

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE UNION COUNTY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2009 AT 5:30 P.M.
GRAND JURY ROOM AT THE UNION COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Present: Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh, Vice Chairperson Dora Martin, Councilwoman Joan Little, Councilman Tommy Ford, Councilman Joey English, Councilman Randall Hanvey, Councilwoman Kacie Petrie, Acting County Attorney Thom White 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, Mr. Darrell Wade, Ms. Ann Canada, Mrs. Anne Brock with Clemson Extension, and Mr. James Kollock.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh called the meeting to order. Chaplain Dora Martin 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 T. Martin, District 2 – Present

Tommy E. Ford, District 3 – Present

Joey D. English, District 4 – Present

Randall Hanvey, District 5 – Present

Kacie Petrie, District 6 – Present

Randall Hanvey: Made a motion to dispense with reading of the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of the Union County Council held on February 10, 2009 and to adopt the minutes as written.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh presented service awards for William R. Little for 5 years of dedicated service and for Troy Champion for 15 years of dedicated service to Union County.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated there was a vacancy on the Board for Catawba Regional Council of Governments which had been advertised and the applicants interviewed. The applicants were Mr. Doug Johnson, Mr. Roger Wade, and Mr. Torrance Inman. Mr. Betenbaugh opened the floor for nominations.

Councilwoman Joan Little nominated Doug Johnson.

Councilman Tommy Ford nominated Roger Wade.

Councilman Randall Hanvey nominated Torrance Inman.

Councilwoman Joan Little and Councilman Joey English voted in favor of Doug Johnson.

Councilman Tommy Ford and Councilwoman Kacie Petrie voted in favor of Roger Wade.

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Councilman Randall Hanvey and Councilwoman Dora Martin voted in favor of Torance Inman.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to caucus after the meeting and bring it back up at the next Council meeting.

Joey English: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated there was one vacancy on the Union County Stadium Commission which had been advertised. There were three applicants who are Michael (Bird) T. Lancaster, Marcus Jay Ford, and David Maness.

Joan Little: Made a motion to interview the applicants for the Stadium Commission.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated there would be four vacancies on the Union County Tourism Commission due to term expirations.

Tommy Ford: Made a motion to advertise the positions.

Dora Martin: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated that next on the agenda was Glen Sparks to discuss the animal shelter but he was not present.

Mr. David Fant addressed Council about Council meeting procedures and suggested public comments should be added to the County Council's agenda. Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated the County Council's rules and procedures had been in effect since 1977 if Council wished to review them. Councilwoman Dora Martin stated she felt County Council could spare a few minutes during the upcoming budget sessions to talk about this.

Council Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated there were talks on the State level in Columbia to cut Local Government funding. The proposed cuts range from \$755,000.00 to \$200,000.00. This would be a mid-year cut the County would have to deal with.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh asked if any elected officials or department heads wished to address Council but there were none.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh introduced an ordinance to provide for certain amendments to industrial and business park agreements between Union County and Spartanburg County in connection with the distribution of fee in lieu of tax revenues within the respective counties, and other matters related thereto.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to dispense with referring the ordinance to a committee and to accept first reading of the ordinance pertaining to certain amendments to industrial and business park agreements as stated.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh introduced an ordinance to adopt the annual Union County Budget for fiscal year 2009-2010.

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Dora Martin: Made a motion to dispense with referring the ordinance to a committee and to accept first reading of the ordinance to adopt the annual Union County Budget for fiscal year 2009-2010.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh introduced a resolution consenting to the assignment by Sonoco Products Company of its interests in a Lease Agreement and other matters related thereto.

Randall Hanvey: Made a motion to dispense with referring the resolution to a committee and to adopt the resolution consenting to the assignment by Sonoco Products Company of its interests in a Lease Agreement as stated.

Joey English: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh called for any committee reports

Dora Martin: Made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Committee on County Administration and Finance to grant \$1,250.00 to Carnegie Library to help them sponsor a fundraising golf tournament.

Joey English: Seconded the motion. The motion carried with five (5) Council Members voting in favor of the motion and one (1) Council Member (Joan Little) opposing.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Committee on County Administration and Finance to pay the invoice in the amount of \$14,941.00 to Upstate Alliance.

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

Dora Martin: Made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Committee on County Administration and Finance to lend Bonham Fire Department \$20,000.00 until June when the funds will be repaid in full from tax levy money.

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

Dora Martin: Made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Committee on County Administration and Finance to increase the telephone ports at the Department of Social Services at a cost of \$2,574.50.

Randall Hanvey: Seconded the motion. The motion carried with five (5) Council Members voting in favor of the motion and one (1) Council Member (Tommy Ford) opposing.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Committee on County Administration and Finance to accept the low bid of \$14,000.00 from TBA Construction to replace the roof at the Jonesville Senior Citizens building.

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

Joey English: Made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Committee on Public Works, Roads, and Bridges and County Property to approve the request from Southside Fire District to relocate their department to the lot at Sardis Road and Airport Road

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provided it does not interfere with any future plans for the airport and meets FAA approval.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated this would need to be handled through the County Attorney and a new survey done on the property. It would have to be done through an ordinance which would require three readings to turn that property over.

Mr. Glenn Sparks addressed Council about the possibility of a new and updated animal shelter and proper staffing of the existing one. He presented Council with a copy of his research material which identified the problems with the current facility and offered suggestions for an improved one which he went over with Council. His major concern was to allow more time for animals to be adopted before being euthanized. Mr. Sparks stated that Mr. Robert Small had agreed to provide \$10,000.00 for a building fund if other businesses and organizations would match it.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh called for any other business but there was none.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Donnie R. Betenbaugh, Chairman
Union County Council

Linda G. Jolly, Clerk to Council