

**MINUTES  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2013  
6:30 P.M.**

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{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, March 19, 2013 at 6:30 P.M. in the City Municipal Building with the following present:

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

**CITY ATTORNEY:** Billy Whitney

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

**NEWS MEDIA:** Graham Williams – Union County News and Mike Stevens - WBCU

**OTHERS:** Robbie Moody, Ben Powles, Yates Giles, Brenda Keith and Patricia Dallassandro.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Thompson called the meeting to order. He 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. February 19, 2013 Regular Council Meeting

**MOTION** by Councilmember Harris to approve minutes.

**SECOND** by Councilmember Wilson

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**3. COMMUNICATIONS**

A. Monthly Reports

**MOTION** by Councilmember Hill to accept monthly reports.

**SECOND** by Councilmember Harris.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. Needs Assessment – Robbie Moody

Robbie Moody, Senior Planner, of Catawba Regional, gave an update on the Needs Assessment Finalization. He states that a needs assessment is done from time to time to determine communitywide needs and priorities for those needs. Mr. Moody states that many of the needs and interest of the City of Union will affect low to moderate income residents. He gave a generalization of the top eleven activities on the list which includes: infrastructure improvements in the Monarch Mill Village and Union Mill Village, implementing a gateway and beautification plan, roadway and safety improvements and promoting fair housing. The specifics will be discussed later during the meeting.

4. **BUSINESS**

A. **ORDINANCE – 1<sup>ST</sup> READING – SIGN ORDINANCE REGULATIONS AMENDMENT**

Robbie Moody addressed Council. He states that a public hearing was held prior to this meeting. City staff is requesting that Sections 114.2 Sign Standards Table and Notes for Table 114.2 of the City Zoning Ordinance be amended by establishing regulations for special civic use inside the City of Union. The purpose of these amendments is to establish regulations for special civic use inside the City of Union. The purpose of these amendments is to establish reasonable and uniform regulations for placement of these signs inside the City of Union. The recommendation is to pass 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the ordinance.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Wilson to accept recommendation.  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Hill.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. **RESOLUTION – OTTARAY MILL VILLAGE - PHASE II LOCAL MATCH (REVISED)**

Finance Director Walker Gallman addressed Council. The City of Union is committing \$51,278 to the Ottaray Mill Village –Phase II Project from the previous amount of \$41,000. The increase is due to additional cost in-LMI sewer services. The City of Union is the service provider for the Ottaray Mill Village and will benefit from upgrades to the dilapidated system. Union County’s responsibilities are: storm drainage, repaving streets and demolition activities. A combination of funds from CDBG, Union County, and C-Funds will be used to pay for these activities. Union County will be the applicant and there will be a sub recipient agreement between the City and County stating the City is responsible for the sewer improvements. The recommendation is to approve revised local match resolution for the CDBG Grant application.

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

C. **RESOLUTION – MCBETH STREET – LOCAL MATCH**

Mayor Thompson recommend this item be dropped off the agenda until next month meeting due to questions regarding engineering costs and ineligible cost that need to be put in the resolution for the local match.

**MOTION** by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to drop item from the agenda to be brought back at a later date.

**SECOND** by Councilmember Wilson.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

D. RESOLUTION – OTTARAY MILL VILLAGE – PHASE II – LOCAL MATCH

Finance Director addressed Council. The City of Union has determined that there are dilapidated sanitary sewer lines and water lines in the Monarch Mill Village that have reached the end of their life span and need to be upgraded in order to provide adequate sewer service to residents to the Monarch Community. Union County intends to make an application for Community Development Block Grant funding through the Community Infrastructure Program to pay for the cost to construct, in the Monarch Mill Village, approximately: 2, 850 LF of 8 inch sewer line, 640 LF of 6 inch water line, 150 LF of 2 inch water line. This program requires local matching funds of at least 10 percent of the grant amount and additional funding to pay for non-eligible construction. A cash match of up to \$277,962 and any additional funds required for the completion of the project. Also, you will notice that the cash match on this project is approximately a 50% match. This is due to Hancock and Munro Streets and one house on Lockhart Highway not meeting the eligibility requirements. Staff feels that the City should proceed with this project because this is the last area in this section to complete. The City of Union is the service provider of sewer and water service to the Monarch Mill Village and will benefit from upgrades to the system. Staff recommendation is for council to approve local cash match resolution for the CDBG Grant application.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Wilson to accept recommendation.

**SECOND** by Councilmember Harris.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

E. AWARD BID – WATER PLANT IMPROVEMENTS: CLEAN SLUDGE FROM WATER PLANT SLUDGE DRYING BEDS

Utility Director Joe Nichols states that bids were received on February 28, 2013 at City Hall for cleaning sludge from the Water Plant sludge drying beds. The contract consists of removing sludge and hauling to Union County Regional Landfill at Wildcat. This is a 3-year contract. Two (2) bids were received from Smith Backhoe & Construction in the amount of \$35,112.00 and Ray Lemons Bulldozing in the amount of \$36,000.00. A copy of the bid schedule and the engineer's letter of recommendation was presented to Council. The recommendation is to accept bid from Smith Backhoe & Construction in the amount of \$35,112.00.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Harris to accept recommendation.

**SECOND** by Mayor Pro Tem Garner.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

F. AWARD BID FOR POWER LINE CLEARING AGREEMENT

Utility Department Joe Nichols states that bids were received on March 7, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. from qualified vendors for a three-year power line clearing agreement. Bids were based on a 40-hour work week that included labor, equipment, overhead & profit. Three (3) bids were received: AAA Union Tree Service & Stump Removal - \$2,794.40; Asplundh Tree Expert Company – \$3,184.80 and Caldwell Landscaping & Clearing, Inc. - \$2,660.00. The recommendation is to accept bid from Caldwell Landscaping & Clearing, Inc. in the amount of \$2, 660, 00.

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

G. DISCUSSION/MOTION – NEEDS ASSESSMENT FINALIZATION

Robbie Moody addressed Council regarding the needs assessment finalization. In order to apply for Community Development Block Grant funds, locations must complete a needs assessment process to gather information from citizens concerning the community needs. A needs assessment public hearing was held at City Hall on March 14, 2013 at 12:00 noon in the City of Union Council Chambers. At this hearing, Catawba Regional Council of Governments staff reviewed the identified community needs from the City's last hearing on March 2011. Additional comments were taken, especially as they related to the low and moderate income persons in the City of Union. Attached are a list of the needs that were identified at the 2011 Needs Assessment and the 2013 list that was updated after the hearing on March 14. The updated list was prioritized for the meeting. (Priorities & Planned Actions were reviewed. If council approves, a motion is in order to accept the 2013 Needs Assessment which is required for Community Development Block Grant funding eligibility.

**MOTION** by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to approve 2013 Needs Assessment as presented to Council.  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Hill.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

H. DISCUSSION/MOTION – UNION COUNTY DIXIE GIRLS SOFTBALL

Mayor Thompson states that the Union County Dixie Girls Softball Association respectfully requests a donation from the City to help offset general expenses incurred by the league. A motion is needed if council approves a donation.

**MOTION** by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to fund the Union County Dixie Girls Softball Association in the amount of \$500.00.  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Harris.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

I. DISCUSSION/MOTION – STEM – COLLEGE TOUR/SPONSORSHIP  
SPRING BREAK 2013

Mayor Thompson states that STEM- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math is a specially designed tour designed for Upstate high school students, grades 10-12 to enhance their awareness of STEM careers and academic programs. This tour will include a visit to Howard, NC State, Morgan State, the State Department and more. This is sponsored by: Urban League of the Upstate and Urban Achievements for Youth Education. The cost is \$170.00/person. Should council agree to a sponsorship for the STEM College Tour Spring Break 2013, a motion is in order.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Wilson to donate \$500.00 to the STEM tour.  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Harris.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

5. **ANNOUNCEMENT BY MAYOR & COUNCIL**

None

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

A. Please address the Mayor and Council from the lectern and state your name and address for the record. (Please limit your comment to 3-6 minutes)

None

7. **ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION** by Councilmember Wilson to adjourn.

**SECOND** by Councilmember Harris.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Council meeting adjourned at 6:57 P.M.

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Gloria J. Rogers, CMC  
Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved \_\_\_\_\_ 2013