

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE UNION COUNTY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2015 AT 5:30 P.M.
GRAND JURY ROOM AT THE UNION COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Present: Chairman Frank Hart, Vice-Chairman Tommy Ford, Councilman Ben Ivey, Councilman Randall Hanvey, Councilwoman Kacie Petrie, County Attorney Sammy Diamaduros and Clerk to Council Linda G. Jolly

Absent: Councilwoman Joan Little

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 Daily Times, Spartanburg Herald Journal, the Union County Development Board, Mrs. Anne Brock with Clemson Extension, Mr. Mickey Gist, Mr. Robert Small and emailed to Mike Stevens at WBCU Radio Station and to Graham Williams at the County News. A notice of the meeting was also posted on the County's website.

Chairman Frank Hart called the meeting to order. 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 – Absent

District 2 – Vacant Seat

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 of the regular monthly meeting of the Union County Council held on February 10, 2015 and to adopt the minutes as written.

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

Chairman Frank Hart stated next was to consider appointments to the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission, Appeals Board and Board of Fire Control for the Kelly-Kelton Fire District.

Chairman Frank Hart recommended the appointment of Gwen Linder to serve on the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission.

Tommy Ford: Made a motion to appoint Gwen Linder to serve on the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission as recommended by Chairman Frank Hart.

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

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to appoint Jimmie Carter to serve on the Appeals Board as his recommendation.

Tommy Ford: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Frank Hart stated there were four (4) vacancies on the Board of Fire Control for the Kelly-Kelton Fire District which had been advertised and there were three (3) applicants. The applicants were

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Raymond C. Finch, Kindra Horne, and Greta Bailey. He recommended appointing the three applicants to fill the four year terms. There would still be an unexpired term to be filled.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to appoint Raymond C. Finch, Kindra Horne and Greta Bailey to serve on the Board of Fire Control for Kelly-Kelton Fire District for four year terms.

Tommy Ford: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Ronnie Wade as Manager of the Union County Airport stated representatives from WK Dickson & Co., Inc. were there to give an airport projects update. Mr. Wade stated he had received notification that federal funds were available and they would start the application for that. They closed on the last piece of property to be purchased and they would move forward on the close out of the clear zoning. Terry Macaluso and Joe Barkevich with WK Dickson & Co. Inc. made a presentation on the Union County Airport which included a grant funding breakdown. The five year grant total for Union County Airport from fiscal year 2010 through fiscal year 2014 was \$1,234,000 and the County only had to provide \$79,000. Services provided at the airport are the sale of aviation fuel, flight training, aircraft maintenance, hangars, tie downs, and courtesy transportation. The cost to reproduce the airport today would cost approximately \$17 million. The County received \$175,703 in grants in September of 2014 and they expect the County to receive \$334,020 within the next couple of months for the land acquisition for extension of the runway. They gave an airport layout plan update.

Henry Giles as President of Spartanburg Community College asked Council to share with them their thoughts, feelings and aspirations of what they would like the college to be doing in Union. They are in the middle of doing a college master plan and they hired McMillan Pazdan Smith Architects to look at the facilities they have, how they are using them, and help them develop a master plan for how they should develop their facilities. K. J. Jacobs with McMillan Pazdan Smith Architects asked Council for their input on what could be done to improve the facility in Union. Chairman Frank Hart stated he would like to see Union Advanced Technology Center provide an expansion of courses offered other than the welding classes and do more training there. Council expressed concern that some of the public is not aware that the center is there and what is being offered, the facility is being under-utilized, they need diversity in technical areas, they would like to see another level of welding courses offered, and to have a defined mission for both the Spartanburg Community College and USC-Union. Chairman Frank Hart said they were seeing more of an effort on the part of the Technology Center talking to industries to see what they need. He stated the County appreciates the presence of Spartanburg Community College in Union County as it is a key component to our economic development efforts. Union County wants to continue building a relationship and move forward.

Jim Pittman addressed Council concerning his desire to see the old River Chase Golf Course reopened. He saw it as improving our quality of life and saw it as a large piece of recreational land consisting of 156 acres. He thought they would need new golf carts and a manager but the County has the machinery and free prison labor. He stated the County and City together could get recreational tax money to help pay some of the expenses.

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

Clerk of Court Freddie Gault stated he had the Building Superintendent look at the ceiling in the court room where it is falling and he felt he could fix it but he is not sure if he can fix the wall issue.

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Sheriff David Taylor stated the Viper project at 911 was complete and they are back in their regular dispatch area. They have had a few bugs but nothing major.

Tax Assessor Susan Hanvey reminded Council this is a reassessment year and she would be discussing it further in the near future.

Recreation Director Becky Cobb stated they had started their baseball registration and they are moving forward with that. They are working on some ball fields when the weather permits.

Stadium Manager Ronnie Wade stated the yard sales at the Stadium parking lot start up again next weekend. He said he had talked to Kevin Shropshire at the Timken Sports Complex and weather has been an issue for them and scheduling ball games.

Paul Newhouse as CEO of Wallace Thomson Hospital stated their main fundraising event Shag Night was this past weekend and was the most successful ever. They are talking about bringing back the Band of Oz for a Christmas holiday dance.

Dean Alice Taylor-Colbert for USC-Union stated their festival was coming up and the bookstore is scheduled to open.

Chairman Frank Hart called for any committee reports.

Councilman Randall Hanvey stated there were some recommendations the Committee on Personnel, County Offices and Departments wanted to make to Council. There are two new open positions they recommend be advertised.

Tommy Ford: Made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, County Offices and Departments that the two new open positions be advertised.

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

Councilman Randall Hanvey stated the Committee on Personnel, County Offices and Departments recommends they give the Supervisor some leeway to restructure if necessary the equipment shop positions as long as the Supervisor stays within the set budget for that department.

Tommy Ford: Made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, County Offices and Departments to give the Supervisor some leeway to restructure if necessary the equipment shop positions as long as the Supervisor stays within the set budget for that department

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

Councilman Randall Hanvey stated the Committee on Personnel, County Offices and Departments recommends to make an amendment to the hiring policy or ordinance to where sworn law enforcement personnel, sworn correction officer personnel, and 911 dispatchers would not have to come before the Personnel Committee to hire if there is an opening.

Tommy Ford: Made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, County Offices and Departments to make an amendment to the hiring policy or ordinance to where sworn law enforcement personnel, sworn correction officer personnel, and 911 dispatchers would not have to come before the Personnel Committee to hire if there is an opening.

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

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Councilman Randall Hanvey as Chair of the Committee on Personnel, County Offices and Departments stated the Committee agrees they should continue with the hiring process for the openings at the Public Works facility.

Councilman Tommy Ford stated the Committee on County Administration and Finance recommends purchasing a pipe cleaner at a cost not to exceed \$42,000.00 with funds to come from the Recycling Fund which the County gets from selling metal and cardboard.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to accept the recommendation from the Committee on County Administration and Finance to purchase a pipe cleaner at a cost not to exceed \$42,000.00 with funds to come from the Recycling Fund.

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

Councilman Tommy Ford stated the Committee on County Administration and Finance recommends that the County award the bid for the building of a road for Midway Drive to Larry Green Grading which will be paid for from "C" Fund money as well as utility tax credits. The low bid from Larry Green Grading was \$617,061.00.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to accept the recommendation from the Committee on County Administration and Finance that the County award the bid for the building of a road for Midway Drive to Larry Green Grading as stated.

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

Councilman Ben Ivey stated the Committee on Public Works, Roads, and Bridges and County Property had met and would be looking at some roads Thursday afternoon. They will evaluate the roads and make some recommendations.

Councilwoman Kacie Petrie stated she had been attending some Fire Chief Association meetings. They are still in the process of discussion on some type of consolidation. The work on the Ottaray Project has started. She and Brad Jolly are going to meet with Johnson and Company to discuss the purchase of the property in Ottaray for the park.

Chairman Frank Hart referred to a letter from the Olde English District for an open position on their commission. In the past the tourism director has served on their commission. They requested appointing Curtis Hunter as Tourism Director.

Randall Hanvey: Made a motion to appoint Curtis Hunter to serve on the Olde English District Commission.

Tommy Ford: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Frank Hart presented a letter from the Town of Lockhart asking Council to consider donating the vacant lot (Map #050-08-17-005) to the Town of Lockhart located at 112 North 1st Street because it is located near the Town Hall. He proposed introducing an ordinance in title only at the April meeting to transfer that property to the Town of Lockhart.

Chairman Frank Hart presented a request from Ben Loftis with the Carnegie Library. Mr. Loftis stated the bookmobile was not being utilized and they want to sell it. They proposed it be sold by auction on Govdeals.

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Randall Hanvey: Made a motion to sell the bookmobile by auction on Govdeals as requested.
Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Frank Hart stated the Road Committee would be looking at some roads and were working on a list of roads. The Committee reviewed a plan for the County Road Maintenance. Their goal this year is to resurface about ten miles of county roads by leveraging our "C" Fund money. They will be finalizing that list to present to the Transportation Committee for approval. They want to move through the system on a five-year rotating schedule which means they need to do about thirty six miles a year of patching potholes, pulling ditches, straightening up the embankments, and cleaning the pipes.

Chairman Frank Hart stated he had been working with County Attorney Sammy Diamaduros and the McNair Law Firm on reviewing our code enforcement and procedures in processing them. They are getting closer to resolving that and will present it to Council on how they want the Code Enforcement Officer to handle it.

Chairman Frank Hart stated the Chamber Banquet was coming up on April 2nd and asked any Councilmembers who wished to attend to let him know.

Chairman Frank Hart stated that Dixie Youth Opening Day was coming up on April 4th.

Chairman Frank Hart stated the next regular monthly meeting of the Union County Council would be held in Lockhart with the location to be determined.

Tommy Ford: Made a motion to go into executive session to discuss economic development and contractual matters.
Randall Hanvey: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The Union County Council went into executive session to discuss economic development and contractual matters.

Tommy Ford: Made a motion to close executive session.
Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

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

Chairman Frank Hart presented for Council's review and approval the financial statement for the Union County Development Board.

Randall Hanvey: Made a motion to approve the financial statement for the Development Board
Tommy Ford: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Tommy Ford: Made a motion to adjourn the meeting
Randall Hanvey: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.
The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

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Frank Hart, Chairman
Union County Council

Linda G. Jolly, Clerk to Council