{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, November 19, 2013 at 5:45 P.M. in the City Municipal building with the following present:

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

DEPARTMENTAL STAFF: Gloria Rogers – Municipal Clerk; Perry Harmon – Public Service Director and Sam White – Public Safety Director.

CITY ATTORNEY: None

PLANNING COMMISSION: Lynn Eaves – Chairman; Oscar Gist – Vice Chairman; Bobby Joe Gibbs and Mary Norman. Hutch Hall was absent.

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

OTHERS: Robby Moody, Melanie Lawson, Michael Holmes, Alice Taylor-Colbert and others.

1. **Call To Order**

    Mayor Thompson called the meeting to order.

2. **Business**

    A. Hearing To Solicit Public Comments In Connection With A Proposed Ordinance, amending the City of Union Zoning Ordinance, Section 109.12 and Section 129.

    Mayor Thompson asked Robby Moody, Senior Planner of CRPC to give the background on the proposed ordinance amending the zoning ordinance regarding USC-Union. Mr. Moody states that there are a couple of text changes in Section 109.12 Table of Permitted Uses and Section 129 Definitions. USC-Union has been a long time member of the community with a physical location right adjacent to downtown. There is some activity occurring on property that USC-Union has acquired on Main Street. The University is up- fitting a shop front for a bookstore and offices for the University. Mr. Moody states that when looking through the zoning code, it was discovered that universities are not a permitted use in that zoning district; therefore, staff recommends approval of the proposed amendment to promote the growth and development of institutions of higher education, particularly USC-Union; and to resolve the non-conforming status of the campus. Also staff discovered that there is no true definition in the code of a college or university in case a question arose. Staff came up with a definition that is clear and explains what a university is. Councilmember Wilson asked if staff included enough area around the University to include any expansion that they may do in the near future. Mr. Moody states that he believes all the empty properties around the University would fall within the A-1 or the A-4 district. He will look into this matter further before 2nd reading of the ordinance. Councilmember Hill asked if the location of the former Union Dry Cleaning included in the A-1 or the A-4 district. Mr. Moody states that it does fall under permitted use.

Mayor Thompson asked if there was anyone from the general public that would like to address City Council.

Dr. Alice Taylor-Colbert, the new Dean at USC-Union, addressed council. She thanked staff and council for helping USC-Union address any kind of zoning issues they may have now or in the future. The University's 311 Main Street building is going to be a retail business. It will be a bookstore opened to the public. Dr. Taylor-Colbert feels that the bookstore will fit right in with Main Street and help support the economic development of the area. There will be a student center in the back of the building, an office for security personnel and a room for meeting space. In closing Ms. Taylor-Colbert states that USC-Union is proud to be able to be a part Union.

3.   **Adjournment**

Public hearing adjourned at 5:56 P.M.

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Gloria J. Rogers, CMC
Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved _____ 2013