

**MINUTES
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 7, 2011
8:30 AM**

{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 June 7, 2011 at 8:30 AM at the City Municipal building with the following present:

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

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, Mike Petrie – Maintenance Shop Director and Laura Hembree – Accounting Supervisor.

NEWS MEDIA: Charles Warner – Union Times and Steve Ramsey- WBCU

OTHERS: None

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. ORDINANCE – 2ND READING – PROPOSED BUDGET ORDINANCE

The FY 2011-2012 proposed budget totals \$42,462,860. The General Fund Budget of \$5,239,760 includes a tax rate increase to offset a prior year deficit and also a tax rate increase based on the CPI (Consumer Price Index). The Solid Waste Management proposed budget of \$732,390 will be funded by a \$14 per month fee. This is an increase of \$1 per month from last budget year. A transfer of \$39,740 from the general fund will be used to balance. The combined Utility Fund's proposed totals \$35,265,840. Electric and gas rates will not change, but a PPA (Purchase Power Adjustment) and a PGA (Purchase Gas Agreement) will continue. Water and wastewater rates will increase by 10% on the base facility charge and 9% by volume used, also the monthly security light charge will increase by 5%. A list of special revenue funds and their FY 2011-2012 proposed budgets were presented to Council. A 3% cost of living increase for City employees is included in this budget. City Council passed 1st reading of the proposed Budget Ordinance for FY 2011-2012 at its May 17, 2011 regular council meeting.

MOTION by Councilmember Garner to pass 2nd reading of the proposed Budget Ordinance for FY 2011-2012.
SECOND by Councilmember Harris.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. ORDINANCE – 2ND READING – ADOPT TAX LEVY – FY 2011-2012

The proposed tax levy will increase from 74.3 mills to 79.9 mills for FY 2011-2012. The increase includes an increase of 4.4 mills to offset a prior year general fund deficit. This increase will be shown separately on each tax notice and will be eliminated next year once the deficit is recovered. The remaining 1.2 mill increase is allowed by the average increase in the consumer price index for calendar year 2010. City Council passed 1st reading of tax levy ordinance at its May 17, 2011 regular council meeting.

MOTION by Councilmember Ruff to pass 2nd reading of the Tax Levy Ordinance.
SECOND by Councilmember Garner.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. ORDINANCE – 2ND READING – BUDGET ADJUSTMENT ORDINANCE

The Hospitality/Accommodations Fee for the City of Union was implemented on September 1, 2010. Projected revenues for FY 2011 are \$120,000. City Council may want to consider appropriating funds for the following tourism and recreational expenditures: Reimburse the City's General Fund for tourism related expenditures to organizations that were budgeted in the general fund - \$25,620; Fund Public Safety Day - \$10,000 and Repairs and maintenance at Foster Park Lake to include, but not limited to, repairs to spillway, bathrooms, shelters and erosion control around the perimeter of lake. These expenditures shall not exceed \$60,000 or 50% of revenues as required by state law. City Council passed 1st reading of ordinance to appropriate funds from the Local Hospitality and Accommodations Fund at its May 17, 2011 regular council meeting.

MOTION by Councilmember Henderson to pass 2nd reading of the Budget Adjustment Ordinance.
SECOND by Councilmember Hill.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENT BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

Mayor Thompson states that a Building Board of Appeals Hearing will be held on Thursday, July 9, 2011 in regards to the Building Inspector's decision on the property located at 213 West Main Street.

Mayor Thompson states that a copy of the proposed Animal Control Ordinance has been given to council for their consideration. This will be sent to an attorney for review.

Mayor Thompson congratulated Councilmember Robert Garner. He was recently appointed to the South Carolina Municipal Insurance Risk & Financing Fund Board of Trustees.

4. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Councilmember Garner to adjourn.

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SECOND by Councilmember Ruff.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council meeting adjourned at 8:48 A.M.

Gloria J. Rogers, Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved _____ 2011