

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE UNION COUNTY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2012 AT 5:30 P.M.
GRAND JURY ROOM AT UNION COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Present: Chairman Tommy Sinclair, Vice Chair Kacie Petrie, Councilwoman Joan Little, Councilwoman Dora Martin-Jennings, Councilman Tommy Ford, Councilman Ben Ivey, Councilman Randall Hanvey, 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, WBCU Radio Station, the Union Daily Times, Spartanburg Herald Journal, the Union County Development Board, Ms. Ann Canada, Mrs. Anne Brock with Clemson Extension, Mr. James Kollock, Mrs. Anna Brown with the County News, Mr. Mickey Gist, Mr. Frank Hart, Mr. Ray Treadway, Mr. Howard Gibson, 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. Councilwoman Dora Martin-Jennings 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

Dora Martin-Jennings, 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 April 10, 2012 and to adopt the minutes as written.

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

Building Inspector Brad Jolly said he had submitted a letter to Mr. Sinclair requesting the funds to demolish two properties. One is located at 111 North 5th Street in Lockhart and the other being 129 Balsam Street in Monarch. Both houses have been condemned for quite a while.

Dora Martin-Jennings: Made a motion to grant the money to demolish these houses.

Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion.

Councilman Randall Hanvey asked how much they were approving. Mr. Jolly stated they had not put it out for bids. Council had already approved him to tear down the house on Old English Road and he wanted to include that one in the bids as well. Chairman Tommy Sinclair asked if they might need to look at equipment purchases in the long term so the County can tear down the houses.

The vote on the motion was unanimous.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 8, 2012

Mr. Jolly said he also provided Council a list of the properties he had cited since January 1, 2012 for property maintenance issues. Chairman Tommy Sinclair said he understood Brad Jolly and Sheriff Taylor were cooperating on a couple of houses.

Chairman Tommy Sinclair presented service award certificates and gift certificates for Derrick O'Shields for 5 years and for Billy Gregory for 10 years of dedicated service to Union County.

Chairman Tommy Sinclair stated there were five vacancies on the Tourism Commission. There was one applicant who was Julia Krasinski with River Chase Golf Club.

Dora Martin-Jennings: Made a motion to appoint Julia Krasinski to serve on the Union County Tourism Commission.

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

Chairman Tommy Sinclair called for Donald Lyles, Ronald Clark or Sonny Hodges whose names were on the agenda but they were not present.

Chairman Tommy Sinclair introduced a resolution directing that all flags on county buildings be flown at half-staff on May 15, 2012 in recognition of Police Officers Memorial Day in memory of those law enforcement officers who through their courageous deeds have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their community or have become disabled in the performance of their duty and to honor those law enforcement officers who are presently serving the community.

Kacie Petrie: Made a motion to dispense with referring the resolution to a committee and to adopt the resolution pertaining to Police Officers Memorial Day.

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

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

Tax Assessor Susan Hanvey informed Council they had received the final shipment of the parcel conversion. It is not yet available to the public as they are doing updates and training. Chairman Tommy Sinclair stated Susan Hanvey and Linda Mitchell have come to verbal descriptions and map annotations on the fire districts across the county. He had the Clerk to Council research the minutes to see where they stood in this process which started over two years ago. They have held the public hearing and the next step would be for Council to adopt a resolution to extend the boundaries of the fire districts that have requested they be extended based on the definitions established by Susan Hanvey and Linda Mitchell. That would be putting people in fire districts which would be the start of reducing insurance rates and getting fire coverage. Susan Hanvey stated it was not exact and they were still working on it but they pretty much have it. The Clerk to Council said legal requirements state that the decision of Council would have to be published in the newspaper for two consecutive weeks and a period of time be allowed for anyone to challenge Council's action.

Mr. Howard Johnson stated it had not been a good month for him for cleaning up the old Buffalo Mill site. His dump truck had broken down and he had just gotten it fixed. He said he had put three loads in the landfill. He went to take pictures today and his camera was

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 8, 2012

broke. He said he would be back working on it this week. Councilman Tommy Ford said he had been checking most every day and there had not been much going on. Council reviewed the receipts for loads carried to the landfill the last two days. Chairman Tommy Sinclair said Council had previously told Mr. Johnson they would review the progress on a month by month basis. Councilwoman Dora Martin-Jennings said they have to allow for the fact that his truck was broke down. Mr. Johnson said he was doing the best he could and appreciated Council's patience. Councilman Randall Hanvey said he felt they should give him until next month. Chairman Tommy Sinclair said that due to circumstances Council would give Mr. Johnson another month to work on getting the property cleaned up.

Mr. Donald Lyles thanked the County for doing his driveway and said Hodges Road needed to be fixed. He said they were paving Herbert Road and asked that they pave Hodges Road and Candice Circle as well. He said they had talked to Rev. Hill and Mr. Gilliam. Mr. Lyles said he appreciated all the county was doing. The property for the proposed fire department on Maybinton Road at the intersection of Lyles Road belongs to Mrs. Sims next to Rev. Hill who had said he would be open-minded to allowing a right of way on his property if needed. Mr. Lyles said he had talked to Ms. Lemaster with the property division for the Forestry Service who said they make exceptions for donating land to schools and fire departments. She is supposed to get back with him with more information so hopefully they can get some land willed to them for their fire department, recreation area, and recycling center. Rev. Hill said he would appreciate all the roads in the Goshen Hill area that need repairs get repaired. Chairman Tommy Sinclair said about eight months ago they commissioned a road inventory which has been completed. He was surprised to learn that some roads in the county come off a main road and end up in a man's carport. He would not call it a county road if it winds up on private property. Chairman Tommy Sinclair stated he and Councilwoman Dora Martin-Jennings met with attorneys from McNair Law Firm where they discussed the fire department for Carlisle and what it would take to issue a bond for a fire station. Carlisle Fire Department has acquired a piece of land. The land had to be put in the name of the county since that is how the ordinance was written and due to State laws. Mr. Donald Lyles asked if they were using private property could they use their own money to build a fire department. Chairman Tommy Sinclair stated they could as long as it did not involve public funds. If the Carlisle Fire District intends to build a fire station at a cost of \$250,000.00 then there would need to be an additional 30 mils levied to pay for the bond based on the current value of the property in the Carlisle Fire District area. Mr. Donald Lyles asked if the Forestry Service donates some property to them for a fire department would the Council consider helping them build a fire department. Chairman Tommy Sinclair stated you have to establish a fire district first and there is not currently one in that area. There was discussion about the Goldville and Goshen Hill area being included in the Santuc Fire District and a sub-station being built in that area. The Carlisle Fire District could also be considered for expansion to include that same area. There was further discussion about how the fire ratings would affect insurance rates for the people living in that area. The need for better water lines and fire hydrants are major concerns all over the county. It was stated that living in a fire district with a good ISO rating does not mean your insurance will drop.

Chairman Tommy Sinclair presented the budget ordinance for fiscal year 2012-2013 for second reading.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 8, 2012

Dora Martin-Jennings: Made a motion to accept second reading of the budget ordinance for fiscal year 2012-2013.

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

Chairman Tommy Sinclair introduced in title only an ordinance to provide for an election in Union County, South Carolina, to determine whether the County should retain its present form of County government (Council-Supervisor with six (6) Council Members elected from single member districts for four (4) year terms and the Supervisor elected from the County at large for a four (4) year term) or whether the County should adopt the Council-Administrator form of government with six (6) Council Members elected from single member districts for four (4) year terms and the Chairman elected from the County at large for a four (4) year term, the referendum to be called in accordance with South Carolina Code 4-9-10, 1976, as amended.

Dora Martin-Jennings: Made a motion to dispense with referring the ordinance to a committee and to accept first reading of the ordinance pertaining to an election to determine whether the County should adopt the Council-Administrator form of government or retain the Council-Supervisor form of government.

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

Dora Martin-Jennings: Made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

Thomas L. Sinclair, Chairman
Union County Council

Linda G. Jolly, Clerk to Council