

**MINUTES
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
FRIDAY, AUGUST 8, 2008
6:00 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 special council meeting was held on August 8, 2008 at 6:00 P.M. in the City Municipal building with the following present:

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

DEPARTMENTAL STAFF: Gloria Rogers – 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.

CITY ATTORNEY: Billy Whitney

OTHERS: Chip Boyles, Harold Shapiro, Laura Hembree, Tom Lukans, Jean Harris, Olivia Henderson, Torance Inman, Kacie Petrie, Barbara Crayne, Amanda Gallman, Bernice Inman, Mary Elizabeth Williams, Jeannie Williams, Sonja Craig, Debbie Woodard, Hutch Hall, Barbara Rippy, Bobby Rippy, L.D. Owens, Stephanie Heflin, Gary Frost, Rev. James Kollock, Kay and Tom O’Shields.

A. **CALL TO ORDER**

1. Mayor Thompson called the meeting to order. The invocation was given by Mayor Thompson. The pledge of allegiance was given by all present.

B. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. DISCUSSION/MOTION – UNION MILL REMEDIATION PROJECT AND DRAINAGE PROJECT

Finance Director Walker Gallman discussed the Union Mill Remediation Project and Drainage Project along with Mr. Harold Shapiro of Catawba Regional Council of Governments. On December 13, 2006 the City was awarded a \$500,000 CDBG Grant to pay for the cost of environmental remediation, drainage improvement to the site; and restoration of the mill pond. Also, \$69,130 was appropriated on December 11, 2007 for matching funds and additional funds needed. The first time this project was bid, all 3 bids received exceeded the project estimated cost. An attempt to downsize the scope of the project did not meet the approval of DHEC. It was then suggested by Catawba Regional that we apply for a Brownsfield Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund in the amount of \$370,000 to provide additional funding for this project. The term of loan is for 10 years at 1% and 30%, or \$111,000 of this loan will be forgiven over the life of the loan. The City will also be responsible for a 1% origination fee and closing cost of approximately \$10,000. Security for this loan will be General Fund Revenues and the property at the YMCA located at 106 Lakeside Drive, Union, SC. Once all the funding was in place, another request for bids was sent out to the original bidders, with only one

responding. The amount of the bid was \$846,514, received from Republic Salvage and Service of SC, LLC (DBA) Fenn Vac. The procurement of construction services and the contractor have been received by the S.C. Department of Commerce. The recommendation is to authorize Mayor Thompson to sign documents relative to the Brownsfield Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund. Award site remediation contract to Republic Salvage & Service of SC., LLC (DBA) Fenn Vac. in the amount of \$846,514. Authorize Mayor Thompson to sign contract with Synterra for providing engineering services in the amount of \$53,000.

MOTION by Councilmember Henderson to accept staff's recommendation.

SECOND by Councilmember Ruff.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. DISCUSSION/MOTION – PMPA \$1,000 ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION TO UNIQUELY UNION FESTIVAL – DAVID OWENS

Mr. David Owens of the Uniquely Union Committee addressed City Council regarding the Uniquely Union Festival. PMPA and the City of Union have been funding the Uniquely Union Festival for the past 10 years in the amount of \$1,000. The committee is again requesting funding in the amount of \$1,000 for the 2008 Uniquely Union Festival.

MOTION by Councilmember Bailey to fund Uniquely Union's request.

SECOND by Councilmember Hill.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. DISCUSSION/MOTION – CUT TIMBER ON CITY PROPERTY LOCATED OFF EISON ROAD

Utility Director Joe Nichols discussed cutting timber on the City's 27 acre property located off Eison Road. The City is in the process of bidding out a sewer force main for the new Sims Middle School being build on the Whitmire Highway. The routing of this force main will run through the 27-acre site. The timber will have to be cleared away for the installation of the line in addition to a 50-foot right of way cut for construction. Mr. Nichols is recommending that the entire 27-acre of timber be cut and replanted with pine in the winter months after the sewer force main is complete.

MOTION by Councilmember Bailey to accept the Utility Director's recommendation and also bid out the timber to be cut off property.

SECOND by Councilmember Harris.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. DISCUSSION/MOTION – PRIORITIZE COMMUNITY NEEDS LIST: CATAWBA REGIONAL

Finance Director Walker Gallman states that a Needs Assessment Public Hearing was held on Tuesday, July 15, 2008. Ms. Carol Mason McMeekin presented the past identified community needs and received comment concerning the current needs as they relate to the low and moderate income persons in the City of Union. She is requesting that Council review the identified needs and place them in order of priority at the August regular meeting. Mayor Thompson reviewed the Community

Needs List. He states that the City has already completed some items on the list.

MOTION by Councilmember Henderson to accept prioritized list in the order presented.

SECOND by Councilmember Bailey.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mrs. Barbara Rippy, 126 Heritage Way, addressed City Council. She feels that the City needs a full-time Mayor in order for the City to run effectively.

D. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

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

SECOND by Councilmember Harris.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

SECOND by Councilmember Ruff.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

No action taken.

E. **ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION by Councilmember Hill to adjourn.

SECOND by Councilmember Bailey.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Special Council Meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM.

Gloria J. Rogers, Municipal Clerk

Minutes Approved _____ 2008