

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 18, 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 May 18, 2010 at 6:30 PM at the City Municipal building with the following present:

COUNCIL: Mayor Harold Thompson; Councilmembers Tommie Hill, Sr.; Robert Garner, Keith Henderson, Ricky 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; Walker Gallman – Finance Director; Joe Nichols – Utility Director, Laura Hembree – Accounting Supervisor and Mike Petrie - Maintenance Shop Director.

NEWS MEDIA: Steve Ramsey –WBCU Radio, Graham Williams – Union County News and Charles Warner – Union Times.

OTHERS: Quandra Jeter, Monty Kingsmore, Harold Farr, Sr, Jennie Willard, James Crosby, Kimberly Crosby, Janet Marks, Shirley Epps, John Epps, Lillie McKanic ,Wayne McKanic, Debbie Woodard and Olivia Henderson.

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. April 12, 2010 - Special/Budget Meeting
- B. April 20, 2010 - Regular Council Meeting

MOTION by Councilmember Harris to accept minutes as presented.

SECOND by Councilmember Hill.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **COMMUNICATIONS**

- A. Monthly Reports

MOTION by Councilmember Ruff to accept monthly reports.

SECOND by Councilmember Garner.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. **BUSINESS**

A. **ORDINANCE – 1ST READING – BUDGET ORDINANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010-2011**

The FY 2010-2011 proposed balanced budget totals \$42,912,140. The general fund budget of \$5,204,460 does not include a tax rate or fee increase. The Solid Waste Management proposed budget of \$827,420 will be funded by a \$13 per month fee. This is an increase of \$1 per month from last budget year. The transfer of \$130,000 from the general fund will continue for FY2010-2011. The Combined Utility Fund's proposed budget totals \$36,675,260. Electric and gas rates will not change, but a PPA (Purchase Power Adjustment) and PGA (Purchase Gas Adjustment) will continue. Water and Wastewater rates will increase 9.5% by volume used, also the monthly security light charge will increase by 5%. The following is a list of special revenue funds and their FY 2010-2011 proposed budgets: Victims Advocate - \$15,000; Economic Development - \$2,000; Drug Fund - \$4,000; Community Change - \$10,000 and Tax Increment Funds - \$104,000. The total amount is \$205,000. The recommendation is to pass 1st reading of ordinance to adopt budget for FY2010-2011.

MOTION by Councilmember Bailey to pass 1st reading of the Budget Ordinance for FY2010-2011.

SECOND by Councilmember Harris

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. **ORDINANCE – 1ST READING – TAX LEVY ORDINANCE FISCAL YEAR 2010-2011**

The proposed tax rate levy will remain unchanged at 74.3 mills for FY2010-2011. The recommendation is to adopt Tax Levy Ordinance.

MOTION by Councilmember Hill to pass 1st reading of the ordinance.

SECOND by Councilmember Ruff.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. **RESOLUTION – SRF LOAN APPLICATION**

City staff continues to evaluate our sewer system and has identified the need to close another wastewater treatment plant (Meng Creek) and replace with a new 800 GPM pump station. Presently, the average daily flow is 250,000-300,000 gallons per day, but is permitted for up to 1,000 gallons per day. This flow will be pumped to the Tosch Creek WWTP that is permitted to receive up to 6,000,000 gallons per day. The Meng Creek WWTP was constructed in 1973/74 and will require major upgrades in the near future. The cost of this project is estimated to be \$2,800,000. To fund this project we proposed to apply to the State Revolving Fund for a low interest loan under the Clean Water Act. The standard interest rate is 3.25% for a 20 year term. The resolution will authorize the Mayor to complete, execute and submit an application to the State Authority. This resolution also grants the State a pledge of, and lien on, all revenues of the City's combined revenue for repayment of loan.

MOTION by Councilmember Garner to pass SRF Loan Resolution.

SECOND by Councilmember Henderson.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

D. **AWARD BID – WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS**

Bids were received 2:00 pm on May 6, 2010 at City Hall for water and sewer improvements: Buffalo Mill Village, Sharpe Alley, Mobile Home Park off SC 49, Thompson Blvd., Hydrants at 14 locations, Valves at 4 locations, Industrial Park Road, Pinckney Street and Goings Alley. Only one (1) bid was received. The recommendation from consultants is to award bid to Smith Backhoe & Construction in the amount of \$269,025.50.

MOTION by Councilmember Henderson to award bid to Smith Backhoe & Construction.

SECOND by Councilmember Councilmember Garner.

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)

Janet Marks, 358 Fairwood Boulevard, addressed City Council. She states that her utility company has increased sewer rates higher than average rates other utility companies charge for residents. Ms. Marks is requesting that the City of Union consider serving Fairwood area in the future. There are 106 houses.

Shirley Epps, 916 Lakeside Drive, addressed City Council. She fully supports the sidewalk project along Lakeside Drive.

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

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

SECOND by Councilmember Garner.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION by Councilmember Henderson to go out of executive session 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.

Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, May 18, 2010

Council meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Gloria J. Rogers, Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved _____ 2010