

UNION COUNTY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2016 AT 5:30 P.M.
GRAND JURY ROOM AT UNION COUNTY COURTHOUSE

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

Council 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 – Absent
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 of the regular monthly meeting of the Union County Council held on February 9, 2016 and to adopt the minutes as written.

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

Chairman Frank Hart presented a service award certificate and gift card to Lewis R. Brackins for 20 years of dedicated service to Union County.

Chairman Frank Hart stated Council needed to consider appointments to the Tourism Commission.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to advertise the vacancies on the Tourism Commission.

Tommy Ford: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous

Chairman Frank Hart stated Council needed to consider appointments to the Building Code Board of Appeals and there were no applicants. The positions had been advertised twice and he asked Council if they wanted to advertise them again or try to recruit people to serve. Council agreed to try to recruit some candidates. The vacancies are for three active members and two alternates.

Chairman Frank Hart stated Council needed to consider appointments to the Planning Commission and there was one applicant who was Marsha E. Jordan. Councilwoman Kacie Petrie stated William Jeter had filled out the questionnaire and returned it to her. She provided Council with a copy.

Tommy Ford: Made a motion to appoint Marsha Jordan to serve on the Planning Commission.

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

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Kacie Petrie: Made a motion to appoint William Jeter to serve on the Planning Commission.

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

Chairman Frank Hart stated there were vacancies on the Union County Development Board that needed to be considered. Kathy Jo Lancaster with the Union County Development Board stated the Board recommended appointment of Dr. John Catalano who is the acting dean at USC-Union as the representative from higher education since Steve Lowe had resigned. They also recommended the appointment of Andrena Powell-Baker who is now employed with Lockhart Power as the representative from public utilities since Bryan Stone had resigned. Both the appointments would be for unexpired terms.

Tommy Ford: Made a motion to accept the recommendation from the Union County Development Board to appoint Dr. John Catalano and Andrena Powell-Baker to fill the two positions on the Development Board as stated.

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

Mr. Leroy Worthy address Council about the Union County Action Network Ted Trantham

Chairman Frank Hart called for any comments for elected officials or department heads.

Detention Center Director Neil McKeown stated that last week two of his employees worked twenty four hour shifts.

Building Superintendent Kenny West submitted bids for the roofs that he had advertised. They would be covered with money from the insurance company except for the EMS building located in Jonesville but there should be enough insurance money to cover that. Chairman Frank Hart referred the bids to the Council Committee on County Administration and Finance.

Airport Manager Ronnie Wade stated there had been some question from the FAA on the Airport layout plan which they are addressing with the engineering firm to resolve. There was a question about the loss of county population.

Victim Advocate Coordinator Michelle Shugart asked about the Victim Advocate Agreement with the Town of Jonesville. The purpose of the Agreement is to continue providing services to the Jonesville Police Department. Chairman Frank Hart stated there was a resolution to be considered later in the meeting.

EMS Director Ronnie Roberson provided Council with a copy of the EMS policy on transport destinations of patients and went over the criteria used to determine where an EMS patient would be transferred based on their medical condition. Chairman Frank Hart stated they wanted to be sure an ambulance was available in Union County and not tied up transporting patients to other counties.

Workforce Coordinator Katherine Pendergrass stated they called approximately fifty unemployed people and had twenty of them to agree to come to a five session class to help

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them build a portfolio to make them more attractive to employers. Only six of those people showed up. The main complaint from those six people was they were not going to work someplace making nine dollars an hour. There is work to be done on how to put together a resume and properly fill out an application. She said she has a lot of people coming out of prison and it is difficult to help them get a job. Companies are calling her but she does not have that database yet.

Tourism Director Curtiss Hunter stated the next big event they have is the Southeastern Tree Walker Days and went over what they are doing to get ready for that. They are looking into a summer concert series and talking to the people to try to get Spartan Races.

Chairman Frank Hart presented a resolution allowing the County Supervisor to enter into an agreement for Union County to provide Victim Assistance Services to the Town of Jonesville.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to dispense with referring the resolution to a committee and to adopt the resolution pertaining to an agreement to provide Victim Assistance Services to the Town of Jonesville as stated.

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

Chairman Frank Hart presented a resolution authorizing and directing the County Supervisor to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Arbor E&T, LLC d/b/a Rescare Workforce Services on behalf of Union County and determine the terms thereof. Chairman Frank Hart explained that the County had hired Katherine Pendergrass as our Workforce Development Coordinator. Rescare has proposed to contract with Union County to provide the services Ms. Pendergrass was doing for them. The County committed \$25,000.00 from Economic Development funds and Rescare would provide an additional \$26,000.00 to apply to her salary. This would make her a full-time employee with her providing some services to Rescare. She was previously the center manager for Rescare and under this arrangement she would still serve as a manager for the center and this would allow her to do some stuff that previously she was prohibited from doing based on the funding provided by WIB. This would eliminate the need for them to hire someone else on a part-time basis to do what she is capable of doing.

Tommy Ford: Made a motion to dispense with referring the resolution to a committee and to adopt the resolution pertaining to a Memorandum of Understanding with Arbor E&T, LLC d/b/a Rescare Workforce Services as stated.

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

Chairman Frank Hart presented a resolution whereby the County Council agrees to provide the required match of a minimum of twenty percent of the total project cost, through cash and in-kind support, as well as any additional funds needed to complete the Flat Stack Trail Phase I.

Randall Hanvey: Made a motion to dispense with referring the resolution to a committee and to adopt the resolution agreeing to provide the required match of twenty percent of the total project cost for the Flat Stack Trail Phase I as stated.

Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion.

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Councilman Ben Ivey asked where the funds would come from. Chairman Frank Hart responded that it would come from in-kind services in addition to the value of the easement granted by Pacolet Milliken for the use of the trail. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Frank Hart presented a resolution whereby the County Council agrees to provide the required match of a minimum of twenty percent of the total project cost, through cash and in-kind support, as well as any additional funds needed to complete the Flat Stack Trail Phase II.

Randall Hanvey: Made a motion to dispense with referring the resolution to a committee and to adopt the resolution agreeing to provide the required match of twenty percent of the total project cost for the Flat Stack Trail Phase II as stated.

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

Chairman Frank Hart presented for second reading an ordinance authorizing the first amendment of that certain fee agreement by and between Union County, South Carolina and Gonvauto South Carolina, LLC effective as of July 25, 2012 and relating to, without limitation, the addition of GESRecycling USA, LLC as a sponsor affiliate under the fee agreement for certain matters; and other matters related thereto.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to accept second reading of the ordinance pertaining to GESRecycling USA, LLC as stated.

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

Chairman Frank Hart presented for second reading an ordinance authorizing the Board of Fire Control of the Lockhart Fire District to issue General Obligation Bonds in the principal amount of not exceeding \$231,000.00 of Lockhart Fire District; and other matters related thereto.

Kacie Petrie: Made a motion to accept second reading on the ordinance pertaining to the Board of Fire Control of the Lockhart Fire District to issue General Obligation Bonds as stated.

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

Chairman Frank Hart presented for third and final reading an ordinance amending Division 3. Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse of Article XI. Boards, Commissions, and Similar entities of Chapter 2. Administration of the Union County Code of Ordinances, in certain limited regards and particulars, only; and other matters related thereto.

Tommy Ford: Made a motion to adopt the ordinance pertaining to the Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse as stated.

Joan Little: Seconded the motion. Councilman Ralph Tucker felt they should give them time to think about what they are trying to do before finalizing anything since Mr. Hart did not meet with the board until February 1st. Chairman Frank Hart stated he had met with the Executive Director on January 13th.

Two (2) Councilmembers (Councilman Tommy Ford and Councilwoman Joan Little) voted in favor of the motion. Three (3) Councilmembers (Councilman Ralph Tucker, Councilman Ben Ivey and Councilman Randall Hanvey) opposed the motion. One (1) Councilmember (Councilwoman Kacie Petrie) abstained. The motion failed.

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County Council took a short break at 6:48 p.m. and reconvened at 6:57 p.m.

Chairman Frank Hart stated he was in the process of setting up a meeting with the Director of the State to discuss workforce development in Union County. He said he had been in touch with the chair of the State Workforce Investment Board and they should be doing that in the next couple of weeks.

Chairman Frank Hart stated the public health committee was using the community indicators and had been meeting. They have focused on the Eat Smart Move More Program to help with obesity and diabetes.

Chairman Frank Hart stated Katherine Pendergrass had been leading the way on the Workforce Summit meetings. They are looking at refining the system for what happens to folks when they come into the center, how they are processed, and referred out to the other agencies.

Chairman Frank Hart stated he had reviewed short term initiatives to address our declining population but he decided to delay that until another meeting.

Chairman Frank Hart stated he had met with the Union Delegation members to request State funding. Thanks to Representative Mike Anthony we have a number of items in the initial pass of the budget but it has to make it past the House, Senate and be ratified by the Governor. He said they had asked for funding for the drug court as well as assistance with Lockhart utility replacement for the bridge project on Highway 9 and funding to support the mechatronics program at the Advanced Technology Center in Union.

Chairman Frank Hart stated he had provided Council with a copy of a presentation put together by MASC on the Local Option Sales Tax for them to review. He discussed with Frank Rainwater with the Bureau of Economic Advisors about a workshop for Council and DOR staff tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 7th at 2:00 p.m.

Chairman Frank Hart presented a tentative timeline for the budget process. Budget requests are due to be turned in on February 19th and packets should be available to Council by February 26th. He proposed holding budget workshops on March 2nd, March 7th, March 14th, March 21st, and March 28th with a Council retreat in early April to talk about budget, administration and a strategic plan.

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

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

Ralph Tucker: Made a motion to go into executive session to discuss a personnel related matter and a contractual matter related to county facilities.

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

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

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

The Union County Council returned to regular session.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Frank Hart, Chair
Union County Council

Linda G. Jolly, Clerk to Council