

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 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, March 17, 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 was not in attendance.

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

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

OTHERS: Robby Moody, John Lummus, Andera-Powell Baker, Ben Powles, Ray Jones, Hope Small, Brooks Carwile, George Bruce, Barbara Means, Johnnie Thomas and Brenda Porter.

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. February 17, 2015 Regular Council Meeting

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to approve minutes.

SECOND by Councilmember Giles.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Monthly Reports

MOTION by Councilmember Wilson to accept monthly reports.

SECOND by Councilmember Harris.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Upstate SC Alliance – President & CEO – John Lummus

John Lummus, President & CEO of the Upstate Alliance gave update on the Upstate Alliance. He commended Economic Development Director Andrena-Powell Baker for her outstanding work for Union County. Mr. Lummus also presented Mayor Thompson with an award for his outstanding service on the Executive Committee Board for Upstate Alliance for 2013-2015.

C. Needs Assessment – Catawba Regional – Robby Moody

Robby Moody of CRPC addressed City Council regarding the Needs Assessment List. A hearing was held February 18, 2014 at City Hall. As a result of the hearing, community needs were identified and prioritized. This will be discussed in the business section of the meeting.

4. **BUSINESS**

A. ORDINANCE – 1ST READING - ADMENDMENT TO ZONING
ORDINANCE SECTION 115.1

Robby Moody of CRPC addressed council. He states that the property owner of Union Square Shopping Center located at 719 N. Duncan Bypass requests a change to Zoning Code Section 115-1 – Body Piercing & other disfiguring processes to eliminate the “Variance Not Permitted” subsection. This provision prohibits requests for variances to reduce the minimum separation requirements listed in the “Distance Separation” subsection. Staff recently denied a zoning compliance permit for a tattoo parlor at the Union Square Shopping Center because the property touches residentially zoned property on Scotch Pine Drive and does not meet the minimum 600 feet separation requirement. In addition, since Life Spring Church is a tenant in the shopping center, its presence prevents a tattoo parlor from locating on the same parcel. Staff recommends updating the ordinance to include tattooing as a specific use in Section 115-1 and adding a definition for tattooing in Section 129-Definitions.

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

B. ORDINANCE – 1ST READING – ANNEXATION – 1021 SOUTH
DUNCAN BY-PASS

Robby Moody of CPRC addressed council. He states that the City has requested that the owner of the property located at 1021 South Duncan Bypass submit a petition for annexation to bring his property into the Corporate Limits of the City of Union. The annexation ordinance states that the property be annexed into corporate limits with an A-2 Highway Commercial Zoning classification. The property is adjacent to properties which are already zoned A-2 Highway Commerical and it does comply with the regulation requirements for this zone. The recommendation is to pass 1st reading of the ordinance.

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

C. DISCUSSION/MOTION –NEEDS ASSESSMENT FINIALIZATION

Robby Moody states that in order to apply for Community Development Block Grant funds, the City of Union must complete a Needs Assessment. A Needs Assessment Public Hearing took place last year on February 18, 2014 in the City of Union Council Chambers. At this hearing, comments concerning the City of Union’s community needs were taken from council members and anyone else attending. The 2014 Priority Needs List was reviewed. City Staff recommends that council discuss and prioritize the projects on the Needs Assessment list so that the City will be positioned to apply for CDBG grant funding in April 2015.

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

D. DISCUSSION/MOTION – FAÇADE EASEMENTS – TOMMY SIMMONS/ANNA LEMONS

Mayor Thompson states that the Train Mural painted on the rear façade of what was formerly known as the Jeter Building, located at 1007 West Main Street and is now owned by Thomas Simmons & Anna M. Lemons is in need of repair. After meeting with the artist “Blue Sky” at the location for inspection, he discussed the scope of work needed and is ready to sign an agreement to proceed with the necessary work. Before the work is to begin, a Grant of Easement needed to be signed by both parties and filed with the Clerk of Court. Staff recommends Easement Agreements be given to both parties as written for signatures, and filed with Union County Clerk of Court.

MOTION by Councilmember Wilson to accept recommendation with necessary correction of addresses being 100 W. Main Street & 102 W. Main Street.
SECOND by Councilmember Sloss.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. **ANNOUNCEMENT BY MAYOR & COUNCIL**

None

6. **EXECUTIVE SESSION – TO DISCUSS LEGAL AND PERSONNEL MATTER AND CONTRACTUAL MATTER**

MOTION by Councilmember Wilson to go out of regular session into executive session to discuss a contractual matter.
SECOND by Councilmember Giles.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to go out of executive session back into executive session.
SECOND by Councilmember Anthony.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

No action taken.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Councilmember Wilson
SECOND by Councilmember Sloss.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council meeting adjourned at 7:37 P.M.

Minutes approved _____ 2015