

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE UNION COUNTY COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2007 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, and Mrs. Anne Brock with Clemson Extension.

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

Joey English: Made a motion to dispense with reading of the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of the Union County Council held on November 14, 2007 and to adopt the minutes as written.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh presented service award certificates and gift cards to Clarence Vanderford for 10 years of dedicated service, and to Brian Craig for 10 years of dedicated service to Union County.

Heather Daum with the Union Recreation Department recognized the winners of this year's Christmas Lighting Contest. There were two categories which were the creative category and the elegant category. In the creative category Clyde Seymore won first place, Tim Seymore won second place, and Joe and Sandy Wade won third place. In the elegant category Tracy and Lori Sanders won first place, Eddie Guyton won second place, and Ricky Fernandez won third place.

Mr. William Merritt was next on the agenda to make a presentation but he was not able to attend. Rev. Michael Patterson made the presentation for the Youth Enrichment Strategy Summit. Due to the shooting of the Jeter boy they felt the need to do something to maintain the character of Union County. Something needs to be done about the violence

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and gang activity and the community needs to get involved. This has become a problem on a national level and they propose holding a summit at a cost of \$5,000.00 and asked for Council's assistance. Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh asked for references of areas where they had provided services in the past. He also suggested they talk to the Chief of Police to go through law enforcement since the violence and gang problems are more concentrated in the area of the City. Rev. Patterson told him they would get him the information requested. Mr. Betenbaugh stated the request for funds would be referred to the Committee on County Administration and Finance for consideration.

Mr. Vince DiCarlo with the National Weather Service stated they had been working through the local Emergency Services doing some restructuring of their warning services toward a reduction in fatalities and loss of property. There had been an extra effort by Union County to implement the Storm Ready program and they wished to recognize Emergency Services Director Stephen Jones for those efforts. He presented the County with two road signs that could be used around the county to signify our accomplishments. The program addressed setting up spotter networks, establishing communications and warnings, public service addresses and faster response time.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated that the Town of Carlisle had offered the County one acre of land as a site for a recycling center at a cost of \$5,500.00. He suggested the purchase of two acres at the site if the Town of Carlisle was willing to sell it at a cost of \$5,500.00 per acre.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to purchase two acres of land from the Town of Carlisle for a site for a recycling center at a cost of \$5,500.00 per acre if they are willing to sell it.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated the Council had previously approved the purchase of the Frazier property adjacent to the Union County Airport. The County will be purchasing the 5.59 acres at a cost of \$16,770.00 as we have a sixty day option on the land.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh reminded Council they had discussed the need to replace the truck used at 911 for street signs and the truck used by Animal Control. The transmission has gone out on the County van as well. He stated he would like to get some low quotes and short term financing for those vehicles to bring back to Council in January. They would be flex fuel vehicles.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh presented for third and final reading an ordinance to develop a jointly owned and operated Business Park in conjunction with Spartanburg County and to authorize a written agreement with Spartanburg County to provide for the manner by which expenses and revenues from such park will be allocated, and to authorize a negotiated user fee in lieu of ad valorem taxation.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to adopt the ordinance pertaining to the business park and user fee for the Michelin Project as stated.

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

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Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh presented for third and final reading an ordinance to amend that certain agreement for the development of a joint county industrial and business park between Union County and Spartanburg County dated August 21, 2006 to include the NURRC, LLC Project.

Randall Hanvey: Made a motion to adopt the ordinance pertaining to the NURRC, LLC Project.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh presented for third and final reading an ordinance authorizing an amendment to that certain multi-county park agreement, dated July 11, 1994, as subsequently amended, governing a multi-county business/industrial park by and between Union County, South Carolina, and Spartanburg County, South Carolina, to authorize the expansion of the boundaries of the park; and other matters thereto related as it pertains to Gibbs International, Inc.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to adopt the ordinance authorizing the amendment of the multi-county park agreement to provide for an expansion pertaining to Gibbs International, Inc.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh called for any committee reports but there were none.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh presented for Council to review and approve a financial statement from Catawba Regional Council of Governments.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to accept the financial statement as presented.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh called for any other business.

Mr. Ronnie Wade stated that the County's UCARE program would be purchasing gifts for 72 children this year and would be spending \$75.00 on each child. The applicants had been screened by the Department of Social Services and the parents would be picking up the gifts at the Union County Recreation Department on December 20th. Dollar General had donated food items that would be used to make up food baskets for the needy.

Joan Little: Made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

Donnie R. Betenbaugh, Chairman
Union County Council

Linda G. Jolly, Clerk to Council

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