

MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING/BUDGET SESSION
MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2009
1:00 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).}

A special meeting/ budget session was held on Monday, April 27, 2009 at 1:00 P.M. in the City Municipal building with the following present:

COUNCIL: Mayor Harold Thompson, Mayor Pro Tem Keith Henderson, Councilmembers Tommie Hill, Sr., Robert Garner, Ricky Todd Harris, Orangelow Ruff and Andy Bailey.

CITY ATTORNEY: Billy Whitney was absent.

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

NEWS MEDIA: Steve Ramsey-WBCU.

OTHERS: None

Mayor Thompson called the meeting to order. He gave the invocation.

The pledge of allegiance was given by all present.

Finance Director Walker Gallman states that this is a continuation of the budget session. First reading of the budget will be presented at the May regular council meeting. A public hearing will be held prior to the meeting.

Finance Director Walker Gallman and Utility Director Joe Nichols discussed the natural gas rate issue. The City of Union has been working with consultants on gas rates. Gas rates for the City have been the same since July 1, 2004. This will be going into the 5th year without a gas rate increase. The cost of gas has fluctuated over the years. Mr. Gallman presented the current gas rates and the consultant proposed rates to City Council for their review and discussion. Staff will need direction from City Council on how to proceed with proposed gas rates.

MOTION by Councilmember Henderson to accept consultant's recommended gas rates except for their industrial base rate of \$1.39 mcf; instead accept staff's suggested industrial base rate of \$1.10 mcf. The rates will be incorporated into the FY2009-2010 budget.

SECOND by Councilmember Bailey.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Finance Director also discussed the general fund, solid waste management fund, utility summary and the utility fund projections revenue.

A public hearing will be held on May 19, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. on the proposed budget.

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Mayor Thompson thanked all the department heads for their work on the budget.

MOTION by Councilmember Hill to adjourn.

SECOND by Councilmember Ruff.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The special meeting/budget session adjourned at 1:45 pm.

Gloria J. Rogers, Municipal Clerk

Minutes Approved _____ 2009