

**MINUTES  
PUBLIC HEARING  
TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2013  
8:45 A.M.**

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{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 public hearing was held on Tuesday, June 4, 2013 at 8:45 A.M. in the City Municipal building with the following present:

**COUNCIL:** Mayor Harold Thompson, Mayor Pro Tem Robert Garner, Councilmembers Tommie Hill, Sr.; Yates Giles, Ricky Todd Harris and Jim Wilson. Councilmember Orangelow Ruff was absent due to illness.

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

**CITY ATTORNEY:** Billy Whitney

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

**OTHERS:** Pete Berry

**1. Call To Order**

Mayor Thompson called the meeting to order.

**2. Business**

**A. Hearing To Solicit Public Comments On Authorization To Execute Economic Development Contracts With Respect To The Provision Of Utility Services.**

Mayor Thompson asked if there was anyone from the public that would like to comment on the above subject.

Pete Berry, 3487 Whitmire Highway, business owner of Paradise Home Center addressed Council. He states that if our city and county ever want to excel we need to do something different from what everyone else is doing such as bigger budgets and raising taxes. Mr. Berry states that Union is a tough community to make a living as a small business owner and he asked City Council to do something different besides raising taxes.

Mayor Thompson asked if there was anyone else or any member of council that would like to comment.

Councilmember Giles states that he has noticed in the paper that almost every community around has increased taxes. He feels that the City has done a better job of keeping taxes down than most communities.

Mayor Thompson states that since he has been in office, the City's budget has not increased but came down from previous years.

Councilmember Hill states that the City has tried to keep taxes down through the years as well as continue to provide good service to the public.

Finance Director Walker Gallman made comments regarding authorization to execute economic development contracts regarding the provision of utility

services. This will be presented to City Council at a special meeting after the hearing.

**3. Adjournment**

Public hearing adjourned at 8:53 A.M.

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Gloria J. Rogers, Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved \_\_\_\_\_ 2013