

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE UNION COUNTY COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2008 AT 4:30 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, Councilman Joe Lawson, 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 and Mrs. Kacie Petrie.

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

Joe G. Lawson, 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 November 12, 2008 and to adopt the minutes as written.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh presented a service award and gift certificate for James Rice for 5 years of dedicated service and to Jomena Foster for 15 years of dedicated service to Union County.

Miss Heather Daum with the Union County Recreation Department recognized the winners of the House Lighting Contest. There were eighteen participants in both the creative and elegant categories. In the creative category third place went to Clyde Seymore, second place went to Pete Belue, and first place went to Paul Burgess. In the elegant category, third place went to Billy and Ginnie Ponder, second place went to Russ Sanders and first place went to Tracy and Lori Sanders.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated Langley and Associates sent a letter that they had reviewed the building bids they received for the Union Quick Jobs Development Center. They recommended awarding the bid to low bidder Sherman Construction at a bid of

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\$1,901,000.00. Mr. Betenbaugh stated this would be paid for through the CDBG grant and the EDA grant to build a new Quick Job Development Center tech school.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to accept the recommendation from Langley and Associates and award the building bid to low bidder Sherman Construction.

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

Mr. Auvis Cole as Tourism Director gave an update concerning the Tourism Commission. Mr. Cole stated they are continuing their marketing efforts in several magazines, publications and using various websites. They will receive a Tourism Partnership Fund Grant in the amount of \$389.00 to use for printed materials which they plan to use for rack cards for inserts in a new restaurant guide and a site to see brochure. The last event they were a part of was the Furman Wofford Game which was featured as Union County Day. They saw about six thousand people and are building a database of about three hundred emails. They gave away a one nights stay at the Inn at Merridun and a gift basket. Union County is part of the Olde English Tourism Commission which covers Union County, Lancaster County, Chester County, Chesterfield County, York County and Kershaw County. Their annual luncheon will be held January 16th at the old fish camp in Carlisle. The latest thing they are working on is a book deal with Arcadia Publishing. The book will be heavy on pictures and captions on the historical value of Union County. The book will be sold at major book stores such as Barnes and Nobles. They will have an advertisement in the local paper and interviews with WBCU Radio Station to solicit photographs from the community for the book. Ms. Ola Jean Kelly at the Union County Museum will be helping with the book.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated there were two vacancies on the Catawba Regional Council of Governments. One is to be filled by City Council and Mayor Harold Thompson sent a letter asking that he be able to fill that position. The other position is the one previously held by Iverson G. Vanderford who is now serving on the Hospital Board.

Tommy Ford: Made a motion to advertise the position formerly held by Iverson G. Vanderford.

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

Dora Martin: Made a motion to appoint Mayor Harold Thompson to serve on the Catawba Regional Council of Governments.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated the Council had received a request from Carnegie Library Board of Trustees requesting the County become a Literacy Initiative Partner by pledging \$5,000.00 per year for five years. Mr. Betenbaugh referred the request to the Committee on County Administration and Finance.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated he had a letter from Old American Lumber offering to sell the Buffalo Mill property to the County for \$150,000.00. This would include the clean up of the entire property leaving only the slab and the towers. They would also give another price which would consist of clean up, constructing ball field and parking. The proposal was referred to the Committee on County Administration and Finance.

Mr. James Harris and Dusty Hampton with the Tax Assessor's Office stated Council needed to consider condemnation of the Woodsby property located on Monroe Street. Mr.

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Clay Woodsby told Council he had purchased the lot because it adjoined his property. He stated it was a five room house in Monarch and he knew when he bought it that it would need some work. He plans to remove some of the wood to reuse in the house. There is a bad seal in the front of the house. He has purchased wood, wire, and plumbing materials to fix it. He plans to take down the house and rebuild it with the help of two friends. He said he has COPD which is a lung medical condition which prohibits him from getting out in the really cold weather. He requested time to get the work done. Councilman Joey English asked how much time he needed. Mr. Woodsby requested six to seven months to completely get the work done. Councilman Joe Lawson stated he was sure the neighbors are not happy with the situation. Mr. Woodsby stated they plan to put up a privacy fence. Joey English: Made a motion to allow Mr. Woodsby six months to fix up the house and that the Tax Assessor's Office check the progress on a month by month basis. Joan Little: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. James Harris with the Tax Assessor's Office stated there is a Cannon property located at 251 Old English Road that needed to be considered for condemnation. Councilman Joey English stated he had talked to Lindsey Cannon about the house. He plans to offer to sell it to his aunt who lives next door to the property. Joey English: Made a motion to move forward with the condemnation process. Dora Martin: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh presented an inducement resolution with respect to Milliken & Company. Dora Martin: Made a motion to dispense with referring the resolution to a committee and to adopt the inducement resolution with respect to Milliken & Company as stated. Joey English: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh presented a resolution consenting to the assignment by Paragon Plastics, Inc. of its interest in a lease agreement to Sonoco Products Company and other matters related thereto. Dora Martin: Made a motion to dispense with referring the resolution to a committee and to adopt the resolution consenting to the assignment by Paragon Plastics, Inc. of its interest in a lease agreement to Sonoco Products Company. Joey English: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated they had the attorneys review the County Personnel Policy for updates due to federal law changes specifically stating the anti-harassment policy and the drug testing policy. Council would first need to consider amendment by ordinance to repeal the existing Personnel Policy and then adopt a resolution approving the Personnel Policies and Procedures as presented to Council. Dora Martin: Made a motion to adopt the amendment to the Personnel Ordinance by repealing the existing Personnel Policy. Joey English: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Dora Martin: Made a motion to dispense with referring the resolution pertaining to the personnel policy to a committee and to adopt the resolution approving the Personnel Policies and Procedures as presented to Council. Tommy Ford: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

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Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh presented for third and final reading an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee in lieu of tax and incentive agreement by and between Union County, South Carolina ("Union County") and Timken Industrial Services, LLC (the "Company"), pursuant to which Union County shall covenant to accept certain fees in lieu of ad valorem taxes and other matters relating thereto.

Randall Hanvey: Made a motion to adopt the ordinance pertaining to Timken Industrial Services, LLC as stated.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh presented for third and final reading an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee agreement by and between Union County, South Carolina and Milliken & Company, with respect to certain economic development property, whereby such property will be subject to certain payments in lieu of taxes; and other matters related thereto.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to adopt the ordinance pertaining to Milliken & Company as stated.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh called for any committee reports. Councilwoman Dora Martin stated Council had received copies of planning ordinances for both Spartanburg County and Newberry County and asked that they review them thoroughly so they can discuss them in January.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh called for any other business.

Councilman Joey English stated that Bonham Fire Department wants to borrow \$20,000.00 from the County until they receive their money in July. That would save them having to refinance their loan to purchase a new fire truck. Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh referred this request to the Committee on County Administration and Finance.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh presented a financial statement for the Chamber of Commerce for Council to review and approve.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to approve the financial statement for the Chamber of Commerce.

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

Dora Martin: Made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Joe Lawson: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Donnie R. Betenbaugh, Chairman
Union County Council

Linda G. Jolly, Clerk to Council

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