

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE UNION COUNTY COUNCIL  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2007 AT 4:30 P.M.  
GRAND JURY ROOM AT THE UNION COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Present: Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh, Vice Chairperson Dora Martin, Councilwoman Joan Little, Councilman Tommy Ford, Councilman Joey English, Councilman Randall Hanvey, Councilman Joe Lawson, County Attorney Sammy Diamaduros and Clerk to Council Linda G. Jolly

Absent: None

Notice of the meeting and a copy of the agenda giving the date, time and place of the meeting was posted on the bulletin board in the hall of the Union County Courthouse and a copy was mailed to the members of the Union County Council, the County Attorney, WBCU Radio Station, the Union Daily Times, Spartanburg Herald Journal, WSPA-TV, WIS News, Allen Hutto with MHISC, Mr. Ethan Burroughs with Wachovia Bank, the Union County Development Board, Mr. J. B. Stepp, Mr. Scott Frost, Wallace Thomson Hospital, Mr. John Cadena with SCANA Corp., Ms. Ann Fesperman with the Upstate Workforce Investment Board, Mr. Darrell Wade, Ms. Ann Canada, Ms. Annie E. Wessinger with Capital Consultants, Ms. Sandra Palmer and Mrs. Anne Brock with Clemson Extension.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh called the meeting to order. Chaplain Dora Martin gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk to Council gave the Roll Call with the following results:

Joan Little, District 1 – Present  
Dora T. Martin, District 2 – Present  
Tommy E. Ford, District 3 – Present  
Joey D. English, District 4 – Present  
Randall Hanvey, District 5 – Present  
Joe G. Lawson, District 6 – Present

Tommy Ford: Made a motion to dispense with reading of the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of Union County Council held on December 13, 2006 and to adopt the minutes as written.

Dora Martin: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh presented certificates and gift cards to Latasha P. Smith for 5 years of dedicated service, to Patricia Fowler for 10 years of dedicated service, to Stephen Jones for 10 years of dedicated service, and to Councilman Joe Lawson for 10 years of dedicated service to Union County.

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Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated there were two positions on the Airport Commission which were vacant due to term expirations.

Joe Lawson: Made a motion to advertise the two positions on the Airport Commission.

Dora Martin: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated that Council needed to consider the appointment of a Vice Chairperson for County Council and opened the floor for nominations.

Councilman Randall Hanvey nominated Councilwoman Dora Martin.

Joe Lawson: Made a motion the nominations come to a close.

Joey English: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated that Council needed to set the day and time for the Council meetings.

Joe Lawson: Made a motion that the day and time remain the same as it is now which is the second Wednesday of each month at 4:30 p.m.

Joey English: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated that Council needed to consider appointment of the Clerk to Council and opened the floor for nominations. Councilman Tommy Ford nominated Linda Jolly.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to close the nominations for Clerk to Council.

Randall Hanvey: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh provided Council with a copy of his appointments for Standing Committees. Chairperson of the Committee on County Administration and Finance is Councilwoman Dora Martin. Chairperson of the Committee on Public Works, Roads, and Bridges and County Property is Councilman Joey English. Chairperson of the Committee on Personnel, County Offices and Departments is Councilman Joe Lawson. Chairperson of Public Health & Social Services is Councilman Tommy Ford. Chairperson of the Committee on Law Enforcement, Judiciary & Recreation is Councilwoman Joan Little. Chairperson of the Committee on Planning and Development is Councilman Randall Hanvey. County Chaplain is Councilwoman Dora Martin and the Sergeant At Arms is Councilman Joey English. Mr. Betenbaugh also provided Council with a copy of the description of the Standing Committees.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh informed Council that the Martin Luther King Day Celebration would be held on Monday at 6:30 p.m. at McBeth Baptist Church. On Tuesday, January 30th at 4:30 p.m. at the Union National Guard Armory there will be a Guard send off for the troops being deployed to Afghanistan.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated members of Council had received a copy of the appraisal done on the property adjacent to the airport. The Airport Commission had approached the Council about purchasing the property so Council had an appraisal done

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which came back at an appraised value of \$1,000.00 per acre for the 50 acres. Mr. Betenbaugh asked that the Committee on County Administration and Finance consider the appraisal at their next meeting.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh welcomed Mrs. Joan Little as the Council's newest member and congratulated her on being elected to serve County Council District 1.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh gave second reading of an ordinance creating an Infrastructure and Development Bank.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to accept second reading of the ordinance to create an Infrastructure and Development Bank.

Joey English: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated our labor lawyers had recommended the County amend the Personnel Policy by including a disclaimer. This would mean the Council would need to repeal the current Personnel Policy and replace it with a new policy which included the disclaimer. Mr. Betenbaugh introduced an ordinance in title only to repeal the current Personnel Policy.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to dispense with referring the ordinance to repeal the Personnel Policy to a committee and to accept first reading as stated.

Randall Hanvey: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh introduced an ordinance in title only to replace the current Personnel Policy with one that includes a disclaimer.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to dispense with referring the ordinance to a committee and to accept the ordinance to replace the current Personnel Policy with one that includes a disclaimer.

Joey English: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Betenbaugh stated this would need to be discussed further in a meeting of the Committee on County Administration and Finance prior to second reading.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh introduced an ordinance to amend the jointly owned and operated Industrial Business Park in conjunction with Spartanburg County, dated as of September 1, 1998; such Industrial /Business Park being located in Spartanburg County and established pursuant to the South Carolina Code of Laws of 1976 Section 4-1-170, et sequitur, as amended; to provide for a written agreement with Spartanburg County providing for the expenses of the Park, the percentage of revenue application, and the distribution of fees in lieu of ad valorem tax to the counties and relevant taxing entities; and to provide that jobs tax credits allowed by law be provided for industries locating in said Park, and to permit a user fee in lieu of ad valorem taxation. This amendment would allow Blue Ridge Log Cabins, LLC to be included in the Park.

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Randall Hanvey: Made a motion to dispense with referring the ordinance to a committee and to accept first reading of the ordinance to amend the jointly owned and operated Industrial Business Park in conjunction with Spartanburg County as stated.

Dora Martin: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh introduced an ordinance to develop a jointly owned and operated Industrial and Business Park in conjunction with Spartanburg County, such Industrial and Business Park to be geographically located in Spartanburg County and established pursuant to Sec. 4-1-170 of the South Carolina Code of Laws 1976, as amended; to provide for a written agreement with Spartanburg County to provide for the expenses of the Park, the percentage of revenue application, and the distribution of fees in lieu of ad valorem taxes to the counties and relevant taxing entities; and to permit a user fee in lieu of ad valorem taxation. This would establish the Liberty Property Limited Partnership Industrial Park.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to dispense with referring the ordinance to a committee and to accept first reading of the ordinance to develop a jointly owned and operated Industrial and Business Park in conjunction with Spartanburg County as stated.

Randall Hanvey: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh called for any committee reports but there were none.

Councilwoman Dora Martin called a meeting of the Finance Committee for Friday, January 19, 2007 at 12:00 Noon.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh introduced a resolution designating January of 2007 as School Board Recognition Month and encouraged all citizens to publicly and privately thank the school board members for their dedicated service to our children.

Joe Lawson: Made a motion to dispense with referring the resolution to a committee and to adopt the resolution designating January of 2007 as School Board Recognition Month.

Dora Martin: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh called for any other business but there was none.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated Council needed to go into executive session to discuss legal matters with the County Attorney.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to go into executive session to discuss legal matters.

Joey English: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The County Council went into Executive Session to discuss legal matters.

Joe Lawson: Made a motion to close executive session and return to regular session.

Dora Martin: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

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The County Council returned to regular session.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated that no action was taken during executive session.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated Council needed to consider payment of \$105,000.00 to reimburse the City of Union for partial expenses on the relocation of a gas line because of the construction of LSP Automotive.

Joe Lawson: Made a motion to reimburse the City of Union the \$105,000.00 from Economic Development Funds.

Joey English: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Joe Lawson: Made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Joey English: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Donnie R. Betenbaugh, Chairman  
Union County Council

Linda G. Jolly, Clerk to Council