

## **TOWN OF UNIONVILLE MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

The Town of Unionville Town Council met at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, April 15, 2013 in Town Hall, 1102 Unionville Church Road, Monroe, NC. Mayor Simpson and Commissioners Randy Baucom, Ken Brown, Edd Little and Jaren Simpson were present. Commissioner Robert Crouch was absent. Attorney Ken Helms was also present.

Everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag, after which Commissioner Edd Little led the prayer of invocation.

Upon motion duly made by Ken Brown, seconded by Edd Little, Council unanimously approved the minutes of the March 18, 2013 regular meeting and executive session.

Mayor Simpson recognized Budget and Finance Officer Darrell Baucom, who reviewed the financial reports, a copy of which is appended to these minutes. Mr. Baucom stated that in Actual versus Budget, the additional franchise taxes collected result in a favorable income variance. The Town is less than budget on contributions and legal fees; overall expenses are favorable \$57,000. Overall net income is \$147,000 favorable to budget. In Activity since Last Month, the Town has made payments for the Urban Forestry program and Unionville Elementary School for repairs to the agriculture building. Upon motion duly made by Ken Brown, seconded by Edd Little, Council unanimously approved payment of pending bills. Mr. Baucom reported that one of the certificates of deposit will mature in May and he will check rates.

Mayor Simpson recognized Chris Plate' with Monroe/Union County Economic Development Commission. Mr. Plate' is a Union County resident who has worked with City of Monroe since 1999. As of January 1, 2013, Union County and Monroe City have merged operations, which will save \$400,000 per year. There are five staff members and 24 board members. Eight members are from City of Monroe; eight from Union County and eight ex officio. For administrative purposes, the Economic Development Commission is housed in City of Monroe, as four of the five employees work there. He is meeting with all of the communities to ask what sort of economic development you want and then the board will develop a work plan. Commissioner Brown made inquiry as to the cost. Mr. Plate' is not asking for money, although there is a fee if Unionville wants to have a board seat. His staff is available whether the Town has a seat on the board. There being no other questions, Mr. Plate' stated that he will come back and make a presentation when the work plan is completed.

Mayor Simpson recognized Pam Caskey with Safe Alliance. Mrs. Caskey stated that April is Child Abuse and Sexual Assault Month for Safe Alliance. In 2012, Union Family Services changed their name to Safe Alliance, and this better represents their work to keep families safe and their partnership with Department of Social Services, CMC-Union, Union County Health Department and law enforcement. They are challenging the communities to get involved and ask “what’s happened to you” instead of “what’s wrong with you”. They will have a Corn Hole tournament May 4<sup>th</sup> and a barbecue and corn maze fair at Aw Shucks in the fall. Upon motion duly made by Randy Baucom, seconded by Ken Brown, Council unanimously approved the proclamation. This will be displayed in their multi-purpose room along with other municipalities’ proclamations. A copy is appended to these minutes.

Mayor Pro-Tem Randy Baucom reported that he met with Union County Urban Forester Bill Smith. Mr. Smith is in the process of making recommendations to the Town, and will plan to present those recommendations at the May 20, 2013 regular meeting.

Upon motion duly made by Edd Little, seconded by Ken Brown, Council unanimously appointed Gene Price and Michele Sarno as Planning Board members for a three-year term ending in May, 2016. Upon motion duly made by Randy Baucom, seconded by Jaren Simpson, Council unanimously appointed Joe Medlin as Planning Board alternate for a three-year term ending in May, 2016.

Unionville Elementary School Assistant Principal Brian Lynip addressed Council, representing the Odyssey of the Mind teams. Mr. Lynip stated that OM is an exceptional program to help push students to be creative problem-solvers. All four of Unionville’s teams won at the state competition. Three teams placed first and one team placed second, qualifying all four teams to compete in the World Competition at University of Michigan in Lansing, Michigan May 22-25, 2013. Twenty-seven students and one coach per team, along with props, will attend this competition. They need to raise \$35,000 and Town of Unionville has contributed in the past. They are asking for unprecedented contributions to match this unprecedented task. They are planning other fundraisers, such as sock hops, a father/daughter dance, and a breakfast at Applebee’s. Mayor Simpson made inquiry as to the cost per person. Mr. Lynip stated that the cost is roughly \$1,000 per person. Mayor Pro-Tem Baucom made inquiry as to how much they currently have raised. Mr. Lynip stated that they have several thousand from sock hops and hope to raise \$3,000 from one more. Mayor Pro-Tem Baucom made inquiry as to the Town’s contribution last year. Budget and Finance Officer Baucom stated that the Town made a donation of \$5,000 in 2012. Mrs. Martha Helms, one of the coaches, stated that the school must raise all of the money itself, whereas Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools pay for all of their teams to attend. Mayor Simpson made inquiry as to their request from Union County Schools. Mr. Lynip stated that last year UCPS matched the Town’s donation of \$5,000, but did not commit to a donation this year. Upon motion duly made by Randy Baucom, seconded by Ken Brown, Council unanimously approved a donation of \$2,000 per team for a total of \$8,000.

In other business, Attorney Ken Helms made inquiry as to the 2013-2014 budget deadline. Mr. Baucom stated that the Town must adopt a budget by June 30, 2013, and he will bring recommendations to the May 20, 2013 regular meeting.

Upon motion duly made by Ken Brown, seconded by Edd Little, Council unanimously agreed to enter into Executive Session to hear an update from their attorney, Ken Helms.

Upon motion duly made by Edd Little, seconded by Randy Baucom, Council unanimously adjourned Executive Session.

Clerk Gaddy referred to an email regarding the Town's interest in joining Mecklenburg Union Metropolitan Planning Organization (MUMPO) at a cost of \$1,986 annually, with a projected share of \$6,119 annually. The Council remains undecided on this matter.

In other business, Mayor Simpson conveyed his deep appreciation for the support, concern and prayers generated by this small town of Unionville during his recent health incident. The camaraderie is unparalleled, and we should strive to promote it. The most important asset our town has is the people. His doctors and nurses could not believe it. He and his family thank everyone for everything they did.

There being no other business, Mayor Simpson declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sonya W. Gaddy  
Clerk

Approved as to form:

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R. Kenneth Helms, Jr., Town Attorney