

**MINUTES
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2012
9:00 A.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).}

A special council meeting was held on July 25, 2012 at 9:00 A.M. at the City Municipal building with the following present:

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

CITY ATTORNEY: Billy Whitney was absent.

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

NEWS MEDIA: Graham Williams – Union County News

OTHERS: Sonya Craig, Colonel William Whitener, Steve Dorough and Andrena Powell-Baker.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Thompson called the meeting to order. Invocation was given by Mayor Thompson. The pledge of allegiance was given by all present. The roll was called by Municipal Clerk Gloria Rogers.

2. BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION – UPDATE - UNION EVENTS CENTER

Colonel William Whitener addressed City Council regarding the Union Events Center. He states that the fund raising efforts of the Board of the Union Events Center have met with limited success in the past few months. They have a shortfall of \$1.2 million dollars. The Board has exhausted the corporate and public contacts with which they have relationships and feel it is time to consider other avenues. Colonel Whitener introduced First Community Development and their Founder and CEO, Steve Dorough. Mr. Dorough reviewed the history, experience and success of First Community. The Board has unanimously agreed to ask City Council for approval to enter into a consulting arrangement with First Community. During the consulting phase, First Community will review fund raising material, contract and commitments to date and determine steps to help City reach their goal. The Board has agreed to limit spending under the Consulting Agreement to \$10,000 while they revise their fund raising efforts. If the Board decides to proceed with First Community, they will return to City Council for full

approval for the final plan. The funds for the Consulting Agreement will come from existing monies.

MOTION by Councilmember Wilson to approve Board's request to enter into agreement with First Community with existing funds in the amount of \$10,000.

SECOND by Councilmember Garner.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** - TO DISCUSS LEGAL, CONTRACTUAL AND PERSONNEL MATTERS

MOTION by Councilmember Hill to go out of regular session into executive session to discuss a contractual matter.

SECOND by Councilmember Garner.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

SECOND by Councilmember Hill.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

No action taken.

4. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Councilmember Garner to adjourn.

SECOND by Councilmember Hill.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council meeting adjourned at 9:25 A.M.

Gloria J. Rogers, Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved _____ 2012