

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 16, 2019
6:30 P.M.**

{Summary minutes of City Council meeting. All 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.

The regular meeting of City Council was held on Tuesday, July 16, 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: Mary Jo Warren, Donnie Warren, Michael Mcleymore, Jessica Mcleymore, Kansas Revis, Chad Meadows, David Girardi, David Lance, Barbara Rippy and others

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. June 20, 2019

Joint Public Hearing

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to approve minutes

SECOND by Councilmember Sloss

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. June 20, 2019

Regular Council Meeting

MOTION by Councilmember Sloss to approve minutes

SECOND by Councilmember Harris

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. Retirement Award - Mary Jo Warren

Mary Jo Warren was presented with a retirement award for 20 years of service with the City of Union.

4. **BUSINESS**

A. ORDINANCE – 2ND READING - AMENDMENT TO CITY ZONING
ORDINANCE FOR 821 SOUTH DUNCAN BYPASS

Kathy Teague states that there is a rezoning request for property located at 821 S. Duncan Bypass (tax map parcel #083-07-02-004) from A-2 (Highway Commercial to R-10 (Residential). City Council passed 1st reading at its June 20, 2019 council meeting. The recommendation is to pass 2nd reading of the ordinance.

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to pass 2nd reading of ordinance to rezone property located at 821 S. Duncan Bypass from zoning district A-2 (Highway Commercial) to zoning District R-10 (Residential)
SECOND by Councilmember Anthony
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
ABSTAIN Councilmember Morgan due to a conflict of interest

B. DISCUSSION/MOTION – ALLEYWAYS/CITY OF UNION

City Attorney Larry Flynn states that he sent out a memo summarizing what he sees is the issue regarding alleyways. Mr. Flynn states that the City Codes provides that the abutting property owners have to take responsible for dealing with maintenance and cleanup of the alleys up to the center point of alley. He also states that in talking with Mr. Nichols, Mayor & councilmembers, it seems that the alleys of Union are like the alleys in other communities that he has dealt with. Attorney Flynn also states, that from his limited research, he cannot find that there was ever a dedication or acceptance of alleyways by the City. He further states that if the City desires to get more involved in issues relating to alley, there would need to be more research on the ownership issues as discussed in the memo as a starting point for further discussion. Mayor Thompson states that some of the alleyways are used for access to the owner's property. Councilmember Morgan asked Attorney Flynn if he could outline the process of what a property owner would need to do to obtain an alleyway. Mayor Thompson asked for a motion to table issue until information is received per Councilmember Morgan's request from Attorney Flynn.

MOTION by Councilmember Morgan to table the alleyway issue until further information is obtained from Attorney Flynn
SECOND by Councilmember Sloss
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. **DISCUSSION/MOTION – HABITAT FOR HUMANITY/412 LAKEVIEW HEIGHTS**

City Attorney Larry Flynn states that Habitat for Humanity is requesting the City of Union donate property at 412 Lakeview Heights for a "new build". With the kind help of the Timken Foundation and several individuals from our community, Habitat Union is planning a "new build" for this summer. The family to be served has been selected. Attorney Flynn states that if council so desires to donate land to the Habitat for Humanity-Union for a "new build", the City should retain a portion of the property to allow ingress and egress to the property owned by the City which is located behind the proposed Habitat lot. Mr. Flynn will work with Bob Love of Habitat on the details of the proposed donation. Mayor Thompson then asked for a motion to pass ordinance on 1st reading contingent upon information being included in the ordinance as discussed by Mr. Flynn.

MOTION by Councilmember Sloss to pass 1st reading of an ordinance on the donation of the land at 412 Lakeview Heights to Habitat For Humanity for a "new build" contingent upon information Attorney Flynn will include regarding a portion of the property

SECOND by Councilmember Craig

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Barbara Rippy made public comment regarding the clothes and shoes donation bins at Wal-Mart. Mrs. Rippy states that the clothes are on the ground and have been laying there for weeks and they are soaking wet. It looks awful. She further states that she went inside to talk with the assistant manager about bins being removed and he said that he would look and see if he could find some phone numbers to see who is in charge of bins. Mrs. Rippy feels that this is an eye sore. Wal-Mart had to literally go out there and pick up all the stuff on the ground and haul off. The manager at Wal-Mart will be checking on doing something about the bins. Mrs. Rippy feels that the litter problem in the City can be controlled. She also stated that we do not need clothes and shoes bins everywhere in Union. There is Goodwill store they can be taken to now. She thanked the Mayor for his help with some other type clean-up in the City thus far. Councilmember Morgan asked the Mayor if the City could send out a letter or try to contact the company that is over the clothes and shoes donation bins because she agrees with Mrs. Rippy. Mayor Thompson states that the City would need to have some type of ordinance to get rid of the clothes and shoes donation bins in the City.

Michael Mcleymore founder of "The Prodigals Home" introduced his wife and some of the men that have completed the drug addiction program and/or going through the program. Mr. Mcleymore also states that he looks forward to partnering with the City because there is a drug addiction in every city and there is no city that is beyond this issue and it is getting out of control. Mayor Thompson thanked Mr. Mcleymore and told him to get with the news media to get the word out about the drug addiction program at "The Prodigals Home".

6. **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

Mayor Pro Tem Garner asked again about the notification of spraying locations for the mosquito spraying. He states that he has not heard anything else since council talked about it before. They were getting notification at night about an hour before it was going to happen but he has yet to see them do any spraying. He states that he has seen them once on Thompson Boulevard in the two years that the City has used them. Mayor Thompson states that he has called Gregory Pest Control to get some type of schedule; however, he has saw them a couple of times spraying and has also received calls asking what was being sprayed.

Councilmember Craig mentioned about a house that blew up because of a gas leak. She states that a lot of homes in Union County are old and if anybody smells any gas, they should contact Joe Nichols or other gas department staff to check if they have a gas leak because we don't need any houses blowing up because of gas leaks. Everyone should be aware of this who has natural gas.

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

No action taken

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to adjourn

SECOND by Councilmember Harris

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Gloria J. Rogers, Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved _____ 2019