

**MINUTES  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, JULY 20, 2010  
6:30 PM**

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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).}

The regular council meeting was held on July 20, 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 Harris, Orangelow Ruff and Andy Bailey.

**CITY ATTORNEY:** Billy Whitney was absent due to illness.

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

**NEWS MEDIA:** Derrick Vanderford – Union Times.

**OTHERS:** Larry Robinson, Benjamin Powles, Neil Howell, Janice Howell, Debbie Woodard and Sally Inman.

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.

Mayor Thompson states that he will need to add an item to the agenda.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Garner to add item to the agenda entitled “Discussion/Motion – Dixie Youth All-Stars Request, Item I.”

**SECOND** by Councilmember Hill.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

2. **MINUTES**

- A. June 15, 2010 - Public Hearing
- B. June 15, 2010 - Regular Council Meeting

**MOTION** by Councilmember Hill to accept minutes as presented.

**SECOND** by Councilmember Bailey.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. **COMMUNICATIONS**

- A. Monthly Reports

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

B. Retirement Award – Neil Howell

Utility Director Joe Nichols presented Neil Howell with a retirement award for 29 years of service with the City of Union.

C. Edward J. Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance  
Grant (JAG) Program - Sam White

Chief Sam White states that recently the City of Union Public Safety Department was awarded \$12,391 as a part of a Bureau of Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. The department will invest this grant in 20 taser guns to control combative arrest and protect officers. This will reduce the number of suspect injuries as well.

4. **BUSINESS**

A. ORDINANCE – 2<sup>ND</sup> READING – LOCAL HOSPITALITY/  
ACCOMMODATION FEES

An ordinance that will allow the City of Union to implement a one (1%) Local Hospitality Fee applicable to all restaurants and other food service facilities that prepare or modify food or beverages for immediate consumption was presented to City Council. The ordinance will also allow the City to implement a two (2%) Local Accommodations Fee on the gross proceeds derived from the rental or charges for any rooms, campground spaces, lodging or sleeping accommodations furnished to transients. The Local Hospitality Fee and Local Accommodations Fee is a means of diversifying the City's revenue to defray service and infrastructure cost associated with tourism related economic and tourism promotion. These fees provide an equitable way for residents and visitors to contribute to offset the cost related to tourism without placing the burden solely on all residents through traditional taxes such as business licenses and property taxes. The Local Hospitality Fee and Local Accommodation Fee, effective August 1, 2010, will only be imposed on applicable business within the City Limits and will be collected by those businesses from their customers. These fees will be in addition to the ones already being collected by Union County. These monies will be remitted to the City of Union, on a form provided by the City, on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis as directed by state law. City Council passed 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the ordinance at its June regular meeting.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Henderson to pass 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the Local Hospitality/Accommodation Fees Ordinance.  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Bailey.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. ORDINANCE – 2<sup>ND</sup> READING – AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE  
CHAPTER 15.2 – PUBLIC NUISANCES

An ordinance amending Chapter 15.2 entitled "Public Nuisances, General of the Code of Ordinances were presented to City Council. 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the ordinance was passed at the June regular meeting.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Ruff to pass 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of ordinance.  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Bailey.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

C. ORDINANCE – 2<sup>ND</sup> READING – AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE –  
CHAPTER 15.2 – ARTICLE III UNSAFE BUILDINGS AND  
STRUCTURES

An ordinance amending Chapter 15.2 – Article III Unsafe Buildings and Structures were presented to City Council. 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the ordinance was passed at the June regular meeting.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Henderson to pass 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the ordinance.  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Hill.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

D. RESOLUTION – NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES PRESCRIPTION  
DISCOUNT CARD PROGRAM

The National League of Cities is sponsoring a program in collaboration with CVS Caremark to provide a Prescription Discount Card program to city residents and their families without health insurance or with limited prescription drug coverage. The program is provided at no cost to the City.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Henderson to pass resolution.  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Hill.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

E. RESOLUTION – LETTER OF INTENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE  
NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

The City of Union is in the process of being reinstated into the National Flood Insurance program. In order to participate in the program the City must (1) pass a resolution of intent to participate in the program and fulfill the responsibilities; (2) adopt and enforce an ordinance to meet the minimum standard of the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44; (3) submit an application for participation to the office of the Federal Emergency Management Agency; (4) implement a permit, record keeping system to insure that provisions of the Flood Damage Prevention ordinance are responsibly administered. Before the City can submit an application to participate, an ordinance must be adopted by City Council. Adoption of this ordinance will help to promote the public health, safety and general welfare and to minimize public and private losses due to flood conditions.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Garner to pass resolution.  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Harris.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

F. ORDINANCE – 1<sup>ST</sup> READING – FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION

Before the City can submit an application to participate in the National Flood Insurance program, an ordinance must be adopted by City Council. Adoption of this ordinance will help to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare and to minimize public and private losses due to flood conditions.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Henderson to pass 1<sup>st</sup> reading.  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Ruff.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

G. DISCUSSION/MOTION – 1993 FORD F150 PICK-UP TRUCK  
DONATION TO THE TOWN OF CARLISLE

Maintenance Shop Director Mike Petrie states that a 1993-Ford F150 Pick-Up Truck with 122, 000 miles is being taken out of circulation from the City of Union Public Service Department due to high mileage. Upon their request, the City of Union would like to donate this truck to the Town of Carlisle.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Henderson to approve the donation of a 1993 F150 pick-up truck to the Town of Carlisle.  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Bailey.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

H. DISCUSSION/MOTION – TO APPROVE PURCHASE OF TWO (2)  
LOTS TO ACCOMMODATE SANITARY SEWER UPGRADES IN  
EXCELSIOR MILL VILLAGE

The City of Union has applied for a \$500,000 CDBG grant to upgrade the sanitary sewer in the Excelsior Mill Village. Sewer easements are required to complete the project and Milliken & Company has offered two (2) lots: Tax Map Number 83-4-11-006, .22 acre and Tax Map Number 83-4-10-004, .09 acre for sale at a cost of \$100.00.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Bailey to approve the purchase of the two (2) lots offered for sale by Milliken & Company in the amount of \$100.00.  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Ruff.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

I. DISCUSSION/MOTION – DIXIE YOUTH ALL-STARS REQUEST

Sally Inman, a Dixie Youth All-Star Representative addressed City Council. The Dixie Youth is requesting funding for the team to travel to Clemson, S.C. for the State Championship. A letter of request was presented to City Council prior to the meeting.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Henderson to fund Dixie Youth in the amount not to exceed \$500 (match County funding).  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Ruff.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

5. **ANNOUNCEMENT BY MAYOR & COUNCIL**

None

6. **EXECUTIVE SESSION: TO DISCUSS LEGAL, CONTRACTUAL, AND PERSONEL MATTER**

**MOTION** by Councilmember Garner to go out of regular session into executive session to discuss a personnel matter.  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Bailey.  
**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.

**7. 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)

Benjamin Powles of 102 Green Street (Mill Hill area), addressed City Council. He state that the Building Official came over to Green Street but nothing has been done regarding the property. The Mayor will research and give Mr. Powles a call on Wednesday, July 21, 2010.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Councilmember Bailey to adjourn.

**SECOND** by Councilmember Hill.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Council meeting adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

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Gloria J. Rogers, Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved \_\_\_\_\_ 2010