

**MINUTES
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2008
8:00 A.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 special meeting was held on Thursday, August 28, 2008 at 8:00 A.M. in the City Municipal building with the following present:

COUNCIL: Mayor Harold Thompson; Councilmembers Tommie L. Hill, Ricky Todd Harris, Keith Henderson, Orangelow Ruff and Fran Bailey.

DEPARTMENTAL STAFF: Gloria Rogers – Municipal Clerk/Personnel Director; Joe Nichols – Utilities Director, Walker Gallman – Finance Director, Mike Petrie – Maintenance Shop Director, Perry Harmon – Public Service Director

NEWS MEDIA: Charles Warner – Union Times, Steve Ramsey – WCBU Radio and Lynne Shackelford.

OTHERS: David Fant, Tom Lukans, Torance Inman, Marsha J. Hathcock, Gary Lindner, Barbara Rippy, Louis Jordon and Robert Small.

A. Call To Order

1. Mayor Thompson called the meeting to order. He gave the invocation. The pledge of alliance was given by all present. The roll was called by Municipal Clerk Gloria Rogers.

B. Business

1. Mayor Thompson states that Council needs to discuss the Mayor's salary. He will move this item after the executive session portion of the meeting.

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

SECOND by Councilmember Ruff.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

SECOND by Councilmember Harris.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mayor Thompson states that there were two personnel items and one contractual matter that Council took no action on.

2. Discussion/Motion – Mayor's Salary

Mayor Thompson asked Councilmember Bailey to discuss the Mayor's salary. Councilmember Bailey states that Council has decided on a total salary for the

Mayor to be set at \$56,000 a year, which includes a cell phone and a car allowance plus all other employee benefits.

Mayor Thompson states that several years ago the citizen voted for the strong mayor form of government with no City Administrator's position. Council has decided not to hire a City Administrator. The Mayor met with the department heads yesterday and he feels that they are doing a good job. This was taken in consideration on their decision not to hire a City Administrator.

MOTION by Councilmember Bailey to set the Mayor's salary at \$56,000 a year, which includes a cell phone and a car allowance plus all other employee benefits.
SECOND by Councilmember Ruff.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. Public Comment:

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

Mr. Gary Lindner, 106 Crestview Drive addressed Council. He states that he has lived in Union about 17 or 18 years. He asked if City Council feels they can get a viable full time Mayor for a salary of \$56,000 a year. Mr. Lindner feels that the salary should be more. He also states that Union needs to be a progressive City.

Mr. David Fant, 686 Berry Farm Road addressed Council. He asked if the \$56,000 a year is the base salary or the total salary.

Councilmember Bailey states that the base salary is \$48,800, the cell phone allowance is \$1,800 and the car allowance is \$5,400 which makes a total salary of \$56,000 a year.

Mr. Fant asked if the Mayor's salary was comparable to the department heads salary or how many department heads salary is more \$56,000.

Councilmember Bailey states that she believes some of the department heads salaries are more.

Mayor Thompson thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and thanked the public for their comments.

D. Adjournment:

MOTION by Councilmember Bailey to adjourn.
SECOND by Councilmember Ruff.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at 8:39 P.M.

Gloria J. Rogers, Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved _____ 2008