

UNION COUNTY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JULY 11, 2017 AT 5:30 P.M.
GRAND JURY ROOM AT UNION COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Present: Chairman Frank Hart, Vice Chair Ben Ivey, Councilwoman Joan Little, Councilman Ralph Tucker, Councilman David Sinclair, Councilman Tommie Hill, Councilwoman Kacie Petrie, 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, the Union County Development Board, Jeff Fellers with Clemson Extension, Jami Trammell with Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Mickey Gist, Mr. Robert Small, Mr. James Kollock, Mrs. Curtis Hunter, Mrs. Casie Jolly and emailed to Mike Stevens at WBCU Radio Station, to Graham Williams at the County News, to Charles Warner at the Union Times, to Jason Spencer with the Spartanburg Herald Journal, to Allison Roberts with the Spartanburg Herald Journal, to the News Room at the Spartanburg Herald Journal, to Shell Suber at MHISC and to Randall Hanvey. A notice of the meeting was also posted on the County's website.

Chairman Frank Hart called the meeting to order. Council Chaplin David Sinclair 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
Ralph Tucker, District 2 – Present
David Sinclair, District 3 - Present
Ben Ivey, District 4 - Present
Tommie Hill, District 5 - Present
Kacie Petrie, District 6 – Present

Tommie Hill: Made a motion to dispense with reading of the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of the Union County Council held on June 13, 2017 and to adopt the minutes as written.

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

Chairman Frank Hart presented a service award certificate and gift card for Kelly Betenbaugh for 10 years of service and to John Anthony for 10 years of dedicated service to Union County.

Chairman Frank Hart stated there were three vacancies on the Tax Assessor's Appeals Board.

Kacie Petrie: Made a motion to appoint Casie Jolly to serve on the Tax Assessor's Appeals Board.

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

David Sinclair: Made a motion to reappoint Jimmy Maness to serve another term on the Tax Assessor's Appeals Board.

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

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Chairman Frank Hart stated that next on the agenda was Roy Meyer to discuss trash removal at 323 Monarch Highway but Mr. Meyer was not present at the meeting.

Christan McConnel with the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) stated she had attended the Fire Chiefs Association meeting to discuss fire departments operating outside the law if they are using oxygen on patients without a permit to do so. DHEC regulates the requirement that they have a Board of Pharmacy Non Dispensing Drug Outlet Permit to administer oxygen to patients. She said she also discussed the State law pertaining to emergency medical response or ambulance service without obtaining a license and ambulance permit issued by DHEC. Providing emergency medical response or ambulance service without the proper license and permit would result in a civil penalty. There are four levels of providers which are EMR (Emergency Medical Responders), EMT Basic, EMT Advanced, and EMT Paramedic. There can be a problem if persons above the EMR level are running first response and providing care above the EMR level. Eric Harold with EMS stated Sheriff David Taylor and Linda Mitchell expressed their concern about liability to the County if 911 were to dispatch a call to a first responding agency if they are operating outside the law. The fire departments need to look at their policies and procedures and decide if they want to participate as first responders and at what level. There was some discussion on the EMR Program, liability, violations, MOUs, complaints, and compliance. Jonesville Fire Department, Phillipi Fire Department, Kelly-Kelton Fire Department and Union Fire and Rescue are currently operating as first responders.

Chairman Frank Hart stated next on the agenda was Brian Simpson with USC-Union to discuss youth and Behavioral Health Services but he was not present at the meeting.

Chairman Frank Hart stated Council needed to discuss the no interest loans to Phillipi Fire District and Southside Fire District. Councilwoman Kacie Petrie as Chair of the Committee on Planning and Development reported the Committee had met and has two recommendations to make to Council.

Kacie Petrie: Made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Committee on Planning and Development to authorize the County Supervisor to loan Southside Fire Department \$8,000 from the General Fund for the replacement of the roof on the fire department and to determine the terms of the loan and to execute any and all documents necessary to complete the loan.

David Sinclair: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous

Kacie Petrie: Made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Committee on Planning and Development to authorize the County Supervisor to loan Phillipi Fire Department \$7,000 from the General Fund for the purchase of a fire truck and to determine the terms of the loan and to execute any and all documents necessary to complete the loan.

Tommie Hill: Seconded the motion.

Councilwoman Kacie Petrie stated they want the Boards for the two fire districts to sign off on the loan documents so it would be a Board decision from each fire department. The vote was unanimous.

Councilman Ralph Tucker stated he talked to the Director of Behavioral Health Services and the new girl they hired plans to go into the schools to work on setting up some type of drug prevention program.

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

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Detention Center Director Neil McKeown stated they are currently constructing a picnic shed for Parks and Recreation which is about seventy-five percent complete. They have had to do some emergency plumbing work at the Detention Center.

Litter Control Officer Allyson Wentz stated she takes crews out each day to pick up trash. They have been working in the Monarch, Buffalo and Lockhart areas.

Building Superintendent Kenny West stated they had wind damage to the roof at the Task Force building and a roofing company would be looking at that tomorrow. He said they are working on a lot of air conditioning problems.

Delinquent Tax Collector Lorene Bevis said they have gotten delinquent taxes down to 900. This is lower than they were last year.

Airport and Stadium Manager Ron Wade stated they are working on the weather system for the airport and the State will help fund that. They were low on the asphalt compaction test for the parking areas at the airport and there are funds available from the FAA and the State to help with that project. The first football scrimmage game will be held on August 8th.

EMS Director Eric Harold stated they were awarded a grant from the State. They also received funds from the Timken Foundation in the amount of \$75,000 for the generator for the EMS renovations. He participated in a grant writing webinar to try to get some funding sources. He said he was glad the renovations project was moving forward. He said he would be attending the Setoff Debt Seminar on August 15th. They have received \$92,000 in grant money.

Rieta Drinkwine with Carnegie Library said they had wi-fi devices out in each of the municipalities. They are winding up their summer reading program. She invited Councilmembers to attend Community Day at the Library on July 27th from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. They are partnering with UCARE to do some community improvement projects. She stated they have a bunch of new people at the Library and one of them is the new Artist in Residence. They plan to do a Space Camp the second week in August.

Workforce Coordinator Katherine Pendergrass stated they are holding a recruitment event for the Department of Juvenile Justice. ESAB, Sunoco and Staff Mart for Belk have asked them to reach out to help with their recruitment efforts. They have been asked to help find a finance director for one agency and a part-time site manager for another. They were contacted by one of the Milliken companies because they have a group of managers that want to volunteer to help out a non-profit so they are thinking about the Council on Aging to do some painting around their facility. She said she is looking for someone age 55 or older to work 20 hours or more a week under the CSEF Program. They assisted with the STEM Summer Camp and she is currently working with SCC trying to get students enrolled in their certification program for the National Center for Construction and Research.

Tourism Director Curtis Hunter said they partnered with the Chamber of Commerce to provide the Kids Zone at the Fourth of July event at Foster Park. They are working to put together the Open House and Christmas Festival for December 1st and 2nd. She stated there is a need for a new hotel and restaurant in Union. They are working on a Christmas Tree Lighting event. Elise Ashby gave a report on the Ag and Art Tour and said this was their best year. They had over 100 people attend the Kick-Off Dinner. They

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had a tour bus that visited three sites and two of those sites were in Union County. Union County featured six sites and two were new sites. They are already making plans for next year's event and hope to add more sites. Tourism Director Curtis Hunter said she and William Jeter attended a meeting with the Forest Service. She told them she would like to see them support recreation and tourism since they own so much property in Union County but they said they did not have any money. She said the maps are finished for the Blue Way Project and she attended the unveiling.

Chairman Frank Hart presented for second reading an ordinance authorizing the sale and conveyance of certain real property owned by Union County to 101 W Main, LLC, a South Carolina limited liability company; the execution and delivery of one or more agreements by and between Union County and 101 W Main, LLC regarding the development of such real property by 101 W Main, LLC; the execution and delivery of any and all other documents or instruments necessary to effect the contemplated conveyance and development; and other matters related thereto.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to accept second reading of the ordinance authorizing the sale and conveyance of certain real property owned by Union County to 101 W Main, LLC as stated.

David Sinclair: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Frank Hart introduced an ordinance to amend the agreement for development for joint County Industrial Park (Wingo Industrial Park) by and between Spartanburg County and Union County, South Carolina, so as to include additional property in Spartanburg County as part of the joint County Industrial Park, and other matters relating thereto.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to dispense with referring the ordinance to a committee and to accept first reading of the ordinance to amend the agreement for development for joint County Industrial Park (Wingo Industrial Park) by and between Spartanburg County and Union County, South Carolina, so as to include additional property in Spartanburg County as part of the joint County Industrial Park, and other matters relating thereto.

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

Chairman Frank Hart introduced a resolution relating to the declaration of intent by Union County, South Carolina, to reimburse certain expenditures made prior to the execution and delivery of a federally tax-exempt lease purchase agreement or other obligations by the County. This resolution would allow Union County, once Carlisle Fire District selects the vehicle they are going to purchase, to pay for the vehicle. Once the lease documents are completed, the County would be reimbursed from the proceeds. They cannot do the lease because they have not identified the vehicle.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to dispense with referring the resolution to a committee and to adopt the resolution relating to the declaration of intent by Union County, South Carolina, to reimburse certain expenditures made prior to the execution and delivery of a federally tax-exempt lease purchase agreement or other obligations by the County.

David Sinclair: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Frank Hart asked Council to authorize him to expend the funds to purchase the truck since it was not specifically spelled out in the resolution.

Ralph Tucker: Made a motion to approve the purchase of the truck provided the County would be reimbursed for the cost.

Tommie Hill: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

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Chairman Frank Hart introduced a resolution to approve the Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement between Union County and the South Carolina Association of Counties relating to the South Carolina of Association of Counties being authorized and designated as the claimant agent for the County pursuant to the Setoff Debt Collection Act of 2003, as amended, and the Governmental Enterprise Accounts Receivable Program, as set forth in 12-4-580 (2003).

Kacie Petrie: Made a motion to dispense with referring the resolution to a committee and to adopt the resolution to approve the Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement between Union County and the South Carolina Association of Counties relating to the South Carolina of Association of Counties being authorized and designated as the claimant agent for the County pursuant to the Setoff Debt Collection Act of 2003, as amended, and the Governmental Enterprise Accounts Receivable Program, as set forth in 12-4-580 (2003). Chairman Frank Hart stated the debt setoff agreement does not include the Gear program.

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

Chairman Frank Hart stated the RFP for the EMS renovations should be going out within the next week or so. He said the STEM Camp at Sims was a great program. That program came out of the community indicators work they had done with the Upstate Workforce Investment Board. The students went to the airport to learn about the aspects of aviation. Kara Drane with Catawba Regional Council of Governments worked last year and this year with the fire departments on obtaining grants. Southside Fire Department was awarded a federal grant of approximately \$72,000.

Chairman Frank Hart called for any committee reports.

Councilwoman Kacie Petrie stated she met with Roger Bailey with Southside Fire Department who stressed the grant money they received was earmarked for different things and would not be used for the replacement of the roof on the fire station. Chairman Frank Hart asked if there was an update on the airbus. Councilwoman Kacie Petrie said she thought they were going to form a committee to look at that. She said she was not able to attend the Fire Chiefs Association meeting but she understood they talked about the DHEC regulations and the radio systems so they did not get to the airbus.

Chairman Frank Hart asked Councilman Ralph Tucker to set up a committee meeting with Behavioral Health Services to lay out the goals for the agency. Councilman Ralph Tucker stated the Commission for Behavioral Health Services would be holding a meeting next week. Chairman Frank Hart suggested holding a joint meeting with them to talk about what they plan to do.

Chairman Frank Hart stated each Councilmember has a copy of the audit or financial report for the Tourism Commission, the Carnegie Library, the Chamber of Commerce, Alcohol and Drug Abuse and the Development Board.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to accept the audits and financial statements for the Tourism Commission, the Carnegie Library, the Chamber of Commerce, Alcohol and Drug Abuse and the Development Board.

David Sinclair: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Frank Hart requested an amendment to the agenda that a contractual related matter be added to the executive session.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss a personnel related matter and a contractual related matter.

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

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

Councilman Ralph Tucker left the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Chairman Frank Hart entertained a motion to close executive session and said no votes were taken.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to close executive session.

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

The Union County Council returned to regular session.

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

Ralph Tucker: Made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Frank Hart, Chairman
Union County Council

Linda G. Jolly, Clerk to Council