The Town of Unionville Town Council met at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, August 19, 2019 in Town Hall, 1102 Unionville Church Road, Monroe, NC. Mayor Baucom and Commissioners Andrew Benton, Edd Little, Gene Price and Jaren Simpson were present. Commissioner Ken Brown was absent. Town 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.

Mayor Baucom welcomed everyone to the regular meeting and called the meeting to order. There were no public comments.

Upon motion duly made by Andrew Benton, seconded by Gene Price, Council unanimously approved the corrected minutes of the July 15, 2019 regular meeting.

Mayor Baucom recognized Finance Officer Darrell Baucom, who reviewed the financial reports, a copy of which is appended to these minutes. Mr. Baucom stated that on the Balance Sheet, cash at BB&T Bank is lower than normal, due to a transfer of funds to the Certificate of Deposit in June and the contribution to Unionville Volunteer Fire Department. The Town still has plenty of funds to meet their obligations. Income for the year is almost $11,000 mostly from sales and use tax, which is under budget. On the expense side, the largest item was the contribution to Unionville Volunteer Fire Department. He received a bill for insurance from Interlocal Risk Financing, which he will add to the Pending Bills to be Paid tonight. In Transactions Since Last Month, significant items include NC League of Municipalities for 2019-2020 dues of $7,397; Cyber liability insurance of $1,000; Baucom Lawn Maintenance of $2,150, Unionville Volunteer Fire Department donation of $60,000, American Red Cross donation of $3,500 and Piedmont High School Marching Band donation of $2,500. In Pending Bills to be Paid, the only significant item over $1,000 is Helms Robison and Lee Attorneys for $2,160.70 for June and July, 2019. The Certificate of Deposit balance is $2,750,000, yielding 2.12% at Pinnacle Bank. Upon motion duly made by Gene Price, seconded by Edd Little, Council unanimously approved payment of pending bills.

Tax Collector Sonya Gaddy presented to Council lists of 2018 Final Delinquent Real Estate taxes and 2018 Final Delinquent Personal Property taxes. She collected $3.02 personal property taxes today. She reported that Union County has provided a file to the Town and the printer, and we are working to obtain a list of suppressed properties—farm-deferred properties and tax amounts less than $1.00. She is waiting on samples of tax bills and hopes that the bills will go out in the next couple of weeks.
In discussing the Water and Wastewater Interlocal Agreement with City of Monroe, Attorney Ken Helms reported that he has sent an email to City of Monroe’s attorney stating that Unionville has approved the agreement. We are currently awaiting City of Monroe to sign and return the agreement to us for signatures. Clerk Gaddy will follow up with City of Monroe officials Larry Faison and Russ Colbath via email.

Mayor Baucom stated that House Bill 495 has been passed by the N.C. General Assembly and signed by Governor Cooper on July 9, 2019. This bill will require the Town to change the Land Use Ordinance text regarding septic restrictions in Sections 238 and 239 in order to maintain compliance. The process is to direct the Planning Board to make a recommendation regarding this text amendment, after which Council will hold a public hearing and then vote on the text amendment during a regular meeting. Upon motion duly made by Gene Price, seconded by Edd Little, the motion to direct Planning Board to make a recommendation on this text amendment carried with a 3-1 vote, as Commissioner Simpson voted against the motion.

Land Use Administrator Sonya Gaddy drew Council’s attention to Senate Bill 355, which authorizes local government to engage in land use planning and regulation. She provided an overview by Patti Rader of N-Focus Planning. She stated that she will work closely with Ms. Rader and Nadine Bennett and bring required text amendments to Planning Board for their recommendation. Additionally, the Planning Board has begun to review and update the Town’s existing Land Use Plan, dated 2006, along with the Town’s Future Land Use Map, as they are both very outdated and need to be brought up-to-date.

Upon motion duly made by Andrew Benton, seconded by Edd Little, Council unanimously approved the Constitution Week Declaration 2019.

Mayor Baucom stated that Larry and Elaine Deese have gifted the Town two 8” x 10” Unionville High School photos from 1947 and sometime in the 1950s. He asked if anyone could identify any of the students. Commissioner Price identified his step-mother, Marie Price in the graduation photo. Council suggested that Clerk Gaddy contact Helen Morgan, Doris Outen, Melvin Mullis, C.W. Price and George Love to help identify these students. She will have these photos framed and hang them in Town Hall.

In considering the Resolution Opposing High Density Housing, the consensus of the Council was to table this item until the September 16, 2019 meeting.

Mayor Baucom recognized Miss Kaitlyn Baucom, who addressed Council. Miss Baucom is a rising senior at Piedmont High School and it has come to her attention that many members of the Unionville community are uninformed of Town and community events. She would like to create and maintain a Town Facebook page. She would make certain that comments would be disabled and post Town events to this page, in hopes that more people would become active in community events. Mayor Baucom made inquiry as to what type of events would be posted on the page—community blood drives, community and social events,
Town meetings, concerts, bazaar, parades, the school barbecue and any other community
events. Miss Baucom confirmed that all of those items would be posted on the page. Finance
Officer Baucom stated that Town of Fairview has a Facebook page and we might check with
them for any advice they might have. Commissioner Benton stated that there is a program
which autogenerates which would allow the Town to take over any photos affiliated with the
Town so as not to duplicate their presence. Additionally, Deputy Clerk Braswell stated that
she has created a google account for the Town for photos. We can email or text our photos and
they will be stored in the cloud and can be added to the Facebook account. Clerk Gaddy
clarified that there is no cost involved. Commissioner Price made inquiry as to the account
once Miss Baucom goes to college next year. She will be willing to continue to monitor and
update the account. If she is unavailable, her sister, Kristen Baucom will be able to help also.
Upon motion duly made by Edd Little, seconded by Jaren Simpson, Council unanimously
approved the institution of a Facebook account for the Town, voluntarily maintained by
Kaitlyn Baucom.

In other business, Deputy Clerk Braswell stated that she has received a quote from Signs
Now for one of the historic markers on the Unionville Elementary School campus. A copy of
this quote is appended to these minutes. This quote is for a bronze marker on a black
background and will be 24 inches by 24 inches in size, similar to the markers you see in
Monroe mounted on posts. The post is also included in the quote of $2,948.02. The Town
Seal will be at the top of the all markers. The four locations of the markers will be 1) the wall
by the school bell, 2) on the original school wall by the cafeteria, 3) on a post at the cannery
and 4) on a post at the Union Institute site near the current LED sign. These markers are
guaranteed and covered for any damage we might incur—except theft. Commissioner Benton
stated that the wall plaques will probably be smaller than the post plaques and that all four
markers will be on Unionville School property, and Principal Dr. VonCannon has approved the
placement of these markers. Attorney Ken Helms advised that we should obtain at least two
more quotes.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sonya W. Gaddy
Clerk

Approved as to form:

R. Kenneth Helms, Jr., Town Attorney