

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2019
6:30 P.M.**

[Summary minutes of City Council meeting. No 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 30-3-80.]

The regular meeting of City Council was held on Tuesday, August 20, 2019 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, Vicki Morgan, Ricky Todd Harris, Pamela Sloss and Sonja Craig

CITY ATTORNEY: Larry Flynn

DEPARTMENTAL STAFF: Gloria Rogers, Municipal Clerk/Human Resource Director; Laura Hembree – Finance Director; Joe Nichols – City Administrator; Sam White – Public Safety Director; Leroy Edwards– Maintenance Shop Director; Kenny Thomas – Public Service Director; Rebecca Lance – Accounting Supervisor; DeWayne Hardy – Assistant Public Service Director and Kathy Teague – Business License Coordinator

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

OTHERS: Dave Lance, Jamie Trammell, Roger Harris, Ronnie Young, Michael Tucker, Ray Tucker, Pamela Tucker, Jake Tucker, Lori Brown and Mark Brown

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. July 16, 2019

Regular City Council Meeting

MOTION by Councilmember Sloss to approve minutes

SECOND by Councilmember Craig

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Monthly Reports

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to accept monthly reports as information

SECOND by Councilmember Anthony

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Appreciation Award - Roger Harris

Rogers Harris was presented with an appreciation award for his years of service cleaning Main Street.

4. **BUSINESS**

A. ORDINANCE – 2ND READING - DISCUSSION/MOTION – HABITAT FOR HUMANITY/412 LAKEVIEW HEIGHTS

City Administrator Joe Nichols states that this is the 2nd reading on donating property to Habitat for Humanity. President Bob Love wrote a letter to the City of Union requesting the property. The property has been surveyed; a section was taken out so that there would be an easement for the City to get to the back of the property, which the City still owns. Staff recommendation is to approve 2nd reading to donate the property at 412 Lakeview Heights to Habitat for Humanity.

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

B. ORDINANCE – 1ST READING –SALARY CHANGE AND BENEFITS CLARIFICATION FOR THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

City Administrator Joe Nichols states that as a result of the change of government from Mayor-Council form to Council Form of Government, council has hired a full-time City Administrator which will reduce the time required by the Mayor to fulfill mayoral duties. In accordance with the opinion of the Office of the Attorney General of South Carolina dated June 18, 2019, the City is empowered and authorized to adjust the salary and clarify certain fringe benefits of the Mayor following the change in form of government. Staff recommends council to approve first reading of the ordinance to change the mayor's salary and clarify certain fringe benefits of the office of Mayor and other matters related. Mr. Nichols states that there was a discussion and council came up with a salary of \$15,000 a year and a monthly payment for phone, same as before.

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to pass 1st reading of the ordinance to change the mayor's salary to \$15,000 a year and clarify certain fringe benefits of the office of Mayor for a monthly payment for phone, same as before

SECOND by Councilmember Sloss

CARRIED 6 TO 1

IN FAVOR: Thompson, Garner, Anthony, Harris, Sloss, Craig

OPPOSE: Morgan

C. RESOLUTION – THIRTY (30) CONDEMNED STRUCTURES FOR DEMO/CDBG THROUGH THE COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT PROGRAM/LOCAL MATCHING FUNDS

City Administrator Joe Nichols states that the City intends on making an application for a \$500,000 CDBG through the Community Enrichment Program to demolish the 30 condemned structures that need to be removed. It has been determined that the removal of these properties is essential to the aesthetic character and quality of life for the citizens. The program requires local matching funds of at least 10% of the grant amount. The recommendation is for Union City Council to agree, through resolution to provide a local match of \$50,000 and any additional funds required for the completion of this project.

MOTION by Councilmember Sloss to pass resolution
SECOND by Mayor Pro Tem Garner
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mayor Thompson states that he will come back to the items for the rezoning of the property located at 215 Ravencroft and 1008 W. Main Street.

D. DISCUSSION/MOTION – SHOW-N-SHINE CRUISER CAR CLUB 20TH ANNUAL CAR SHOW

Michael Tucker, President of Show-n-Shine Cruiser Car Club of 208 Buchanan Drive, Jonesville, SC requested a donation for their 20th annual car show being held on September 28, 2019 at the Union County Stadium. A motion from council is needed to make a donation to the 20th Annual Show-N-Shine Cruiser Car Club.

MOTION by Councilmember Anthony to fund the 20th Annual Show-n- Shine Cruiser Car Club in the amount of \$1,000
SECOND by Councilmember Morgan
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
ABSTAIN: Councilmember Craig is a member of the Show-n-Shine Car Club

E. DISCUSSION/MOTION – WBCU'S UNION COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Mayor Thompson states that WBCU's Union County High School Sports Hall of Fame event. Union County High School will include some of Union's best athletes from the past into the Union County High School Sports Hall of Fame. WBCU is asking the City of Union to show their support by choosing one of the plans as follows: Aggressive Plan in the amount of \$1,000 (100 thirty-second ads; 30 promotional announcements during the Hall of Fame Game and Business name listed) and the Moderate Plan in the amount of \$750 (60 thirty-second ads; 30 promotional announcements during the week of Hall of Fame Game and Business name listed). A motion is needed in order to sponsor the WBCU Union County High School Sports Hall of Fame. City Administrator Joe Nichols states that in 2017, the City donated \$600 to WBCU's Union Hall of Fame and gave the Ads to the Chamber of Commerce for them to distribute to businesses in the city.

MOTION by Councilmember Morgan to sponsor the WBCU Union County High School Sports Hall of Fame event in the amount of \$750
SECOND by Mayor Pro Tem Garner
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

F. DISCUSSION/MOTION – AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF UNION ZONING ORDINANCE - 215 RAVENSCROFT STREET

City Administrator Joe Nichols states that the Planning Commission approved the rezoning request located at 215 Ravencroft Street (tax map parcel #073-15-10-003), Office, Institutional and Residential) to R-6 (Residential) at a Public Hearing prior to tonight's meeting. The recommendation is to pass 1st reading of the ordinance.

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to pass 1st reading of the rezoning ordinance at 215 Ravencroft Street
SECOND by Councilmember Morgan
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

G. DISCUSSION/MOTION – AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF UNION ZONING ORDINANCE 1008 WEST MAIN STREET

City Administrator Joe Nichols states that the Planning Commission tabled this item until the next regular council meeting. Mayor Thompson asked for a motion to table.

MOTION by Councilmember Sloss to table the above item until the next meeting
SECOND by Councilmember Craig
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Councilmember Morgan states that good things are happening in Union; she is hearing a lot of positive chatter. Councilmember Sonya Craig states that when they took the flags down on Main Street and hung up the flower pots, there are some spaces out there where they can still hang flags; they should have left some up. The City Administrator states the Jamie at the Chamber of Commerce can take care of that. Councilmember Morgan added that she would like to see those hanging pots become big pots on the corner of the street and have the flags up all the time. Jamie Trammell, Director of the Chamber of Commerce states that the pots are housed and replanted every year. Also she has gotten some quotes on big pots. Councilmember Morgan then stated that the City has put a lot of money in the flags. Jamie states that they would get the flags back up.

The City Administrator states that he had sent an e-mail out that five linemen went to to Gaffney last night to help with their restoration of power. They worked all night. The City of Union has a mutual aid contract to assist.

Mayor Thompson states that he will send out a thank-you to all the guys. They always do a good job.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION – DISCUSSION OF CONTRACTUAL AND PERSONNEL MATTERS

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to go out of regular session into executive session to discuss contractual and personnel matters

SECOND by Councilmember Morgan
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

SECOND by Councilmember Craig
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The City Administrator will make a public announcement tomorrow that Mark Brown of Missouri was offered the Utility Director's position and he accepted.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to adjourn
SECOND by Councilmember Sloss
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Regular Council Meeting
August 20, 2019

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Gloria J. Rogers, Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved _____ 2019