

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2010
6:30 PM**

{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).}

The regular council meeting was held on Tuesday, January 19, 2010 at 6:30 PM at the City Municipal building with the following present:

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

CITY ATTORNEY: Billy Whitney

DEPARTMENTAL STAFF: Gloria Rogers – Municipal Clerk/Personnel Director; Sam White, - Public Safety Director; Perry Harmon – Public Service Director; Joe Nichols – Utility Director; Walker Gallman – Finance Director; Laura Hembree – Accounting Supervisor and Mike Petrie - Maintenance Shop Director.

NEWS MEDIA: Steve Ramsey-WBCU; Charles Warner – Union Times and Graham Williams – Union County News

OTHERS: Terry Fant, Torance Inman, Melvin Young, Jr., Glenn Meador and Mike Crocker

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Thompson called the meeting to order. Invocation was given by Mayor Pro Tem Henderson. The pledge of allegiance was given by all present. The roll was called by Municipal Clerk Gloria Rogers.

2. **MINUTES**

- A. December 15, 2009 - Regular Council Meeting
January 12, 2010 – Council Workshop

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to accept minutes as presented.
SECOND by Councilmember Hill.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **COMMUNICATIONS**

- A. Monthly Reports

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to accept monthly reports.
SECOND by Councilmember Garner.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- B. Audit Presentation – Terry Fant presented the 2009 Audit to City Council.

4. **BUSINESS**

- A. AWARD BID - STANDBY GENERATION EQUIPMENT FOR RAW WATER PUMPING STATION

One bid was received on January 8, 2010 at 2:00 pm for Standby Generation Equipment for the Raw Water Pumping Station from Blanchard Machinery in the amount of \$88,000. A letter of recommendation from consultant was presented to Council.

MOTION by Councilmember Garner to award bid to Blanchard Machinery in the amount of \$88,000.

SECOND by Councilmember Harris.

CARRIED 6 to 1.

FOR: Thompson, Hill, Garner, Harris, Ruff and Bailey

OPPOSE: Henderson

- B. APPOINTMENTS – BUILDING BOARD & ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

City Council must fill two (2) vacancies on the Building Board of Appeals for expired terms. The Building Board of Appeals hears appeals on Building Code Regulations. City Council must fill one (1) vacancy on the Zoning Board of Appeals for an expired term. The Zoning Board of Appeals hears and decides on appeals for variances and special exceptions and works closely with the City of Union Planning Department on these matters. These positions were solicited by public notice in the Union Times. Request letters and public notice were presented to Council. City staff recommends that Council appoint qualified candidates to fill these most important board vacancies.

City Council voted unanimously to appoint A.C. Martin and Wayne Cook to the Building Board of Appeals for a four year term and George Ashmore to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a three year term.

- C. DISCUSSION/MOTION – “EIGHT KEYS TO A BETTER ME” – 2 YEAR CONTRACT

Over the years the City has supported the “Eight Keys To A Better Me” publication for Third Graders. The cost is \$1.73 per book. Approximately 330 books will be ordered for Foster Park, Monarch, Buffalo Elementary Schools and Union Christian Day School. The total cost will be approximately \$450.00/year – 2 year agreement. The recommendation is to authorize the Mayor to enter into a 2 year contract with Fidelity Associates, Inc. for “Eight Keys to a Better Me”.

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to accept recommendation.

SECOND by Councilmember Ruff.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

D. DISCUSSION/MOTION – BUDGET WORK SESSION DATES

City Council discussed FY 2010-2011 budget work session dates. Staff recommends March 23rd, 24th and 25th.

MOTION by Councilmember Henderson to approve budget work session dates for March 23, 24 and 25 beginning at noon.

SECOND by Councilmember Harris.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. **ANNOUNCEMENT BY MAYOR & COUNCIL**

None

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- A. Please address the Mayor and Council from the lectern and state your name and address for the record. (Please limit your comments to 3-5 minutes)

Mr. Glenn Meador of Buena Vista II Apartment, Rice Avenue Extension addressed Council. He states that he would like to see the City of Union instigate a recycling program. He feels that the City is losing a minimum of a million dollars a year not having a recycling program. He is referring to recycling cans and newspapers. He states that this is being done in Utah.

Mr. Mike Crocker of 106 Harold Street addressed Council. He thanked the Mayor and staff for getting litter picked up on the streets that he reported. Mr. Crocker asked who in City administration would be responsible for helping with the homeless shelter. He states that there are several people who need a helping hand and with the scale back of the local Red Cross Office and the Salvation Army they are having trouble getting help. There are people that need temporary housing.

Mayor Thompson states that there has been some misconception about who owns the shelter. The City of Union does not own the Salvation Army Shelter but have supported them over the years. The Salvation Army's main office made the decision to close the shelter because of problems with clients; however, there is an effort around town for getting a shelter back in place.

Mr. Crocker asked who would be responsible for securing grants or funds for sidewalk repair work or construction work being done in the city in order to use local labor to put people to work. The Mayor states that he is not sure there is such a grant. He states that the City is presently receiving "C" funds for sidewalk repairs. Workers will have to be qualified to perform sidewalk or construction work for the City of Union.

Mr. Crocker requests the City to stop adding fluoride to drinking water. He states that it has been known to cause cancer. The Mayor states that this issue will have to be taken up with DHEC. He states that the City is required by state law to add certain chemicals to our drinking water.

7. **EXECUTIVE SESSION: TO DISCUSS LEGAL MATTERS**

MOTION by Councilmember Hill to go out of regular session into executive session to discuss a contractual matter.

SECOND by Councilmember Bailey.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

SECOND by Councilmember Harris.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

No action taken.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Councilmember Garner to adjourn.

SECOND by Councilmember Bailey.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Gloria J. Rogers, Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved _____ 2010