

**TOWN OF UNIONVILLE
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

The Town Council of the Town of Unionville held its regular meeting on Monday, January 16, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. in Town Hall, 1102 Unionville Church Road, Monroe, NC. Mayor Simpson and all Commissioners were present. Town Attorney Ken Helms was absent.

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

Mayor Simpson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

There were no public comments.

There being no corrections to the minutes of the December 19, 2016 regular meeting minutes, Mayor Simpson declared them approved as reviewed by Council.

Mayor Simpson recognized Budget and Finance Officer Darrell Baucom, who reviewed the financial statements, a copy of which is appended to these minutes. Mr. Baucom stated that the Balance Sheet reflects the renewed Certificate of Deposit with Yadkin Bank at one percent interest for 18 months. The previous rate was .75 or .65 percent. On the Profit and Loss vs. Budget, income is ahead of projection by \$7,700 with higher ad valorem tax and zoning deposits and lower franchise taxes. On the expense side, contributions are ahead of budget due to the community center and Volunteer Fire Department. In Transactions by Account, significant activity since last month includes Helms, Robinson and Lee legal fees. Nothing is unusual in Pending Bills to be Paid. Upon motion duly made by Ken Brown, seconded by Randy Baucom, Council unanimously approved payment of pending bills.

Mayor Simpson recognized Mayor Pro-Tem Randy Baucom, who introduced a resolution supporting a traffic signal at Concord Highway and Lawyers Road, as Scott Vuncannon was not present. Mr. Baucom met with N.C. House Representative Dean Arp and Town of Fairview Commissioner Gary Wilfong to discuss the situation. North Carolina Department of Transportation has plans to install a traffic signal there by the end of February, 2017. Benton's Cross Roads Grill has collected approximately 600 signatures petitioning for a stop light. Upon motion duly made by Randy Baucom, seconded by Jaren Simpson, Council unanimously adopted the resolution, a copy of which is appended to these minutes.

Commissioner Brown set a public hearing for Annexation #24, five parcels on Deese Road, for Monday, February 20, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Clerk Gaddy introduced the annual request for a contribution to Union County Heritage Festival. The festival will be held Saturday, April 22, 2017 at Union County Agricultural Center. The consensus of the Council was to donate a gift basket including certificates from Town merchants totaling \$250.00.

Commissioner Andrew Benton introduced the idea of a North Carolina Historical Marker for the Unionville Elementary School cannery and Union Institute, as many residents aren't aware of the history and significance of these two locations. Mr. Benton stated that we need to preserve the local heritage of our Town. Typically, the state will only install markers that have statewide significance, rather than local significance only. Union Institute might qualify for the state monument. If the cannery does not qualify, the Town could possibly erect a monument to recognize its significance. The statewide process takes approximately two years to complete. Mayor Simpson made inquiry as to the cost of the markers. Mr. Benton does not have that information yet. Mayor Simpson suggested finding historical information in the history of Unionville books written by Mrs. Essie Mae Outen. Copies of these books are in Town Hall. The consensus of the Council was to proceed with the history of the cannery and Union Institute. Deputy Clerk Melody Braswell will research through the books for more information.

In considering maintenance issues, upon motion duly made by Ken Brown, seconded by Andrew Benton, Council unanimously approved replacing three halogen lights at the flag pole with LED lights for \$388; painting the interior of Town Hall and making repairs to exterior doors as suggested by Palmetto Exterminators. Copies of Palmetto's recommendations and Hinson Electric's quote are appended to these minutes.

In other business, Commissioner Ken Brown reported that the Fire Board recommends Unionville Volunteer Fire Department replace the 1994 1,250-gallon tanker with a new 3,000-gallon tanker. This is driven toward upcoming Department of Insurance inspections. The department will get a better rating; thus, residents will save on insurance premiums. He requests that the Town adopt a resolution to support Unionville Volunteer Fire Department with continued funding of \$60,000 per year, as they have done in the past. If so, the trucks will continue to belong to the Unionville department and would not be moved to another department in the future. The cost of this tanker truck will be \$450,000-\$500,000. Commissioner Little made inquiry as to the fate of the 1994 truck. Commissioner Brown stated that they will donate it to Piedmont High School's fire academy for training. The existing older truck at Piedmont High School will be donated to Chad Simpson, as his father, Lanny Simpson, took his final ride on it. Mayor Simpson made inquiry as to the ownership of the tanker. Commissioner Brown stated that the department is asking permission to purchase this new tanker from the Town since the Town has continually supported the VFD for several years, rather than Union County purchasing the tanker. This would likely ensure that the tanker remain the possession of the Town. Normally, they would wait until 2020 to purchase a tanker, but they want to get this tanker paid for prior to another engine purchase. This request is coming due to state regulations. It will take the department from two engines and two tankers to three engines and three tankers. Upon motion duly made by Edd Little, seconded by Jaren Simpson, Council unanimously approved a resolution to this effect. Commissioner Brown will work with Attorney Helms to draft this resolution.

Commissioner Brown also updated the Council on the Training Tower. They are still waiting on the donation of poles from Time Warner Cable.

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