

TOWN OF UNIONVILLE MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

The Town Council of the Town of Unionville held its regular meeting at 7:30 pm. on Monday, May 16, 2011 in Town Hall, 1102 Unionville Church Road, Monroe, NC. Mayor Simpson and Commissioners Randy Baucom, Ken Brown, Robert Crouch and Edd Little were present. Commissioner Jim Baucom was absent. Town Attorney Ken Helms was also present.

Everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag, after which Mayor Simpson led the prayer of invocation.

Mayor Simpson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

Upon motion duly made by Randy Baucom, seconded by Edd Little, Council unanimously approved the minutes of the April 18, 2011 meeting.

Mayor Simpson then recognized Budget & Finance Officer Darrell Baucom, who presented the financial reports, a copy of which is appended to these minutes. Mr. Baucom reviewed the first two pages, assumptions used in preparing the proposed 2011-2012 budget, stating that he referred to the CD balance when considering investment income. For ad valorem taxes, he recommends remaining at the \$.02/\$100 valuation. He noted that he has received a letter from NC League of Municipalities stating that the franchise tax revenues are expected to have an increase of 2 percent, although he kept Unionville's amount the same as last year. For hold harmless, he used an estimate from the state. He used recent trends for the motor vehicle and sales taxes. He decreased zoning due to trends. In contributions, he left room for other charities. Dues and subscriptions include NCLM, Institute of Government, School of Government, Centralina COG and the Chamber of Commerce. Insurance includes trends and estimates from NCLM. For payroll, he recommends a 3% cost of living/merit increase. The collection fees should be moved to postage and delivery, as the printer will prepare and mail our tax bills this year. For accounting and election expenses, both are estimates from Moyer Smith Roller and Union County, respectively. For legal fees, he estimates \$3,500 per month and for zoning he estimates \$250 per month. Retirement, training, travel and utilities are based on trends. Commissioner Ken Brown made inquiry as to the payroll increase last year. Mr. Baucom stated that it was 5 percent. Commissioner Brown suggested changing 2011-2012 to 4 percent. Mr. Baucom stated that the Town will have \$150,000 in excess revenues over expenses, assuming the state doesn't drastically reduce franchise taxes. Mayor Simpson made inquiry as to the rate for the CD. Mr. Baucom stated that the rate is .80 percent. Other rates were .60 and .40.

Mayor Simpson set a budget public hearing for Monday, June 20, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in Town Hall.

Upon motion duly made by Ken Brown, seconded by Edd Little, Council unanimously approved the Resolution Requesting Improvements to Five Points Intersection.

Mayor Simpson recognized Mr. Ed Goscicki with Union County Public Works. Mr. Goscicki stated that the county currently operates seven dump drop-off sites, some of which are over 20 years old, where residents can bring their household garbage and recyclables. In 1992, the county began charging a 25 cents per bag fee and is now losing money on this endeavor. Solid waste funds are not supported by taxes, but solely by the tipping fees collected at these sites. Last year, the loss was \$400,000 and this year's projection is \$300,000. Next year's loss projection is \$500,000. His staff is recommending to the county commissioners that they 1) increase the bag fee to 50 cents for 32-gallon bags and \$1.00 for 55-gallon bags and 2) stop the two sites in Unionville and Indian Trail and have those municipalities take them over or provide their own program. The Unionville site takes in approximately 120 tons per month and 12-15 tons of recyclables. The current operating budget for this site is \$120,000 per year. Current hours are Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. At 25 cents-per-bag fee, the site is losing money. Commissioner Randy Baucom inquired as to whether they have had discussions with Town of Fairview, and Mr. Goscicki stated they have not. Town Attorney Ken Helms made inquiry as to the deficit. Mr. Goscicki estimated \$500,000 for the entire program, but did not have a breakdown of the Piedmont site. Commissioner Ken Brown inquired as to why the staff is recommending closing of this site, as Unionville citizens are also county citizens. Mayor Simpson made inquiry as to county taxes covering these expenses. Mr. Goscicki stated that taxes

don't cover this expense. Commissioner EddLittle stated that the citizens were told by the county that taxes supplemented these fees several years ago. Mr. Goscicki stated that some municipalities sell pass cards to their residents; others provide a decal for the car for residents. Mayor Simpson made inquiry as to a price for the Town to keep the dump site open. Mr. Goscicki gave two options 1) operate the facility and have Town of Unionville make up the difference, 2) Town of Unionville take over the facility and decide how to operate it perhaps by contracting with Union County. Commissioner Randy Baucom made inquiry as to statistics of how much is taken in from Unionville residents. Mr. Goscicki stated that they do not track where the garbage is coming from. Attorney Helms suggested that the Council appoint a committee of two people to meet with Town of Fairview, Mr. Goscicki and possibly two county commissioners to work toward a solution. Council unanimously appointed Randy Baucom and EddLittle to make up this committee.

In considering the request for charitable contributions for the Hornets Nest Girl Scout Council, resident Kathy Oropesa addressed Council, stating that they already support two Unionville troops by allowing them to meet in Town Hall and suggested that they provide funding to them instead of the Council if they want to support local girls. Upon motion duly made by EddLittle, seconded by Ken Brown, Council unanimously denied a contribution to Hornets Nest Girl Scouts Council.

In considering the request for charitable contributions for Union Springs AME Zion Church, Attorney Ken Helms stated that, according to the Institute of Government, a municipality is not authorized to give funds toward a roof on any structure. This is not due to their being a religions organization. There being no motion, the request failed.

In considering the request for charitable contributions for United Family Services, no one was present, so this will be tabled until the June 20, 2011 meeting.

In considering the request for charitable contributions for Union County Community Arts, Mrs. Barbara Faulk addressed Council. She thanked them for last year's donation and stated that it directly relates to Unionville residents. They serve 54 public schools with a total enrollment of close to 40,000. Arts programs recipients receive enhanced educational values they wouldn't get otherwise. Piedmont has top-notch programs, such as VSA and a September breakfast where Piedmont students wrote thank-you notes and gave them to the people as they left the breakfast. Upon motion duly made by Ken Brown, seconded by Robert Crouch, Council unanimously approved a \$1,000 donation to Union County Community Arts.

In considering the request for charitable contributions for Newspapers in Education, no one was present, so this will be tabled until the June 20, 2011 meeting.

The requests for charitable contributions for Andy Boggs Memorial Golf Tournament and Council on Aging will be considered at the June 20, 2011 meeting.

Commissioner Randy Baucom nominated Clerk Sonya Gaddy for the Municipal Clerk of the Year.

In other business, resident Arlie Rushing, President of Unionville Lions Club, requested funds of \$2,500 for the annual July 4th festivities. He stated that sponsors are not committing as they have in the past. Mayor Simpson stated that Clerk Gaddy would provide the request form, and this item will be considered at the June 20, 2011 meeting.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Approved as to form:

Sonya W. Gaddy
Clerk

R. Kenneth Helms, Jr., Town Attorney