

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE UNION COUNTY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2014 AT 5:30 P.M.
GRAND JURY ROOM AT UNION COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Present: Chairman Tommy Sinclair, Vice Chairman Tommy Ford (arrived at 5:40 p.m.), Councilwoman Joan Little, Councilman Ben Ivey, Councilman Randall Hanvey, Councilwoman Kacie Petrie, County Attorney Sammy Diamaduros and Clerk to Council Linda G. Jolly
Absent: Councilman Frank Hart

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

Chairman Tommy Sinclair called the meeting to order. Councilman 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
Frank Hart, District 2 - Absent
Tommy Ford, District 3 - Present
Ben Ivey, District 4 - Present
Randall Hanvey, District 5 - Present
Kacie Petrie, District 6 – Present

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to dispense with reading of the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of the Union County Council held on March 11, 2014, the special meeting of County Council held on March 25, 2014, the special meeting of County Council held on April 1, 2014 and to adopt the minutes as written.

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

Chairman Tommy Sinclair presented service award certificates and gift certificates for Cynthia Crocker and Esther Starnes for 20 years of dedicated service to Union County.

Chairman Tommy Sinclair stated he wanted to deviate from the agenda by presenting Barbara Rippy with the Cornerstone Award since she had been unable to attend the ceremony. He honored her by presenting her with a plaque recognizing her for her contributions to Union County. She accepted and thanked Council for this honor with gratitude and humility since it came from the people of Union County.

Mr. Josh Freeman with the Union County Baptist Association stated they were sponsoring a Family Fest 2014. As part of that they want to bring in a strength team of body builders to do anti-bullying assemblies at the schools. He stated he would be requesting \$1,000 from the City and requested \$1,000

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from the County to cover the cost. Chairman Tommy Sinclair stated they would take it under advisement and let him know.

Commission Chairman Ronnie Wade along with Nicki Pyles as the new executive director for the Union County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission presented the Council with their Strategic Plan. Ronnie Wade stated they were trying to get things turned around and are looking to technically and financially put the organization back on its feet. Ms. Pyles stated they plan to work better with the community to try to get everyone working together. She introduced their new Prevention Coordinator Starlin Phelps who stated they are working closely with law enforcement. Nicki Pyles stated they want to strengthen their relationship with the community.

Airport Manager Ronnie Wade stated the Airport Commission had discussed trying to get an FBO (Fixed Base Operation) for the airport. They have talked to a gentleman who is interested in coming to Union who could service airplanes and do inspections. The Airport Commission is interested in putting together an incentive package for one year and asked if Council would be receptive to the idea. If Council is interested then they would put an incentive proposal together to present at the budget session. Chairman Tommy Sinclair told him to continue putting the information together for Council on the FBO. There was discussion about the stump removal on the properties where the trees were cut for the clear zoning around the airport. Ronnie Wade said some additional landscaping and repairs would need to be done.

Steven Broadbent was on the agenda to discuss the lack of code enforcement but he was not present.

Sarah Lewis was on the agenda to discuss animal control but she was not present.

Chairman Tommy Sinclair stated next on the agenda was to consider the Union County Priorities Needs List provided by the Catawba Regional Council of Governments as a result of Council's public hearing.

Kacie Petrie: Made a motion to accept the Priorities Needs List as presented.

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

Chairman Tommy Sinclair called for any elected officials or department heads who wished to address Council.

Sheriff David Taylor requested the County have a comprehensive and job classification study done. He stated it was difficult for him to keep his employees when they could go to work at the City Public Safety Department making three dollars more an hour.

Stadium Manager Ronnie Wade invited Council to come look at the stadium since they had remodeled the office.

Chairman Tommy Sinclair informed Council a public hearing had been scheduled for the Carlisle Fire Department bond issue for Monday, April 28, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. at the Carlisle Town Hall. The County had previously talked to the USDA about a loan and Council would need to withdraw that application if they plan to get funding through a local bank.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to withdraw the loan request from USDA for the Carlisle Fire Department.

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

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Chairman Tommy Sinclair stated they had lost two employees from two different departments.

Chairman Tommy Sinclair informed Council there would be a meeting with officials to discuss the Advanced Technology Center on Friday at 8:00 a.m.

Chairman Tommy Sinclair stated they had used inmates to help get the Arts Council building in shape but there was a section of the flooring they were unable to remove. He suggested providing \$1,500 from the tourism funds to remove the rest of the floor.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to approve \$1,500 from tourism money to finish removing the floor at the Arts Council building.

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

Chairman Tommy Sinclair stated the Council needed to discuss a contractual matter about ambulances during executive session.

Chairman Tommy Sinclair presented for third and final reading an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of an amendment to Lease Agreement modifying and amending a Lease Agreement between Union County and the ESAB Group, Inc. dated as of May 20, 2011 in certain particulars; acknowledging and accepting Midway Drive as a public road included in the County's Road System; authorizing acquisition and acceptance of title in and to certain land located in the county adjoining Midway Drive for the purpose of constructing a parking lane thereon; authorizing the grant of an easement by the County to the ESAB Group, Inc. for ingress, egress and parking over, across and upon the parking lane upon its completion; authorizing the construction of such parking lane; and other matters related to the foregoing.

Randall Hanvey: Made a motion to adopt the ordinance pertaining to ESAB Group, Inc. as stated.

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

Chairman Tommy Sinclair presented for third and final reading an ordinance repealing, and replacing all current provisions of Chapter Five of the Union County Code of Ordinances entitled Animals and Fowl; and other matters related thereto.

Randall Hanvey: Made a motion to adopt the ordinance repealing, and replacing all current provisions of Chapter Five of the Union County Code of Ordinances entitled Animals and Fowl as stated.

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

Chairman Tommy Sinclair introduced for first reading the ordinance to adopt the Union County Budget for fiscal year 2014-2015. Chairman Tommy Sinclair stated there were a lot of factors to consider for the upcoming budget including increases in utilities and other services. The Local Government Funds from the State have been decreased about a half a million dollars each year and since he has been in office the County has lost over two million dollars in LGJ funds.

Randall Hanvey: Made a motion to dispense with referring the Budget Ordinance to a committee and to accept first reading as presented.

Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous

Chairman Tommy Sinclair stated Council would need to go into executive session to discuss a contractual matter about a potential ambulance purchase.

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Chairman Tommy Sinclair stated he had received resignations from Roger Bailey and Dudley Adams resigning their positions on the Board for Southside Fire District. There had been a question of dual office holding since they were appointed to serve on the Fair Board.

Tommy Ford: Made a motion to go into executive session to discuss contractual matters.
Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The Union County Council went into executive session to discuss contractual matters.
(Councilwoman Joan Little left the meeting during the executive session)

Chairman Tommy Sinclair stated they had come out of executive session and no votes were taken.

Chairman Tommy Sinclair called for any other new business but there was none.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Randall Hanvey: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.
The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Thomas L. Sinclair, Chairman
Union County Council

Linda G. Jolly, Clerk to Council