

MINUTES
UNION COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2020 AT 5:31 P.M.
VIA ZOOM AND STREAM TO FRANK HART UNION COUNTY SUPERVISOR
FACEBOOK PAGE

Present: Chairman Frank Hart, Vice-Chairman Ben Ivey, Councilwoman Tracie Campbell, Councilman David Sinclair, Councilman Ralph Tucker, Councilwoman Kacie Petrie 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 or emailed to the members of the Union County Council, the County Attorney, Jeff Fellers with Clemson Extension, Jami Trammell with Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Mickey Gist, Mr. Robert Small, Mr. James Kollock, Mrs. Casie Jolly, Mike Stevens at WBCU Radio Station, Graham Williams at the County News, Charles Warner at the Union Times, the News Room at the Spartanburg Herald Journal, Chris Lavender with the Spartanburg Herald Journal, Shell Suber at MHISC, Michael Lee with MHISC and Randall Hanvey, as well as to elected officials and heads of various county departments and offices. A notice of the meeting and a copy of the agenda were also posted on the County's website.

Chairman Frank Hart called the meeting to order. Council Chaplin David Sinclair gave the invocation.

The Clerk to Council gave the Roll Call with the following results:

Tracie Campbell, 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

David Sinclair: Made a motion to dispense with reading of the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of the Union County Council held on April 14, 2020 and to adopt the minutes as written.

Kacie Petrie: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ralph Tucker from District 2 voting yes, with David Sinclair from District 3 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes and with Kacie Petrie from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart presented a service award certificate and gift certificate for Thomas E. Robertson for 5 years, for Larry E. Hendrix for 5 years, for Allyson P. Wentz for 5 years, for Lynn G. Eaves for 10 years, for Tiffany Lancaster for 10 years, for Timothy J. Wade for 15 years, for Sammy Diamaduros for 20 years and for Walter O. McKeown for 35 years of dedicated service to Union County.

Chairman Frank Hart explained that Premier Colors had a five-year abatement and had sold their company to Organic Dyes and Pigments who requested a transition of the remainder of the 5 years. This

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is only transferring the remaining years of the abatement to the current owners and not requesting the abatement be extended for additional years.

Chairman Frank Hart stated Council needed to consider appointments to boards and commissions. There is a vacancy on the Board of Appeals due to a term expiration. There are two vacancies on the Building Code Board of Appeals as a member had passed away and there is a vacancy for an alternate. There is a vacancy on the Board for Phillipi Fire District due to the resignation of Carrol Alexander, Jr. Chairman Frank Hart asked if any councilmember had any recommendations for appointments. There were none and Chairman Frank Hart asked the Council to continue to try to recruit someone to fill those open positions to be considered at the next monthly meeting.

Chairman Frank Hart stated Monarch Fire Department has a mobile air system they want to sell. There has been some discussion as to whether the County wanted to partner with Cross Keys Fire Department on that. It was discussed whether the County would want to purchase the mobile air system to allow it to be used by all the fire departments in the County or let another entity purchase it. He said he talked to Chief Stone with the Cross Keys Fire Department and they have withdrawn their offer to purchase the system. He talked with Chief Long with the Jonesville Fire Department and they do want to buy it. Chairman Frank Hart suggested the County back out of that and let Jonesville Fire Department buy the mobile air system.

Chairman Frank Hart introduced a resolution that Union County Council agrees to provide a cash match of \$30,000 as well as any additional funds needed to complete the project to upgrade the pump stations in the Town of Carlisle. They are applying for a \$555,250 Community Development Block Grant through the Community Infrastructure Program and applying for a \$500,000 Rural Infrastructure Authority Grant through the Basic Infrastructure Program to upgrade all seven sewer pump stations. Councilwoman Kacie Petrie asked where the funds for the match would come from. Chairman Frank Hart stated in the past Council has taken that from the Economic Development Funds.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to dispense with referring the resolution to a committee and to adopt the resolution that Union County Council agrees to provide a cash match of \$30,000 as well as any additional funds needed to complete the project to upgrade the pump stations in the Town of Carlisle.

Kacie Petrie: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ralph Tucker from District 2 voting yes, with David Sinclair from District 3 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes and with Kacie Petrie from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart introduced a resolution expressing the approval of the Union County, South Carolina County Council to the transfer and assignment of the remaining part and portion of that partial abatement of real property and personal property taxes already in effect for Premier Colors, Inc. to Organic Dyes and Pigments, LLC; and other matters related thereto.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to dispense with referring the resolution to a committee and to adopt the resolution expressing the approval of the Union County, South Carolina County Council to the transfer and assignment of the remaining part and portion of that partial abatement of real property and personal property taxes already in effect for Premier Colors, Inc. to Organic Dyes and Pigments, LLC; and other matters related thereto.

David Sinclair: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ralph Tucker from District 2 voting yes, with David Sinclair

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from District 3 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes and with Kacie Petrie from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart presented for second reading an ordinance to adopt the operating and capital budgets of Union County for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021 and to make appropriations for such Union County budgets for county ordinary purposes and for other county purposes for which the county may levy a tax; to provide for the levy of taxes on all taxable personal and real estate properties in Union County for such county ordinary purposes, including sufficient tax to pay the principal and interest on outstanding indebtedness of Union County maturing during said fiscal year; and to provide for other matters relating to Union County and Union County budgetary matters.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to accept second reading of the ordinance to adopt the operating and capital budgets of Union County for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021 and to make appropriations for such Union County budgets for county ordinary purposes and for other county purposes for which the county may levy a tax; to provide for the levy of taxes on all taxable personal and real estate properties in Union County for such county ordinary purposes, including sufficient tax to pay the principal and interest on outstanding indebtedness of Union County maturing during said fiscal year; and to provide for other matters relating to Union County and Union County budgetary matters.

Kacie Petrie: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ralph Tucker from District 2 voting yes, with David Sinclair from District 3 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes and with Kacie Petrie from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart introduced an ordinance for first reading directing that the implementation of real property assessment in Union County be delayed for one (1) year, as authorized by statute; and other matters related thereto.

David Sinclair: Made a motion to dispense with referring the ordinance to a committee and to accept first reading of the ordinance directing that the implementation of real property assessment in Union County be delayed for one (1) year, as authorized by statute; and other matters related thereto.

Kacie Petrie: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ralph Tucker from District 2 voting yes, with David Sinclair from District 3 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes and with Kacie Petrie from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart gave his Supervisor's Report and said the Governor had given a press conference and relaxed some of the restrictions pertaining to COVID-19. Since there was some confusion about the change in the restrictions, he had asked the South Carolina Association of Counties (SCAC) to review the changes in restrictions and provide a clarification. He said there were some ball teams that want to start practices on Monday and asked Council their opinion. Councilman Ben Ivey asked about discussing it when Council holds their next budget workshop. There was discussion on waiting to see what the SCAC says about where the Governor stands on that. Councilwoman Tracie Campbell said she heard the South Carolina High School League was shooting to start practice as early as June 1st but that could change. Chairman Frank Hart wondered if they could start practicing now as long as any gathering was under 50 people as recommended by the Governor and said he would verify that with the SCAC attorney. He said Council needs to make some kind of decisions because they will need to know about recreation programs for the summer and also about planning for the Fourth of July events and providing fireworks.

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

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ralph Tucker: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ralph Tucker from District 2 voting yes, with David Sinclair from District 3 voting yes, with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes and with Kacie Petrie from District 6 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

Frank Hart, Chairman
Union County Council

Linda G. Jolly, Clerk to Council