



UNION CITY COUNCIL AGENDA (MINUTES)

Mayor- Harold Thompson

District #1- Jackie Earls

District #2- Robert Garner

District #3- Gloria Rogers

District #4- Ricky T. Harris

District #5- Pam Sloss

District #6- Monty Cooke

Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2026, 6:30 P.M.

101 Sharpe Ave.

THE MEETING MAY BE VIEWED ELECTRONICALLY ON OUR CITY OF UNION FACEBOOK PAGE.

{Summary minutes of City Council meeting. Audio tapes of the meeting are on file and are included by reference as part of this meeting. An agenda of this meeting has been either mailed or made available to persons, organizations and local news media as per their request. The agenda gives the date, time and place of the meeting as well as the order of business. This disclosure is in compliance with the South Carolina Code of Laws of 1976, Section 30-4-80 (e).}

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR HAROLD THOMPSON

2. INVOCATION – MAYOR THOMPSON

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

a. December 16th, 2025

Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

Motion by Councilmember Harris to approve December 16, 2025, Regular City Council Meeting Minutes.

Second by Councilmember Sloss.

Carried Unanimously.

5. CITY COUNCIL TO RECEIVE COMMUNICATION MONTHLY REPORTS:

a. MONTHLY REPORTS

Human Resources Director

Dena Lancaster

Public Service Department

Dwayne Hardy

Public Safety Department

Robbie McGee

Planning Department

Kathy Teague

Maintenance Shop

Leroy Edwards

Utility Department

Lance Davis

Finance Department

Laura Hembree

Motion by Councilmember Sloss to accept the monthly department reports as information.

Second by Councilmember Rogers.

Carried Unanimously.

6. ANNIVERSARIES

Cody S. Adkins	Heavy Equipment Operator	7 Years
Jonathe L. Jeter	Customer Service Rep	9 Years
Melody V. Porter	GIS Technician	26 Years
Jennifer F. Price	Procurement Agent	26 Years
Larry Robinson Jr.	Fire Captain	24 Years
William C. Whisnant	Water Plant Operator	10 Years

A round of applause was given for all and a “congratulations” for their service.

7. COUNCIL TO CONSIDER AWARD/BID FROM JOHNSON CONTROLS

Presented by City Administrator, Joe Nichols. Thank you, Mayor and Council. As you know, we’ve been struggling with our control system in City Hall for quite some time and we were able to get an energy grant from South Carolina office for \$25,000.00. We went after a Municipal Association Grant for \$100,000.00, but we were denied. We want to move forward with this; we have this in the budget for City Hall. Total price for Fleet Upgrade is \$118,755.00 and we can move forward to get this approved tonight by Council.

Motion made by Councilmember Rogers to approve proposal made by Johnson Controls Inc. to update City Hall's HVAC controls.

Second by Councilmember Harris.

Carried Unanimously.

8. COUNCIL TO CONSIDER 2ND READING AND ORDINANCE FOR BUFFALO WEST SPRINGS

Presented by Marty Little, CRCOG.

Thank you, Mayor. Good evening, Council. This is a request to annex 2.82 acres along Buffalo West Springs Highway and to rezone it to A2 highway commercial. Your Planning Commission met earlier this evening and unanimously recommends approval of the annexation and A2 zoning.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to pass second reading on this recommendation for Buffalo Creek.

Second by Councilmember Rogers

Carried Unanimously.

9. COUNCIL TO CONSIDER OFFICE SPACE AT MAIN STREET JUNCTION FOR UNION

UPLIFTED TO UTILIZE

Paige Stevenson- President and CEO of United Way of the Piedmont

We serve Spartanburg, Cherokee, and Union Counties, and we are very pleased to be the background organization for Union Uplifted, which is a tremendous opportunity for Union County. It is a cradle to career initiative that will be focused on making sure that every child in Union County has the opportunity to succeed and to thrive.

The first two pillars of that plan for the initiative will be focused on early childhood, early learning and literacy, and then on the other end of that cradle to career spectrum with looking at workforce development and post-secondary education. We are partnering with the community in this. We had spent close to 16 months that was in community conversation.

We had over 700 individuals in this community into this particular plan. We have over 37 community champions, many of who are in the room tonight. And then one of the other main partners with us, obviously if we're talking about cradle to career and it's an education plan, we have been partnering with Union County School District and Joey Haney has been at the table with me and my partner in crime here, Virgil Murney, who's the VP of Community and Collective Impact for Learning Way.

We know that as this plan moves forward that we're going to need to have physical space so that we've got the visibility and then for people to be able to access those that we will be hiring to help push this plan forward. And so we've had conversations with Mr. Nichols and we would love the opportunity to be right there on Main Street, easily accessible, and then to have the City's support and partnership in this that will make an impact not only for our

children, but also for our local industry as well. Any other questions? I'd like to thank you for your efforts and all the things that you all do, especially for the community.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to approve the Main Street Junction office space to be used by Union Uplifted.

Second made by Councilmember Harris

Councilmember Sloss Abstained from the vote due to being on the Board.

Carried Unanimously by remaining council.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL

11. CITY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

The new fleet maintenance facility is making strong progress, with the final four concrete pours recently completed, totaling more than 1,300 yards of concrete. Steel and major building components are already on-site, and once vertical construction begins, the public will see significant visible changes. Crews have completed major utility work, including gas, electric, sewer connections, storm drainage, and interior bay drainage systems. Asphalt and road access work are scheduled next, weather permitting. Construction teams have been working long hours, including overnight concrete pours, to keep the project moving forward.

The facility will span over 20,000 square feet and is designed to be a showcase building. It will feature exterior bays for washing and servicing vehicles, drive-through bays for large trucks, diesel and gasoline tanks for vehicle servicing, lifts, independent workspaces, a general office, a break room, and a welding facility. The project remains on schedule for completion in May. FEMA documentation has been submitted and is awaiting final processing. Additionally, contract documents for another end-of-year project have been reviewed, final drawings are pending, and bid dates are expected to be set soon, likely in February or early March.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

THE FLOOR IS NOW OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS. CITIZENS OF UNION OR OTHERS WHO HAVE REGISTERED FOR TIME WITH THE CLERK CAN NOW ADDRESS COUNCIL FOR ANY MATTERS ON TONIGHT'S AGENDA OR OTHER MATTERS YOU WISH TO BRING BEFORE THE COUNCIL. SPEAKERS ARE ALLOWED UP TO 3 MINUTES AND POSSIBLY LONGER IF THAT SPEAKER IS RECOGNIZED IN ADVANCE AS REPRESENTING A LARGER GROUP WITH SIMILAR CONCERNS. TO PRESERVE THE DECORUM OF THIS PUBLIC MEETING, AND TO ALLOW ADEQUATE TIME FOR DISCUSSION AMONG THE ELECTED MEMBERSHIP OF CITY COUNCIL, THIS WILL BE THE ONLY TIME WE WILL RECEIVE UNSOLICITED COMMENTS TONIGHT FROM THE PUBLIC.

- a. Live Healthy Union- Rena Goode (Coalition Coordinator at Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System)**

Rena Goode: Live Healthy Union

(Live Healthy Union) which is a part of the Spartanburg Regional Health Care System.

Our reason for here is to give you some updates on our community health improvement plan. We were here three years ago. We have worked with the community, did different listening sessions and surveys.

We have the new community health improvement plan for the next two years. With this, our focus areas are access to care, behavioral health, healthy eating, active living, and resilient children and families. Live Healthy was funded a grant from Duke Endowment for the next five years.

So, we have to focus on healthy eating and active living. We all know some of us probably have chronic issues and so we want to come up with different programs here in Union that focus on healthy eating and active living. So, we're just here to try to get you all support.

If you can't make it to any of our meetings or events or anything, we're just here to get your support. So, with our leverage of funds and partnership, we have funding and want to help the County and the City to create a community and culture focus in health. So, as you plan your budgets, remember that we're here to help and we are a resource with community health.

All right. Thanks for the opportunity.

13. MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING

Motion to adjourn made by Councilmember Rogers

Second by Councilmember Sloss

Carried Unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:45p.m.