

UNION COUNTY COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2016 AT 5:30 P.M.  
GRAND JURY ROOM AT UNION COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Present: Chairman Frank Hart, Vice-Chairman Tommy Ford, Councilwoman Joan Little, Councilman Ralph Tucker, Councilman Ben Ivey, Councilman Randall Hanvey, Councilwoman Kacie Petrie, 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, the Union County Development Board, Mrs. Anne Brock with Clemson Extension, Mr. Mickey Gist, Mr. Robert Small, Mr. James Kollock, Mrs. Curtis Hunter 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 and to Ed Schafer at MHISC. A notice of the meeting was also posted on the County's website.

Chairman Frank Hart called the meeting to order. County Council Chaplin Ben Ivey 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  
Tommy Ford, District 3 - Present  
Ben Ivey, District 4 - Present  
Randall Hanvey, District 5 - Present  
Kacie Petrie, District 6 – Present

Tommy Ford: Made a motion to dispense with reading of the minutes for the joint meeting of the Union County Council and the Jonesville Town Council on October 11, 2016, the special meeting of County Council on September 29, 2016, the special meeting of County Council on October 13, 2016, and the special meeting of County Council on October 27, 2016 and to adopt the minutes as written.

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

Chairman Frank Hart presented a service award certificate and gift certificate to Ronnie Wade for 45 years, for Diane Freeman for 30 years, for Scott Ruby for 10 years, for Jeffery Wright for 10 years, to Jake Black for 5 years, for Melvin Linder for 5 years and for William Briggs for 5 years of dedicated service to Union County.

Chairman Frank Hart and Kara Drane with Catawba Regional Council of Governments gave a presentation regarding the Planning Commission. Mr. Hart introduced the members of the Planning Commission who were present and they were Chair Carlisle Oxner, Frank M. Hart who will be replaced due to being elected to serve on the School Board, Evans Crocker, Marsha Jordan, Etta Rae Johnson, Vice Chair Lewis Jeter and William Jeter. He referenced the declining population in Union County even though the State is experiencing growth. He went over the side effects of no population growth,

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issues in Union County, quality of life, local schools, housing, land use plan, lack of opportunity, drug and alcohol addiction, and vision for Union County. They will be doing a long term plan for the county including a comprehensive plan. Kara Drane explained the State law as it applies to planning and the planning process. You can do a comprehensive plan and not have the zoning and subdivision regulations. She went over the elements that have to be in a comprehensive plan.

Mr. Frank M. Hart with the Historical Society addressed Council about the Union County Museum. He said they had cut forty percent of the request they had made to the County by cutting the days and hours of operation and cutting maintenance. They plan to use the same admission requirements as Rose Hill. There was discussion about the number of visitors to the museum. They receive revenue from various sources and operate on a \$125,000 annual budget. He stated he hoped the Council would find a way to help them keep the museum open since it would be a tragedy if it were to close.

Chairman Frank Hart stated next on the agenda was to consider two alternate positions on the Building Code Board of Appeals. He requested Council try to recruit someone to fill those positions.

Chairman Frank Hart stated next on the agenda was Mike Scales to discuss the Browns Creek Watershed. He said it would be rescheduled since Mr. Scales was not present.

Chairman Frank Hart called for any comments from elected officials or department heads but there were none.

Chairman Frank Hart introduced a resolution that the Union County Council supports the development of a Union County Transit Feasibility Study and agrees to provide a local match not to exceed \$8,000.00. He explained that the County had previously taken bids for a study with two bids being received. They chose an agency to do the study but were not happy with the quality of the work and discontinued the relationship with the firm before the completion of the project. The County can apply again with the South Carolina Department of Transportation for funding for the study at a projected cost of \$80,000.00 with the County to provide the 10% match in an amount not to exceed \$8,000.00 if the application is approved.

Ralph Tucker: Made a motion to dispense with referring the resolution to a committee and to adopt the resolution supporting the development of a Union County Transit Feasibility Study and agrees to provide a local match not to exceed \$8,000.00.

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

Chairman Frank Hart stated next on the agenda was a resolution for the Rural County Transformation Fund but there are some changes to be made in the resolution so it would be delayed.

Chairman Frank Hart presented for second reading an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of an amendment and restatement to that certain 2015 Fee In Lieu of Tax Agreement between Union County, South Carolina and Standard Textile Carolina, Inc. to include an additional real property location and to include the addition of STC Carolina Properties LLC as a co-sponsor; and other matters relating thereto including, without limitation, payment of a fee in lieu of taxes related to the new real property location and project property located therein.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to accept second reading of the ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of an amendment and restatement to that certain 2015 Fee In Lieu of Tax Agreement between

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Union County, South Carolina and Standard Textile Carolina, Inc. to include an additional real property location and to include the addition of STC Carolina Properties LLC as a co-sponsor; and other matters relating thereto including, without limitation, payment of a fee in lieu of taxes related to the new real property location and project property located therein.

Tommy Ford: 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 Town of Jonesville for Union County to enforce ordinances for building codes within the municipal limits of the Town of Jonesville and on behalf of the Town of Jonesville; and other matters related thereto.

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

Tommy Ford: Seconded the motion.

Councilman Ben Ivey asked Building Inspector Brad Jolly if he saw any issues with this and he responded he did not know much about it. Chairman Frank Hart stated it would be very similar to the agreement with the Town of Carlisle and the Town of Lockhart.

The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Frank Hart stated the vehicles for the Sheriff's Office had been purchased and they are in the process of obtaining the reimbursement funds from Arthur State Bank under the lease/purchase agreement.

Chairman Frank Hart stated the road surfacing project is almost completed and it would be done prior to the next Council meeting. They are looking at adding the County's portion of New Hope Church Road to the project. They would be doing the necessary repairs to prepare it for the next resurfacing cycle. Councilman Ben Ivey wanted the County's portion of Lover's Lane Road looked at for the future.

Chairman Frank Hart said the County cleanup in Buffalo was completed and it was a team effort with code enforcement, public works, the recreation department, detention center, and sheriff's office participating. They cleaned up around the Mill Pond and hauled off loads of trash, demolished three dilapidated homes, and cleaned up multiple lots. They will be scheduling the next community for cleanup.

Chairman Frank Hart stated they received the bids for the refunding of the general obligation bond to refinance at a lower rate. The lowest rate came in from Carter Bank and Trust at 1.9% where the current rate is 4.06%. This should result in about \$124,000 in savings.

Chairman Frank Hart stated the Rural County Transformation Fund plan was tweaked but kept under the \$20 million range. They are working with the other counties to discuss it with their delegation.

Chairman Frank Hart stated he was working on getting Councilmembers copied on the meeting dates for the Planning Commission. He said he wanted that Commission to meet every two weeks since there is a lot of work to be done.

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Chairman Frank Hart stated they are still working on the USC-Union nursing program and housing projects and are targeting next year.

Chairman Frank Hart thanked Council and all the volunteers for helping to get the Local Option Sales Tax passed during the general election.

Chairman Frank Hart listed some of the operational projects they are working on including the procurement code update and training, putting a purchase order and receiver process in place, putting in an asset management and tracking system, working on electronic time tracking, and updating the AS/400 computer system.

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

Chairman Frank Hart entertained a motion to go into executive session to discuss a contractual matter related to economic development.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to go into executive session to discuss a contractual matter related to economic development.

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

The Union County Council took a brief recess then reconvened and went into executive session to discuss a contractual matter related to economic development.

Chairman Frank Hart stated they were ready to come out of executive session and no votes were taken.

Ralph Tucker: Made a motion to close executive session and return to regular session.

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

The Union County Council returned to regular session.

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

Tommy Ford: Made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Frank Hart, Chairman  
Union County Council

Linda G. Jolly, Clerk to Council