

TOWN OF UNIONVILLE MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

The Town Council of the Town of Unionville met at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, October 19, 2015 in Town Hall, 1102 Unionville Church Road, Monroe, NC. Mayor Simpson and Commissioners Randy Baucom, Ken Brown, Edd Little, Jaren Simpson and Ken Trull were present. Attorney Ken Helms was absent.

Everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag, after which N. C. House Representative Dean Arp led the prayer of invocation.

Mayor Simpson called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.

Mayor Simpson opened the floor for public comments. Representative Arp addressed Council with an update from the N.C. General Assembly. He reported that the session recently addressed Medicaid reform and budget policies. He thanked the Town for their support. The legislature rolled back the budget surplus with a tax cut, plan to keep driver's education and teacher assistants in the schools, and plan to change Medicaid funding. They passed a bond referendum to go to the voters of \$4.64 billion which will put us 1.16 billion less in debt in the next six years. Grant programs are available for this bond. He invited Council to attend a presentation regarding the bond referendum on Wednesday, October 21, 2015 at 11:30 a.m. at Hickory Tavern in Indian Trail. Council thanked Rep. Arp for a job well done. Mayor Simpson made inquiry as to any concerns the Town should anticipate. Rep. Arp stated that the legislature came up with a good compromise regarding sales tax redistribution affecting counties and Union County is a big winner; revenues are up 8% for 2016 at the county level. Mayor Simpson made inquiry as to magistrates' responsibilities. Rep. Arp reported that North Carolina is the first state to adopt Senate Bill 2, which allows magistrates and Register of Deeds employees who have sincerely-held religious beliefs the opportunity not to be involved in any marriages; others in the office will perform those duties. Issues of this type will eventually come to the community level. Mayor Pro-Tem Baucom made inquiry as to the county water bond. Rep. Arp stated that this is a financing mechanism so counties and municipalities can apply for a water bond—a matching grant or a loan repayment program. In the loan program, one must qualify for a zero percent interest loan and the payback will be used again. Both have precedence under the clean water act. Rep. Arp also stated that Governor McCrory introduced a transportation bond and they stopped the transfers from the highway fund to the general fund, resulting in \$440 million applied and spent on transportation projects, using the gas tax appropriately to build bridges and roads, and allowing twenty percent of the state's roads to be retopped every five years. This net effect of speeding up several projects is done debt free. Mayor Simpson made inquiry as to the retopping of C.J. Thomas Road. Commissioner Simpson stated that this road is in the preliminary stages now, and will be six inches wider when resurfaced. Commissioner Trull made inquiry as to a shortfall when funds are taken from the general fund and put in the highway fund. Rep. Arp stated that the state is in a strong financial position with the surplus. Commissioner Brown made inquiry as to emergency services. Rep. Arp stated that they have helped the retirees, military and National Guard and are still working on setting up separate fund rewards for those emergency services who are fiscally responsible. Rep. Arp stated that the

general fund is accountable, as a state auditor investigates and make reports and the legislature acts upon those requests. They also approved a ten-year rules review.

There being no corrections to the minutes of the August 17, 2015 and September 21, 2015 regular meetings, Mayor Simpson declared them approved as reviewed by Council.

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 reported that the Balance Sheet shows an increase of \$55,000, mostly from franchise tax deposits. On page 3, income is at \$97,000--mostly from franchise taxes, including cable. On the expense side, contributions are below budget, and will be close with a contribution of \$60,000 to Unionville Volunteer Fire Department. Net income is \$48,000, a \$26,000 deficit versus budget. Last month's transactions include Centralina Council of Governments \$1850 for the 2015-2016 contract and Moyer, Smith Roller \$2,744 for the audit; all other payments are normal. In Pending Bills to be Paid, the Helms, Robison and Lee Attorney bill is \$1620; Moyer Smith Roller is \$1,414; other bills include natural gas, Duke Energy and Unionville VFD. The consensus of the Council was to pay pending bills. Mr. Baucom reported that he will be on vacation for the November 16, 2015 meeting and will leave the financial report for Council's review.

Union County Assistant Manager Michelle Lancaster and Public Works Director Ed Goscicki were unable to attend this meeting and will reschedule for the November 16, 2015 meeting.

In considering Voluntary Annexation #21, upon motion duly made by Ken Brown, seconded by Ken Trull, Council unanimously adopted a resolution directing the clerk to investigate this annexation.

In considering the Centralina Council of Governments service contract, which provides planning and zoning support to Land Use Administrator Gaddy, the consensus of the Town was to have Mrs. Gaddy obtain quotes from two other sources.

In considering the ASCAP Music License for the Town, Clerk Gaddy reported that Attorney Helms has reviewed this contract and found it to be valid. This contract will protect the Town from a lawsuit if it or someone hired by the Town plays or performs copyrighted music. Upon motion duly made by Ken Brown, seconded by Jaren Simpson, Council unanimously approved the \$335 yearly fee to enter into contract with ASCAP.

Upon motion duly made by Ken Brown that Darrell Baucom be reappointed to the Parks and Recreation Committee and motion duly made by Ken Trull that Scott Barbee be reappointed to the Parks and Recreation Committee, and seconded by Edd Little, Council unanimously approved these appointments.

Commissioner Ken Brown updated the Council regarding the Christmas parade and tree lighting on Saturday, December 5, 2015 beginning at 3:00 p.m. The committee will continue to obtain information regarding poles and banners for 2016, as this process will take several months.

The Council did not object to Clerk Gaddy's vacation day on Friday, November 13, 2015.

Town resident Doug Little and American Legion Coach Alan Mitchell addressed Council regarding a request for a charitable contribution of \$5,000 for American Legion Post #535 baseball team. Mr. Little stated that the post is working to raise funds for a building, but they also support the baseball team. The team has been awarded the state tournament in July, 2016 at Wingate University. This is an honor, as no post as young as #535 has been award the state championship tournament. The cost of the tournament is approximately \$25,000 and the post doesn't want to jeopardize its building fund. The cost includes housing eight teams from around the state, umpires for each game, field rental and a banquet for all players. As is the Town's policy, Council will review this request until the November 16, 2015 regular meeting.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sonya W. Gaddy
Clerk

Approved as to form:

R. Kenneth Helms, Jr., Town Attorney