

UNION COUNTY COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2017 AT 5:30 P.M.  
GRAND JURY ROOM AT UNION COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Present: Chairman Frank Hart (arrived at 5:32 p.m.), Vice Chair Ben Ivey, Councilwoman Joan Little, Councilman Ralph Tucker, Councilman David Sinclair, Councilwoman Kacie Petrie, County Attorney Sammy Diamaduros and Clerk to Council Linda G. Jolly  
Absent: Councilman Tommie Hill

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, the Union County Development Board, Jeff Fellers with Clemson Extension, Jami Trammell with Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Mickey Gist, Mr. Robert Small, Mr. James Kollock, Mrs. Curtis Hunter, Mrs. Casie Jolly and emailed to Mike Stevens at WBCU Radio Station, to Graham Williams at the County News, to Charles Warner at the Union Times, to Jason Spencer with the Spartanburg Herald Journal, to Allison Roberts with the Spartanburg Herald Journal, to the News Room at the Spartanburg Herald Journal, to Chris Lavender with the Spartanburg Herald Journal, to Shell Suber at MHISC and to Randall Hanvey. A notice of the meeting was also posted on the County's website.

Vice Chairman Ben Ivey called the meeting to order. Council Chaplin David Sinclair 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  
Ralph Tucker, District 2 – Present  
David Sinclair, District 3 - Present  
Ben Ivey, District 4 - Present  
Tommie Hill, District 5 - Absent  
Kacie Petrie, District 6 – Present

(Chairman Frank Hart arrived for the meeting at 5:32 p.m.)

Ralph Tucker: Made a motion to dispense with reading of the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of the Union County Council held on September 12, 2017 and to adopt the minutes as written.  
Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Frank Hart presented a service award certificate and gift card for Anne Dehart for 10 years, for Michael Littlejohn for 10 years, for Darren Cody for 10 years, for Melinda Haney for 15 years, for Nikia Brannon for 15 years, for Leon Doug Gilliam for 10 years and for Sue Cudd for 20 years of dedicated service to Union County.

Chairman Frank Hart stated Council needed to consider funding for part-time janitorial staff. He proposed allocating \$10,000 from the Contingency Fund to be used to pay a part-time employee to provide janitorial services for the county.

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Ralph Tucker: Made a motion to approve the allocation of \$10,000 from the Contingency Fund to be used to pay a part-time employee to provide janitorial services for the county as requested.

Kacie Petrie: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Tourism Director Curtis Hunter introduced Heather Nix as Director for the Clean Water Project to discuss Upstate Forever. Heather Nix stated Upstate Forever is a non-profit organization working in a ten county upstate region that focuses on conservation issues. They focus on four main areas which are land conservation, land planning, community driven advocacy and clean water. They have a reconnecting people to rivers initiative helping people get to know the rivers of the upstate through maps and water quality testing. They are focusing on ten rivers throughout the upstate so there is a lot of potential for communities where the rivers are located to capture economic benefits from the increase in eco-tourism. The rivers are a huge attraction for tourists for recreation. Upstate Forever provides maps and website information on the rivers. The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources and the South Carolina National Heritage Corridor are partners of the program. They have an Adopt a Stream water quality monitoring program that trains volunteers how to do basic water quality sampling.

Chairman Frank Hart stated we have an invoice in the amount of \$8,597.64 for a Mack truck being used by the recycling department. This would previously have been paid from recycling funds but we do not have funds in the account to cover the invoice. He requested approval from Council to pay the invoice for final payment on the lease/purchase for the roll off truck from the Capital Expenditures account.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to pay the invoice in the amount of \$8,597.64 for the Mack truck from the Capital Expenditures account as requested.

David Sinclair: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Frank Hart called for any elected officials or department heads who wished to address Council.

Sheriff David Taylor stated he had previously addressed Council about purchasing an intercom system for the jail. He had received a quote of \$29,685 from MSS Fire and Security for an intercom system that is supposed to be inmate proof. Chairman Frank Hart stated this could be put on the agenda for a special meeting of Council scheduled for October 19<sup>th</sup>.

Delinquent Tax Collector Lorene Bevis stated they are about four weeks away from the tax sale and it should be about the same as last year.

Code Enforcement Officer David Kitchens stated they have the Buffalo clean up scheduled the week after the fair. He said they had their busiest ten day stretch with 143 calls during the first ten days of October and he has one of his employees in the hospital.

Airport and Stadium Manager Ron Wade stated he checked on the AWOS system at a total cost of \$175,000 with the County's part of the expense in the amount of \$39,000 to come out of the capital improvement account. It would be a complete broadcast unit so it would be the weather system for the county. He is now covering the Recreation Department and he intends to decide what programs they can offer and determine the best use of that facility. There is some fencing that needs to be repaired. He stated Kevin Shropshire and his crew had been to all the ball fields and taken up trash as much as

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possible. Ron Wade said they are moving more into football season and have quite a number of games scheduled. He went over the need for personnel to cover the ball games.

EMS Director Eric Harold stated the bids for the renovations of the EMS facility should be opened tomorrow and they will hopefully be able to break ground on the project on November 1<sup>st</sup>. The DUI Grant funds have been spent. He received a letter from the state they had been awarded another \$7,500 that will be used for improvements to pediatric patient care. They are looking at applying for grants for a new ambulance. They are advertising for two medics and one EMT which should be filled by the end of the month. He said he attended the South Carolina EMS Association meeting.

Rieta Drinkwine with Carnegie Library stated they have a lot of programs planned for this fall including story time which they are doing with partner agencies. They added an adult program where they are working with South Carolina Legal Services. They are working with USC-Union to do intro technology classes. The City of Union granted them \$25,000 from the Hospitality Taxes for the library renovation project. They hope to break ground on the renovation project the beginning of December so it can be finished by June. They are looking for a facility where they can relocate during the renovations.

Workforce Coordinator Katherine Pendergrass stated they had over fifty people to attend the workforce summit. There are twelve to fifteen people attending their HR Association meetings on a monthly basis. Not only are they helping people with employment, they are also helping with clothing for interviews. They provided a place for Kelly Services to hire over one hundred people to place at Belk Distribution Center during their seasonal period.

Tourism Director Curtis Hunter stated the boat ramp on the Broad River in Lockhart will be updated on the maps for Upstate Forever once it is done. Heather Nix stated they would be included on the maps as they are reprinted but could be put on the website right away. Mrs. Hunter stated this past Saturday was the kickoff for the Coon Hunt Event. They will bring in barbeque for the December event. The Christmas Downtown will include a twenty-two foot Christmas tree with a lighting ceremony on December 1<sup>st</sup>. They are coming up with the downtown Christmas decorations this year and the City will provide the lighting. At Main Street Junction that night after the parade they will have storytelling from the South Carolina Storytelling Association. The businesses on Main Street will be open for the event.

Airport and Stadium Manager Ron Wade announced they would be serving lunch for the senior citizens at the fairgrounds on Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>. The Recreation Department will be participating in the Downtown Trick or Treat event.

Chairman Frank Hart presented for third and final reading an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery by Union County, South Carolina of a Project Grant Agreement by and between Union County, South Carolina and Union County Facilities Corporation; approving the form of the Project Grant Agreement; making appropriation of funds of Union County, South Carolina necessary to make certain payments required under the Project Grant Agreement; and other matters relating thereto.

Ralph Tucker: Made a motion to adopt the ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery by Union County, South Carolina of a Project Grant Agreement by and between Union County, South Carolina and Union County Facilities Corporation; approving the form of the Project Grant Agreement; making appropriation of funds of Union County, South Carolina necessary to make certain payments required under the Project Grant Agreement; and other matters relating thereto.

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Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Frank Hart presented for second reading an ordinance to acknowledge and authorize the execution and delivery of an Intergovernmental Agreement between Union County and the City of Union for Union County to enforce ordinances for building codes within the municipal limits of the City of Union and on behalf of the City of Union; and other matters relating thereto.

David Sinclair: Made a motion to accept second reading of an ordinance to acknowledge and authorize the execution and delivery of an Intergovernmental Agreement between Union County and the City of Union for Union County to enforce ordinances for building codes within the municipal limits of the City of Union and on behalf of the City of Union; and other matters relating thereto.

Kacie Petrie: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Frank Hart introduced in title only an ordinance of Union County, South Carolina authorizing the purchase of certain real property located in Union County, the execution and delivery of one or more agreements by and between Union County and the current owners of said property regarding the purchase, sale and conveyance of such real property; the execution and delivery of any and all other documents or instruments necessary to effect the contemplated purchase, sale and conveyance; the appropriation of funds necessary to accomplish such purchase; and other matters related thereto.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to dispense with referring the ordinance to a committee and to accept first reading of an ordinance of Union County, South Carolina authorizing the purchase of certain real property located in Union County, the execution and delivery of one or more agreements by and between Union County and the current owners of said property regarding the purchase, sale and conveyance of such real property; the execution and delivery of any and all other documents or instruments necessary to effect the contemplated purchase, sale and conveyance; the appropriation of funds necessary to accomplish such purchase; and other matters related thereto.

Ralph Tucker: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Frank Hart stated he would forego his Supervisor's report.

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

Chairman Frank Hart called for any other business but there was none.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss a personnel matter.

David Sinclair: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

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

Chairman Frank Hart entertained a motion to close executive session and said no votes were taken during executive session.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to close executive session.

Ralph Tucker: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The Union County Council returned to regular session.

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Chairman Frank Hart called for any other business but there was none.

Kacie Petrie: Made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

David Sinclair: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Frank Hart, Chairman  
Union County Council

Linda G. Jolly, Clerk to Council