

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

The Town Council of the Town of Unionville met at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, June 20, 2022 in Town Hall, 1102 Unionville Church Road, Monroe, NC. Mayor Baucom and Commissioners Andrew Benton, Jeff Broadaway, Gene Price and Jaren Simpson were present. Commissioner Chad Simpson 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 Benton led the prayer of invocation.

Mayor Baucom called the meeting to order and invited public comments. There were no comments.

Upon motion duly made by Gene Price, seconded by Jaren Simpson, Council unanimously approved the corrected minutes of the May 16, 2022 regular meeting, a copy of which was provided for the mayor and each commissioner.

Mayor Baucom recognized Finance Officer Darrell Baucom, who reviewed the proposed 2022-2023 Budget, assuming a \$.02/\$100 valuation ad valorem tax rate. He stated that income shows \$349,000, including \$218,000 in savings. Changes since last month include the adjustment of merit and cost-of-living payroll increases of 8.5 percent, which is consistent with North Carolina League of Municipalities estimates from May, 2022. Upon motion duly made by Jaren Simpson, seconded by Jeff Broadaway, Council unanimously approved the proposed 2022-2023 budget with an ad valorem tax rate of \$.02/\$100 valuation, a copy of which is appended to these minutes.

Mr. Baucom drew Council's attention to the Budget Amendment for the 2021-2022 Budget, a copy of which is appended to these minutes. He stated that the amendments go from \$300,000 to \$436,000 due to the lower interest rate affecting interest income, franchise taxes and alcohol taxes being less than anticipated and offset by higher motor vehicle taxes and sales taxes from the state. Reimbursements from the ARP funds total \$111,000. On the Expense side, contributions are a moving target, as the Council will consider the American Legion request tonight. Wolf Trail Engineering is included in Consulting for their analysis of the expansion of Town Hall with SCIF funds. Other factors are lawsuits' legal fees, higher internet and website costs totaling \$5,000. Upon motion duly made by Jeff Broadaway, seconded by Andrew Benton, Council unanimously approved the 2021-2022 Budget Amendments.

Mr. Baucom reviewed the current month Balance Sheet, a copy of which is appended to these minutes. He stated that the certificate of deposit will mature in September and he anticipates a higher interest rate. The amended budget shows the Town is favorable on income and expenses and motor vehicle taxes are anticipated to be collected in June. Items in Activity Since Last Month include Baucom Lawn Maintenance of \$2,150, Helms Bennett PA for legal fees, NFocus and Old Republic. Pending bills include cyber liability insurance and smaller

items. Upon motion duly made by Gene Price, seconded by Andrew Benton, Council unanimously approved payment of pending bills.

In considering the letter from Baucom Lawn Maintenance indicating an increase of \$350 per quarter due to higher fuel costs and inflation, upon motion duly made by Jaren Simpson, seconded by Andrew Benton, Council unanimously approved the additional fees for lawn maintenance.

Upon motion duly made by Gene Price seconded by Jeff Broadaway, Council unanimously elected to adjourn to Executive Session regarding legal matters.

Upon motion duly made by Jaren Simpson, seconded by Gene Price, Council unanimously adjourned Executive Session.

In considering Charitable Contributions, Mayor Baucom tabled the request from American Legion Post #535 until Attorney Helms can research and provide answers to some legal questions.

Clerk Sonya Gaddy stated that the Town has provided a gift-card basket of ten \$25-gift cards from area merchants to donate to the Heritage Festival for the last several years. Upon motion duly made by Andrew Benton, seconded by Jeff Broadaway, Council unanimously approved this donation not to exceed \$250.00.

Mayor Baucom recognized resident Gary Salek, representing the American Red Cross. He stated that the Red Cross is responsible for hurricane and wildfire relief, Ukraine relief, military family relief and other disaster relief. Blood is in higher need this summer. They provide a free program working through the Volunteer Fire Department to provide free smoke alarms to those in need. They assist everyone in need—regardless of income level, insurance, etc. Upon motion duly made by Jeff Broadaway, seconded by Gene Price, Council approved a donation of \$3,500 to American Red Cross.

Land Use Administrator Gaddy introduced the 2022-2023 NFocus backup planning and code enforcement contract, a copy of which is appended to these minutes. Attorney Helms pointed out that there is a 30-day notice of termination if we are not satisfied. Upon motion duly made by Jaren Simpson, seconded by Jeff Broadaway, Council unanimously approved the 2022-2023 NFocus contract.

Tax Collector Gaddy reminded Council that the Town is required to publish unpaid 2021 real estate taxes in a local paper by June 30, 2022. The current delinquent list has 90 accounts and totals \$2,572.94 and is appended to these minutes. The quote to advertise on Thursday, June 30, 2022 in the Enquirer-Journal will not exceed \$447.75. Upon motion duly made by Jaren Simpson, seconded by Andrew Benton, Council unanimously approved the advertisement of these taxes.

Upon motion duly made by Jeff Broadaway, seconded by Jaren Simpson, Council unanimously approved the 2022 Land Use Plan as Planning Board recommended, including the Five Points intersection in the Future Land Use Map, as this is reasonable and consistent with the current Land Use Ordinance and Land Use Plan. A copy is appended to these minutes.

Mayor Baucom recognized Clerk Gaddy, who updated the Council regarding the Unionville Movie Night 2022 on August 26, 2022 at 8:15 p.m on Unionville Elementary's walking track, sponsored by Union County Parks and Recreation. In the event of bad weather, Mrs. VonCannon approved the movie to be shown in the school gymnasium. The committee met and will only allow one vendor this year—Unionville Lions Club--to sell food and drinks. Union County Parks and Recreation will provide the movie, "Spirit Untamed", the screen, popcorn and water for free. Union County Library will guide children and parents in making a craft beginning at 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Gaddy has two quotes for one handicapped and three standard portable restrooms. Union Site Services' quote is \$853.62 and Stevens Septic's quote is \$575. Upon motion duly made by Jaren Simpson, seconded by Gene Price, Council unanimously approved the Stevens Septic quote. Additionally, the committee wants to post four banners around town at the Roundabout and on Highways 601 and 200 for a price not to exceed \$400. Upon motion duly made by Andrew Benton, seconded by Jeff Broadaway, Council approved the signs.

In considering Text Amendment #TC-20-03—Section 220 of the Land Use Ordinance, Council made inquiry as to Union County's regulations. Upon motion duly made by Jaren Simpson, seconded by Gene Price, Council unanimously tabled this decision until the July 18, 2022 meeting.

Clerk Gaddy reminded everyone on the Monday, July 4<sup>th</sup> festivities in Town, and asked who will be available to ride in the 1:00 parade. Mayor Baucom and Commissioners Benton and Price will plan to ride. She will find a vehicle for them.

In other business, Clerk Gaddy has one quote to pressure wash the Community Center for \$800 and one quote to pressure wash Town Hall and the Community Center for \$350.00 prior to the July 4<sup>th</sup> festivities. Upon motion duly made by Jaren Simpson, seconded by Jeff Broadaway, Council unanimously approved the quote for \$350.00.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Approved as to form:

Sonya W. Gaddy  
Clerk

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R. Kenneth Helms, Jr., Town Attorney