

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE UNION COUNTY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2010 AT 5:33 P.M.
GRAND JURY ROOM AT THE UNION COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Present: Chairman Tommy Sinclair, Vice Chair Dora Martin, Councilwoman Joan Little, Councilman Tommy Ford, Councilman Joey English, Councilman Randall Hanvey, 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, 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, Mr. James Kollock, Mrs. Anna Brown with the County News, Mr. Mickey Gist, Mr. Frank Hart, Mr. Ray Treadway, Mr. Brooks Carwile, 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 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

Tommy Ford: Made a motion to dispense with reading of the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of the Union County Council held on January 12, 2010 and to adopt the minutes as written.

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

Chairman Tommy Sinclair stated there are four (4) vacancies on the Tourism Commission which had been advertised. There was one applicant who was Mrs. Curtiss A. Hunter.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to accept the application from Curtiss A. Hunter for appointment to the Union County Tourism Commission.

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

Chairman Tommy Sinclair stated they would continue to try to fill the other vacancies on the Tourism Commission.

Chairman Tommy Sinclair stated there was a vacancy on the Stadium Commission due to the resignation of Freddie Gault. The position had been advertised and there were two

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applicants who were Mr. Jerry Williams and Mr. Don Shetley. Since Mr. Shetley serves on the CTC Board he would not be eligible as it would constitute dual office holding.

Tommy Ford: Made a motion to interview Mr. Jerry Williams for the Stadium Commission position.

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

Dr. Allan Charles with the Historical Society stated they had enlarged their board to fifteen members. They have a staff of three part time individuals who work without benefits. Mrs. Ola Jean Kelly thanked Council for their support of the Union County Museum. They are partnering with the schools to bring the school children to the museum. They are partnering with the scout troops, the recreation department, and working with civic and social clubs to hold their meetings and training sessions there. After reopening the museum at the present site five years ago, they have had 14,000 registered visitors. They have had genealogists from all over the country and they are expanding their library. Wal-Mart gave them a grant of \$1,500 for education so they used that to buy toys that were replicas of toys played with one hundred to one hundred fifty years ago, wooden puzzles of Union County sites, and books. For the adults, they have purchased a one year subscription to ancestry.com. The historic house the museum owns is the Cross Keys House. In October, the Smithsonian came to see them. The Newcomers Club from Greenville will be coming next month and will shop on Main Street and eat in our restaurants. They have church and senior citizens groups come in. The merchants on Main Street have agreed to give them coupons for these groups when they visit the museum. Mr. Buddy Smith stated the Department of Archives and History came in and did an architectural review of the Cross Keys House and called Cross Keys a priceless piece of American history. The Historical Society had promised County Council that they would put aside \$50,000 in a maintenance fund and that they would also raise \$50,000 for development. They have done much better than that by raising \$158,000 in the last three years. Timken provided \$50,000, Rotary Club provided \$20,000, \$20,000 came from a private foundation, \$5,000 came from Milliken, and some miscellaneous dollars from others. The Board of Directors donated \$23,000 from their own personal money because they believe in what they are doing. The money they have spent is three years of fire and liability insurance, utilities and supplies. They are coming up on their third year of the Jefferson Davis Historical reenactment which has generated quite a bit of tourism for the county. They are looking at that being expanded. On the house upgrades, they have a new roof, new security system, restroom addition, and a new electrical system. The outbuildings are going to be the key to making the Cross Keys House a historical center of attraction. They have completed a two story barn restoration at a cost of approximately \$40,000. They are planning a log cabin and blacksmith shop at a cost of around \$55,000. He stated County Council had a letter from them asking for financial support. They still need to build a smokehouse, corn crib, well house and an outside kitchen as well as repair a carriage house. The South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism had recommended through the Olde English District that Union County develop its revolutionary war history and trail. They asked for Council's continued support.

Mr. Michael Taylor stated he had asked that drug tests be administered but it did not happen. He asked the bridge on Goldmine Road be finished after being out for ten years.

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He said Councilman Joey English told him the welding on the bridge looked terrible. He stated that as a professional welder and inspector he knows a bad weld when he sees it. He asked the bridge be finished in a structurally proper manner and that has been ignored. They need to be through with building roads and bridges that fall apart in ten to twelve years. It is expensive and inconvenient to taxpayers. Two weeks ago we had ice and the recycle center was closed on Sunday. There was no ice on Sunday and he left the operator a note that there were fifteen people that showed up during the twelve minutes he was sitting there. They could not dump their trash and someone threw their trash over the fence. Mr. Taylor stated he would like to see the Sheriff in a uniform in a county marked car. This brings respect and a crime deterrent.

Chairman Tommy Sinclair stated that the property at 104 Smith Drive had a structure that was condemned and the deadline for the owner to comply was January 14, 2010. The Building Inspector's question is whether the County wants to demolish the structure and haul it off or contract to have it done. Councilman Tommy Ford stated he thought the County had done it themselves in the past and suggested they do so with this property.

Randall Hanvey: Made a motion the County demolish the structure and haul it off.

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

Chairman Tommy Sinclair called for any other elected officials or any department heads who wished to address Council but there were none.

Chairman Tommy Sinclair called for any committee reports.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Committee on County Administration and Finance to ask the City to annex the Timken Sports Complex into the City.

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

Dora Martin: Made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Committee on County Administration and Finance to transfer \$150,000.00 from the Hospitality Tax Account into the Timken Sports Complex account for operation and maintenance.

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

Kacie Petrie: Made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, County Offices and Departments to accept the job title for a part-time as needed concession manager at the Timken Sports Complex to manage the concessions at the salary level of an Administrative Assistant.

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

Kacie Petrie: Made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, County Offices and Departments to advertise for a part-time public works coordinator that would help assess bridges, roads and building and construction needs at the same pay scale as an Administrative Assistant.

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

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Chairman Tommy Sinclair called for any other committee reports.

Councilman Randall Hanvey stated the Committee on Public Health and Social Services met and were in the information gathering stage. They are scheduled to meet again on Monday, February 15th at 6:30 p.m. to process the information being gathered now.

Chairman Tommy Sinclair stated the Court Management System had made a proposal and would make a final proposal to Council to upgrade the information technology ability of the courthouse.

Chairman Tommy Sinclair stated they had accepted bids for moving dirt to the South Hills Sports Complex. They received seven bids which need to be reviewed.

Chairman Tommy Sinclair stated he had been overrun with requests that the County do something about roads in the County. The County is prohibited from doing work on private roads. The Sheriff reported that one of his cars got stuck on one of the roads. There are some issues that the County needs to provide help to the degree they can give it and Council needs to address the matter. Councilman Randall Hanvey suggested referring the matter to the Committee on Public Works, Roads, and Bridges and County Property.

Chairman Tommy Sinclair called for any other business.

Councilman Tommy Ford requested Council go into executive session to discuss legal matters.

Tommy Ford: Made a motion to go into executive session to discuss legal matters.

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

The Union County Council went into executive session to discuss the matters as specified.

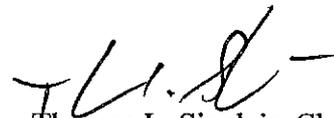
Dora Martin: Made a motion to come out of executive session and no action was taken.

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

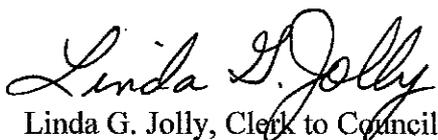
Randall Hanvey: Made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.



Thomas L. Sinclair, Chairman
Union County Council



Linda G. Jolly, Clerk to Council