

MINUTES
UNION COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2021 AT 5:32 P.M.
VIA ZOOM AND STREAM TO FRANK HART UNION COUNTY SUPERVISOR
FACEBOOK PAGE

Present: Chairman Frank Hart, Vice-Chairman Ben Ivey, Councilwoman Tracie Campbell, Councilman Tommie Hill, Councilman John Flood and Clerk to Council Linda G. Jolly
Absent: Councilman David Sinclair and Councilman Ralph Tucker

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 or emailed to the members of the Union County Council, the County Attorney, Jeff Fellers with Clemson Extension, Jami Trammell with Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Mickey Gist, Mr. Robert Small, Mr. James Kollock, Mrs. Casie Jolly, Mike Stevens and Daniel Prince at WBCU Radio Station, Graham Williams at the County News, the News Room at the Spartanburg Herald Journal, Chris Lavender with the Spartanburg Herald Journal, Shell Suber at MHISC, and Michael Lee with MHISC as well as to elected officials and heads of various county departments and offices. A notice of the meeting and a copy of the agenda were also posted on the County's website.

Chairman Frank Hart called the meeting to order. Vice-Chairman Ben Ivey gave the invocation.

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

Tracie Campbell, District 1 – Present

Ralph Tucker, District 2 – Absent

David Sinclair, District 3 - Absent

Ben Ivey, District 4 - Present

Tommie Hill, District 5 - Present

John Flood, District 6 – Present

Tommie Hill: Made a motion to dispense with reading of the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of the Union County Council held on January 12, 2021, the special meeting of County Council held on January 7, 2021 and to adopt the minutes as written.

Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart asked if Council would want to advertise and take bids on a small residential lot located at 1504 Main Street in Buffalo. He had an individual approach him who was interested in acquiring the property.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to move forward to secure bids for the property located at 1504 Main Street in Buffalo.

Tommie Hill: Seconded the motion. Councilman John Flood asked where the property was in relationship to the Teen Center. Council informed him was located almost across the street from the Teen Center. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 9, 2021

voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Sheriff Jeff Bailey informed Council that the grant they were awarded in the amount of \$27,200.00 for bulletproof vests only covered the armored plates. The grant did not cover the carrier or equipment that would be attached to the carrier. The carriers cost \$6,868.00 and the equipment costs between \$5,800.00 and \$5,900.00. He said he took nearly \$10,000.00 from his ankle monitoring account and \$3,410.00 from his Specialized Departmental Supplies account to cover these additional costs. He told Council if he runs out of money before the end of the fiscal year he may have to come back to Council about funding. Chairman Frank Hart said he supports the Sheriff trying to build up the Reserve Program. Sheriff Jeff Bailey said he was looking at trying to add eight to ten reserve deputies which would create a stronger presence in the county. Captain Jeff Wright with the Sheriff's Department said they had been waiting to get State purchasing prices for three new Chevrolet Tahoes for the Sheriff's Office which were budgeted under Capital Expenditures. The company has had issues and have suspended the production of the Tahoes. They found two 2021 Ford Police Interceptor vehicles at a total cost of \$97,726.36 including the cost of upfitting the vehicles. They suggested taking the Tahoe currently assigned to Sheriff Bailey and have it upfitted to use as a patrol vehicle. It would cost approximately \$2,000.00 to have it upfitted. They suggested buying a 2021 Ford F-150 truck at a cost of \$44,531.82 including upfitting for Sheriff Bailey to use. The total cost for the three vehicles including all the needed upfitting would be \$142,258.18 plus approximately \$2,000.00 to upfit the Sheriff's Tahoe. There was some discussion about purchasing a truck rather than a patrol vehicle for the Sheriff's Office. Chairman Frank Hart suggested if the County could acquire a new patrol vehicle for the Sheriff's Office in the next budget cycle then maybe the truck could be moved to Animal Control since they need a new vehicle. There was discussion about the other trucks currently being used by the Sheriff's Office and the mileage on those vehicles.

John Flood: Made a motion to proceed with the purchase of the two 2021 Ford Police Interceptor vehicles and the 2021 Ford F-150 truck including all the upfitting for vehicles as requested with the funds of not exceeding \$145,000.00 to come from the Capital Expenditures account.

Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart said he had no problem with the funds coming from the Capital Expenditures account even though they had only appropriated \$130,500.00 for three new vehicles with upfitting for the Sheriff's Office. If that account does not have enough funds to complete the other allocated projects then Council may have to look at where they can get additional funds to do so. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart said he had included the list of the County Council Standing Committees for 2021 through 2022 in each of Council's packets. He said there were some issues he needed for some of the committees to look at.

Chairman Frank Hart stated Council needed to consider appointments to boards and commissions. Most of the vacancies would need recommendations from Councilman Ralph Tucker, Councilman David Sinclair, Councilman Tommie Hill and Councilman John Flood. Chairman Frank Hart called for any recommendations for appointments to the Airport Commission but there were none.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 9, 2021

Chairman Frank Hart called for any recommendations for appointments to the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission.

Tommy Hill: Made a motion to appoint Debra Hill-Hunter to serve on the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission.

John Flood: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart said there were no applicants for the Appeals Board and asked them to try to find someone to fill those vacancies.

Chairman Frank Hart said there were no applicants for the Building Code Board of Appeals.

Chairman Frank Hart called for any recommendations for appointments to the Fair Board. He said he had talked to Councilman David Sinclair who wanted to recommend the appointment of Tommy Ford.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to accept the recommendation from Councilman David Sinclair to appoint Tommy Ford to serve on the Fair Board.

Tracie Campbell: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Tommie Hill: Made a motion to appoint Carolyn Glenn to serve on the Fair Board.

Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

John Flood: Made a motion to appoint Jacob Robinson to serve on the Fair Board.

Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart called for any recommendations for appointments to the Library Board.

Tommie Hill: Made a motion to appoint Charles Lott to serve on the Library Board.

Tracie Campbell: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

John Flood: Made a motion to appoint Michael Tyler to serve on the Library Board.

Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart called for any recommendations for appointments to the Stadium Commission but there were none.

Chairman Frank Hart called for any recommendations for appointments to the Tourism Commission.

John Flood: Made a motion to recommend Jenna Lea Fore to serve on the Tourism Commission.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 9, 2021

Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart stated we do not have the applicants for the Development Board yet so they would hold off on that one.

Chairman Frank Hart called for any recommendations for appointments to the Fire Board for the Bonham Fire District.

John Flood: Made a motion to appoint Jeff Cannon to serve on the Fire Board for Bonham Fire District. Chairman Frank Hart said he had been notified that Jeff Cannon no longer lives in the Bonham Fire District. Councilman John Flood called Mr. Cannon to see if he still lived in the district and determined that he did.

Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Tracie Campbell: Made a motion to appoint Angela Phillips, Sheri Greer and Julie Foster to serve on the Fire Board for Bonham Fire District.

Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart called for any recommendations for appointments to the Fire Board for the Buffalo Fire District. Councilwoman Tracie Campbell said she had talked to Councilman David Sinclair who wanted to recommend Maxie Ponder, Craig Price and Les Gibson to serve on the Fire Board for Buffalo Fire District.

Tracie Campbell: Made a motion to accept the recommendation from Councilman David Sinclair to appoint Maxie Ponder, Craig Price and Les Gibson to serve on the Fire Board for Buffalo Fire District.

Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart called for any recommendations for appointments to the Fire Board for the Carlisle Fire District.

John Flood: Made a motion to appoint Terry Worthy, Robert J. Clark and Willie Gist to serve on the Fire Board for Carlisle Fire District.

Tracie Campbell: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Councilman Ben Ivey asked about previous discussion about downsizing the number of members serving on the Fire Boards. Chairman Frank Hart said they had discussed having an odd number rather than an even number of members and he plans to refer that to one of the Standing Committees for further consideration.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 9, 2021

Chairman Frank Hart called for any recommendations for appointments to the Fire Board for Cross Keys Fire District.

Councilman John Flood said they need to reconsider his motion to appoint Jeff Cannon to the Fire Board for Bonham Fire District as he lives just outside the boundary line for that district.

John Flood: Made a motion that Jeff Cannon would not be appointed to serve on the Fire Board for Bonham Fire District.

Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Tracie Campbell: Made a motion to appoint Mark Foster to serve on the Fire Board for Bonham Fire District.

Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart said he received an email from Taylor Atkinson with Carnegie Library that Charles Lott is an employee with Carnegie Library and did not know if that would affect his appointment to the Library Board. He said he would need to check into that further to see if Mr. Lott would rather remain an employee or would rather serve on the board.

Chairman Frank Hart called for any recommendations for appointments to the Fire Board for Cross Keys Fire District.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to appoint Mary Nations, Elly Smith and Teri Lawson to serve on the Fire Board for Cross Keys Fire District.

Tracie Campbell: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart called for any recommendations for appointments to the Fire Board for Kelly Kelton Fire District.

Tracie Campbell: Made a motion to appoint Michael Robinson, Nancy Garner and James Garner.

Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion.

Councilman John Flood asked how James Garner was related to Nancy Garner and the fire chief at Kelly Kelton Fire Department. Chairman Frank Hart said they are not immediate family but the chief may be Nancy Garner's nephew. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart called for any recommendations for appointments to the Fire Board for Philippi Fire District. Councilman Ben Ivey said he would like to appoint the two applicants but not to appoint a third member to their Board in order to maintain their total members to five.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to appoint Jane Taylor and Mike O'Dell to serve on the Fire Board for Philippi Fire District.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 9, 2021

John Flood: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart introduced a resolution related to Renaissance Park. He said Council had approved a long-term lease between the County and the non-profit organization that owns the property. The County has applied for South Carolina Parks Recreation and Tourism funding in the amount of \$100,000.00 to make improvements to the site. The County would provide a match through in-kind site prep. Part of this would involve paving of a walking trail. Chairman Frank Hart read the resolution whereby the Union County Council agrees to provide the required match of a minimum of 20 percent of the total project cost, through cash and in-kind support, as well as any additional funds needed to complete the trail and parking area for the Renaissance Park.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to dispense with referring the resolution to a committee and to adopt the resolution whereby the Union County Council agrees to provide the required match of a minimum of 20 percent of the total project cost, through cash and in-kind support, as well as any additional funds needed to complete the trail and parking area for the Renaissance Park.

Tommie Hill: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart introduced a resolution authorizing and directing the execution and delivery of a Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions between Union County and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. He stated the City and County had purchased that property from Milliken & Company and the building had been leased to ESAB. ESAB did not exercise their option to purchase the property so it was returned to the County. As part of our voluntary clean-up contract with Milliken & Company and DHEC there have to be covenants established regarding the use of the property. The resolution authorizes the County Supervisor to execute those covenants on behalf of Union County. There is some language in the covenants they are not fully satisfied with that they are working with DHEC and Milliken & Company to resolve.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to dispense with referring the resolution to a committee and to adopt the resolution authorizing and directing the execution and delivery of a Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions between Union County and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control.

John Flood: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart introduced in title only an ordinance ordering a referendum in Union County, South Carolina, to submit to the electors of the County the question of whether the County shall adopt the Council-Administrator form of government with a County Council comprised of six (6) council members elected for four (4) year terms from single member districts and a chairman of County Council elected for a four (4) year term from the county at large or shall retain its existing form of government (Council-Supervisor with a County Council comprised of six (6) council members elected for four (4) year terms from single member districts and a Supervisor elected for a four (4) year term from the county at large); providing for the form of ballot to be used; providing for notice of the referendum; and providing all other things necessary to submit aforesaid question.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 9, 2021

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to dispense with referring the ordinance to a committee and to accept first reading of the ordinance ordering a referendum in Union County, South Carolina, to submit to the electors of the County the question of whether the County shall adopt the Council-Administrator form of government with a County Council comprised of six (6) council members elected for four (4) year terms from single member districts and a chairman of County Council elected for a four (4) year term from the county at large or shall retain its existing form of government (Council-Supervisor with a County Council comprised of six (6) council members elected for four (4) year terms from single member districts and a Supervisor elected for a four (4) year term from the county at large); providing for the form of ballot to be used; providing for notice of the referendum; and providing all other things necessary to submit aforesaid question.

John Flood: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart introduced an ordinance to amend the Union County Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance No, 259 (Chapter 9, Article II of the Union County Code of Ordinances), in certain limited regards and particulars, only, and to ratify and affirm all other provisions of Ordinance No. 259 not amended or modified hereby; and other matters related thereto. He said this pertains to the County being a part of the National Flood Insurance Program. We have to periodically update our Flood Mitigation Ordinance. This has to be completed by June for people to continue to get protection under the NFIP.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to dispense with referring the ordinance to a committee and to accept first reading of the ordinance to amend the Union County Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance No, 259 (Chapter 9, Article II of the Union County Code of Ordinances), in certain limited regards and particulars, only, and to ratify and affirm all other provisions of Ordinance No. 259 not amended or modified hereby; and other matters related thereto.

Tracie Campbell: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart gave his Supervisor's Report and said the County had worked with the Town of Jonesville to apply for and receive PARD funding for \$12,000.00 to do grading work at their ball park in Jonesville. The County was awarded PARD funding over \$50,000.00 for the Timken Sports Complex to pave the over-flow parking which is currently gravel as well as seal and restripe the parking lot and to seal and repair the walking trail. He said he was working with the School District on marketing the Lockhart and Sims former school properties. Katherine Pendergrass and Curtiss Hunter have been looking for a developer for Sims. They have found someone who is interested in doing multi-family market value housing. They made a presentation to the School Board and the School Board voted to move forward. They plan to maintain certain aspects of the Sims building for public use like the gymnasium and the auditorium. The County had an option with the School District on the Lockhart school property which expired and the option has not been renewed. They are continuing to show both the spec building as well as the ESAB building with a lot of interest. They hope to place somebody in one or both of those facilities very soon. The solar farm has been completed which adds to the whole Midway Green concept.

Chairman Frank Hart called for any committee reports but there were none.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 9, 2021

Chairman Frank Hart called for a motion to go into executive session to discuss a contractual and a personnel matter.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to go into executive session to discuss a contractual and a personnel matter.
Tracie Campbell: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

The Union County Council went into executive session to discuss a contractual and a personnel matter.

Chairman Frank Hart stated they were ready to close executive session and no action was taken during executive session.

John Flood: Made a motion to close executive session.

Tracie Campbell: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

The Union County Council returned the meeting to regular session.

Chairman Frank Hart called for any other business.

Councilman John Flood said he wanted to make a motion to explore options on the Main Street property but Chairman Frank Hart said a motion was not necessary.

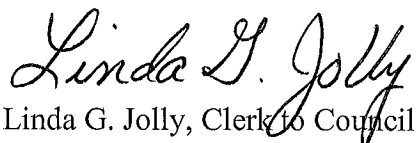
Tommie Hill: Made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes, with Tommie Hill from District 5 voting yes and with John Flood from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.



Frank Hart, Chairman
Union County Council



Linda G. Jolly, Clerk to Council