

**MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARING
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 15, 2008
6:30 P.M.**

{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 and the regular meeting of City Council was held on July 15, 2008 at 6:30 P.M. in the City Municipal building with the following present:

COUNCIL: Mayor Pro Tem Harold Thompson, Councilmembers Tommie L. Hill, Keith Henderson, Ricky Todd Harris, Orangelow Ruff and Fran Bailey. Mayor Bruce Morgan was absent.

CITY ATTORNEY: Billy Whitney

DEPARTMENTAL STAFF: Gloria Rogers, CMC Municipal Clerk/Personnel Director; Sam White, - Public Safety Director; Joe Nichols – Utility Director; Walker Gallman – Finance Director; Perry Harmon – Public Service Director and Mike Petrie – Maintenance Shop Director. Jeff Lawson, CBO MCP-Building Official was absent.

NEWS MEDIA: Charles Warner – Union Times

OTHERS: Carol Mason McMeekin, Mike Lancaster, Sonja Craig, Zari Rice, Debbie Woodard and Kacie Petrie.

1. Call To Order

Mayor Pro Tem Thompson called the meeting to order.

Update From Upstate Alliance

Mr. Hal Johnson, President/CEO of the Upstate Alliance addressed City Council. He introduced the Upstate Alliance Team and gave an update of the organization with a slide presentation. Their vision is to position and market the Upstate SC region to successfully compete for business investment globally. Their mission statement consists of three parts: Market the Upstate SC region to attract business investment, support economic development efforts of the Alliance investors, build cohesive relationship among the region's private & public sectors.

Needs Assessment Public Hearing – Carol Mason McMeekin – Catawba Regional Council of Governments

Ms. Carol Mason McMeekin of CRPC conducted a Needs Assessment Public Hearing. Ms. McMeekin states that this hearing is an opportunity for citizens and City Council to come together to make comments about needs in the community. The Needs Assessment Public Hearing is a requirement for the City of Union to be eligible for community block grant funding. The last Needs Assessment Hearing was held in July 2007 and as a result of that hearing, a list was created from that hearing. The list was reviewed by Ms. McMeekin. There were several comments from City Council. There were no comments from the public.

Councilmember Keith Henderson 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 17, 2008 | Special Meeting |
| B. June 17, 2008 | Public Hearing |
| C. June 17, 2008 | Regular Council Meeting |

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

3. **Communications**

- A. Monthly Reports

The monthly reports of all departments were included in the council packages and are on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

MOTION by Councilmember Bailey to accept monthly reports.
SECOND by Councilmember Ruff.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. **BUSINESS**

- A. ORDINANCE – 2ND READING – REZONE 308 BUFFALO/WEST SPRINGS HIGHWAY FROM R-15 RESIDENTIAL TO A-2 HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL

The owner of the property located at 308 Buffalo/West Springs Highway is requesting that his property be rezoned from R-15 Residential to A-2 Highway Commercial. The property is adjacent to property which is already zoned A-2 Highway Commercial and it does comply with the regulation requirements for the A-2 Highway Commercial Zone. City Council passed 1st reading of the ordinance at their June 17, 2008 meeting.

MOTION by Councilmember Bailey to pass 2nd reading of the ordinance.
SECOND by Councilmember Hill.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- B. ORDINANCE – 2ND READING – REZONE 310 BUFFALO/WEST SPRINGS HIGHWAY FROM R-15 RESIDENTIAL TO A-2 HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL

The owner of the property located at 310 Buffalo/West Springs Highway is requesting that his property be rezoned from R-15 Residential to A-2 Highway Commercial. The property is adjacent to property which is already zoned A-2 Highway Commercial and it does comply with the regulation requirements for the A-2 Highway Commercial Zone. City Council passed 1st reading at their June 17, 2008.

MOTION by Councilmember Ruff to pass 2nd reading of the ordinance.
SECOND by Councilmember Harris.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. APPOINTMENT – HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD

Mrs. Minnie Lawson's term on the Housing Authority Board expired April 6, 2008. She does not wish to be re-appointed. A public notice was run in the Union Times soliciting candidates. Request letters were submitted by the following: Mrs. Patricia H. Owens and Mr. Frank W. Alexander. Council will need to appoint a Housing Authority Board Commissioner.

MOTION by Councilmember Henderson to appoint Frank W. Alexander to Housing Authority Board.

SECOND by Councilmember Harris.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

FOR: Mayor Pro Tem Thompson, Councilmembers Hill, Henderson, Harris and Ruff.

ABSTAIN: Councilmember Bailey

D. DISCUSSION/MOTION – ROBOTICS CENTER PROPERTY – HWY.
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MOTION by Councilmember Bailey to table item.

SECOND by Councilmember Henderson.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

E. DISCUSSION/MOTION – APPOINTMENTS TO PLANNING
COMMISSION BOARD

City Council must fill two (2) vacancies on the Planning Commission Board for expired terms. This Board works closely with the City of Union Planning Department. They meet to consider and make recommendations to City Council concerning zoning ordinances or resolutions. The Commission also makes regulations for the subdivision of land and appropriate revisions thereof within its jurisdiction. City Council tabled this request until July 15, 2008 Council meeting. These positions were solicited by public notice in the Union Times. Request letters were received by the following applicants: Oscar Gist, Harold D. Lawson, Mary Norman and Kristinia Sommer. City Council will vote by ballot. They were asked to fill vacancies on Planning Commission Board by placing a check mark in the box beside the two names of their choice.

Oscar Gist – 6 votes

Harold D. Lawson – 2 votes

Mary Norman – 4 votes

Kristinia Sommer – 0 votes

5. **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL:**

None

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

A. Please address the Mayor and Council from the lectern and state your name and address for the record.

Mr. Mike Lancaster, 279 Deep Water Road addressed Council regarding picking up yard debris on side of the road in front of Bantam Chef's storage building (former restaurant) on S. Pinckney Street. Mr. Lancaster states that he cut down the debris (sticks and limbs) himself for the City's Street Department to pick up. He was informed that the City of Union does not pick up debris from businesses. Mr. Lancaster

would like for City Council to look at its current ordinance on picking up debris from businesses to help businesses in Union.

The Mayor Pro Tem states that Council may have a workshop in the future to review the ordinance.

7. **EXECUTIVE SESSION: TO DISCUSS LEGAL, CONTRACTUAL, AND PERSONNEL MATTERS**

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

SECOND by Councilmember Hill.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

SECOND by Councilmember Bailey.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

No action taken.

8. **ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION by Councilmember Bailey to adjourn.

SECOND by Councilmember Ruff.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Gloria J. Rogers, Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved _____ 2008