

**MINUTES  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 2007  
6:30 P.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).}

The regular meeting of city council was held on June 19, 2007 at 6:30 P.M. in the City Municipal building with the following present:

**COUNCIL:** Mayor Bruce Morgan; Councilmembers Tommie Hill, Sr., Harold Thompson, Keith Henderson, Orangelow Ruff and Fran Bailey. Councilmember Ricky Todd Harris was absent due to illness.

**CITY ATTORNEY:** Billy Whitney

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

**NEWS MEDIA:** Charles Warner – Union Times, Kevin Shehan – WBCU Radio and Jessica DeVault – Spartanburg Herald.

**OTHERS:** Howard Garland, Carol Mason McKeekin and Robbie Moody.

1. Mayor Morgan called the meeting to order. Following the pledge of allegiance to the flag, the invocation was given by Councilmember Thompson. The roll was called by Municipal Clerk Gloria Rogers.

2. **Minutes**

- |                 |                         |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| A. May 15, 2007 | Public Hearing          |
| B. May 15, 2007 | Regular Council Meeting |

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

**SECOND** by Councilmember Hill.

**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 Henderson.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. MINUTES (PROVIDED AS INFORMATION TO CITY COUNCIL)

1. May 31, 2007 - Planning Commission Workshop Meeting
2. June 12, 2007 – Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearing

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

C. PRESENTATION – AWARD OF EXCELLENCE  
(SC COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
ASSOCIATION)

Carol Mason McMeekin, past president of the SCCDA, Howard Garland, President of SCCDA and Robbie Moody of Catawba Regional Council of Governments presented City Council with the S.C. Community Development Associations Award of Excellence. This award is presented annually for projects that have improved their communities and promote further improvements in the quality of life. The project submitted for the award was the revitalization of the downtown area.

4. **Business**

A. ORDINANCE – 2<sup>ND</sup> READING – ADOPT BUDGET FY 2007-2008

The FY 2007-2008 Budget Ordinance was presented to Council for 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. Council passed 1<sup>st</sup> reading at its May 15, 2007 meeting.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Thompson to pass 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the Budget Ordinance.

**SECOND** by Councilmember Bailey.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. ORDINANCE – 2<sup>ND</sup> READING – ADOPT TAX LEVY FY 2007-2008

The FY 2007-2008 Tax Levy Ordinance was presented to Council for 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. City Council passed 1<sup>st</sup> reading at its May 15, 2007 meeting.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Bailey to pass 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the Tax Levy Ordinance.

**SECOND** by Councilmember Ruff.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

C. ORDINANCE – 2<sup>ND</sup> READING – ANNEXATION ORDINANCE

The owner of the property located at 441 North Duncan Bypass is requesting annexation of his property into the Corporate Limits of the City of Union with an A-2 Highway Commercial Classification. The property is adjacent to properties which are zoned A-2 Highway Commercial and it does comply with the regulations requirements for this zone. A copy of the Annexation Ordinance, Petition for Annexation, Survey Plat and Plat Description was presented to Council. Council passed 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the Annexation Ordinance at its May 15, 2007 meeting.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Bailey to pass 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the Annexation Ordinance.

**SECOND** by Councilmember Hill.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

D. ORDINANCE – 1<sup>ST</sup> READING – AMEND SECTION 14-50 PARKING ORDINANCE

Within the last two years the parking spaces on North Herndon Street and on West Main Street in front of the Courthouse were changed to 30-minute parking zones. These two areas had been two hour parking zones as outlined in Section 14-50 of the Code of the City of Union. The parking spaces in front of City Hall were already designated as 30-minute parking zones. This was done to make more parking available for citizens that needed to conduct business at the Courthouse Complex or City Hall. In the event that the Public Safety Department should ever be challenged about the issuance of a parking ticket in these 30 minutes zones, it would be very helpful if the Code specifically named these three areas as 30-minute parking zones.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Thompson to pass 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the ordinance to amend Section 14-50 of the Parking Ordinance.

**SECOND** by Councilmember Henderson.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

E. ORDINANCE – 1<sup>ST</sup> READING – ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 109.5

City staff is requesting that Section 109.5 and Section 109.12 – Tables of Permitted Uses for the Residential and Non-Residential Districts of the City Zoning Ordinance be amended to establish reasonable and uniform regulations for permitted uses inside the City of Union. A public hearing was held at tonight's meeting and the Zoning Board met and gave the following recommendation.

“We the Planning Commission for the City of Union do recommend to City Council the following amendments to the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Union. Amend Sections 109.5 and 109.12 Tables of Permitted Uses for Residential and Non-Residential Districts per proposal presented by City Staff.

Ralph Baker, Chairman

Oscar Gist

Charles Barber

**MOTION** by Councilmember Thompson to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation and pass 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the ordinance.

**SECOND** by Councilmember Bailey.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

F. APPOINTMENT – PLANNING COMMISSION BOARD

City Council must fill (3) vacancies on the Planning Commission Board for expired terms. The Planning Commission works closely with the City of Union Building/Zoning Department. They meet to consider and make written 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. These positions were solicited by public notice in the Union Times. Request letters for appointments were submitted as follows: Charles Barber and Lynn Eaves, requesting re-appointment and Bobby Joe Gibbs, requesting appointment to the Board. City staff recommends that Council appoint qualified candidates to fill these most important board vacancies.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Bailey to appoint names submitted to fill vacancies on the Planning Commission Board.  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Ruff.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

G. **ORDINANCE – 1<sup>ST</sup> READING- AMENDMENT TO CITY OF UNION BUSINESS LICENSE ORDINANCE**

In an effort to better serve the citizens of the City of Union and to encourage new business growth, city staff is recommending amending the City of Union Business License Ordinance by adding regulations for base rates.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Bailey to pass 1<sup>st</sup> reading amending the Business License Ordinance regarding base rates.  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Ruff.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

H. **ORDINANCE – 1<sup>ST</sup> READING – PROHIBIT USE OF PERSONAL RECREATION EQUIPMENT UPON SIDEWALKS**

An ordinance prohibiting the use of personal recreation equipment upon sidewalks within specific areas within the City of Union was presented to Council for 1<sup>st</sup> reading. Councilmember Henderson suggests putting up signs and/or advertisement regarding the ordinance.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Bailey to pass 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the ordinance.  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Henderson.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

I. **DISCUSSION/MOTION – TRUE CARE HUMANE SOCIETY REQUESTING DONATION OF OLD CITY ANIMAL TRUCK**

True Care Humane Society has had difficulty getting homeless animals transported to animal rescues. They are requesting donation of the old City animal control truck for transportation of these animals. The recommendation is to donate old City animal truck to True Care Humane Society for transportation of animals.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Henderson to donate old City animal control truck to True Care Humane Society for transportation of animals.  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Ruff.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

J. **DISCUSSION/MOTION – USC-UNION CAMPUS – PEDESTRIAN RAISED CROSSWALKS**

USC- Union predicts future growth whereby available parking will increase pedestrian traffic (more students and faculty having to walk across campus). They are requesting some pedestrian raised crosswalks for safety and aesthetic reasons. The recommendation is to grant USC-Union's request for pedestrian raised crosswalks. Councilmember Bailey recommends that USC-Union consult an engineer to see what would be best for the area.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Thompson to table item until USC-Union get with an engineer to show drawings of the request.  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Bailey.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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

Mayor Morgan commended Utility Director Joe Nichols and Public Service Director Perry Harmon for working the weekend to move furniture and equipment for City Hall painting improvements.

KeyWest Technology is installing equipment in City Hall for a Public Information Channel through Charter Communications for the City of Union. Mayor Morgan thanked Councilmember Harold Thompson and Ms. Melissa Youngblood for their assistance with the project.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

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

None

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

**MOTION** by Councilmember Bailey to go out of regular session into executive session to meet with attorneys regarding a legal matter.

**SECOND** by Councilmember Thompson.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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

**SECOND** by Councilmember Bailey.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

No action taken. There was a discussion on a personnel issue and consultation with attorneys.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Henderson to designate the Mayor, Utility Director and the City Attorney as representatives of the City of Union and be authorized to offer up to \$190,000 to EPA to settle any liability that the City of Union may be alleged to have for the clean-up of the Carolina Transformer Superfund Site located in Fayetteville, N.C.

**SECOND** by Councilmember Bailey.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**8. ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION** by Councilmember Bailey to adjourn.

**SECOND** by Councilmember Thompson.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Council meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

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Gloria J. Rogers, Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved \_\_\_\_\_ 2007