D. DISCUSSION/MOTION – ADDENDUM TO ORIGINAL CONTRACT GRANT FUNDING

In support of a downtown project, the SC Department of Commerce (DOC) granted \$18,750 to the City of Union to be used for a market analysis and minimal up fit of a publicly owned building. A joint committee that was formed to evaluate ways to enhance, preserve, update and develop downtown Union requested an additional \$60,000 in funding for the downtown project. On September 1, 2011 the Coordinating Council for Economic Development met and reviewed the request for additional funding. The SC DOC voted to approve the increase, and the total for the downtown project is now \$78,750. To date \$3,750 has been expended on a market study.

MOTION by Councilmember Bailey to approve addendum to original contract for grant funding.

SECOND by Councilmember Hill.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

E. AWARD BID FOR CLEANING & PAINTING LIGHT POLES & FLAG POLES ALONG MAIN STREET PROJECT : R&C 96-005-LP

Bids were received on September 6, 2011 at City Hall for Cleaning & Painting Light Poles and Flag Poles along Main Street. A summary of the bids and recommendation letter from our consultants were presented to Council. The recommendation is to accept bid from JRC Specialty General & Mechanical Contractors in the amount of \$12,079.17.

MOTION by Councilmember Bailey to accept staff recommendation.

SECOND by Councilmember Ruff.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

F. AWARD BID - FOSTER PARK REVITALIZATION

Mayor Pro Tem Henderson recused himself from voting on the award bid for the Foster Park Revitalization because of a conflict of interest

A total of (2) two bids were received for Foster Park Revitalization Project. Bids were opened at 2:00 p.m, Monday, August 29, 2011. Present for bid opening from the City of Union were Perry Harmon, Gloria Rogers and Debbie Woodard. Monty Kingsmore was also present. The recommendation is to award bid to Kingsmore Construction, Inc. with a total bid of \$35,851.43. The other bid was rejected because of bid bond issue and also being higher than Kingsmore Construction, Inc. bid.

MOTION by Councilmember Hill to award bid to Kingsmore Construction.

SECOND by Councilmember Bailey.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

G. DISCUSSION – PROPOSED ADDENDUM TO SOLID WASTE
ORDINANCE

Staff recommendation is to add an addendum to Section 10-11 Schedule Item “B” Page 83 to the City of Union Solid Waste Ordinance Manual. Also Mayor Thompson states that the City of Union will continue not to pick up construction debris.

MOTION by Councilmember Bailey to accept staff recommendation to add addendum to Section 10-11 of the Solid Waste Ordinance.

SECOND by Councilmember Hill.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. **ANNOUNCEMENT BY MAYOR & COUNCIL**

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

Mayor Thompson gave an update of a grant for the infrastructure work going on in the Monarch area and also update on grant for the Union Mill Village. The Mayor states that the City is looking at applying for a grant for the May Street and Cabin Street area. Mayor Thompson states that the City is looking at paving some streets with grant funds.

Mayor Thompson states that he has asked Mr. Ben Powles to assist on the Committee for the Union Mill Site.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

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

None.

7. **ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION by Councilmember Bailey to adjourn.

SECOND by Councilmember Harris.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM.

Gloria J. Rogers, Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved _____ 2011