

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE UNION COUNTY COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2006 AT 4:30 P.M.
GRAND JURY ROOM AT THE UNION COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Present: Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh, Vice Chairperson Dora Martin, Councilman Tommy Ford, Councilman Joey English, Councilman Randall Hanvey, Councilman Joe Lawson, County Attorney Sammy Diamaduros and Clerk to Council Linda G. Jolly
Absent: Councilman Toney Farr

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, WSPA-TV, WIS News, Allen Hutto with MHISC, Mr. Ethan Burroughs with Wachovia Bank, the Union County Development Board, Mr. J. B. Stepp, Mr. Scott Frost, Wallace Thomson Hospital, Mr. John Cadena with SCANA Corp., Ms. Ann Fesperman with the Upstate Workforce Investment Board, Mr. Darrell Wade, Ms. Ann Canada, Ms. Annie E. Wessinger with Capital Consultants, Sandra Palmer, and Ms. 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:

Toney L. Farr, District 1 – Absent
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

Dora Martin: Made a motion to dispense with reading of the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of Union County Council held on February 8, 2006, the special meeting of County Council held on February 28, 2006 and to adopt the minutes as written.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh presented service award certificates and gift certificates to Lewis Brackins for 10 years of dedicated service, to William J. Vinson for 5 years of dedicated service, to Dustin Hampson for 5 years of dedicated service, to Ralph Gregory for 5 years of dedicated service, to Donna Alexander for 15 years of dedicated service, and to George Jenkins for 20 years of dedicated service to Union County.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated that there was a vacancy on the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission which had been advertised and the only applicant was Rev. Anthony N. Gavalas. This unexpired term was created by the resignation of Beth Summer-Strait.

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Dora Martin: Made a motion to appoint Rev. Anthony N. Gavalas to fill the unexpired term on the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated there was a vacancy on the Library Board. The only applicant was Ms. Pat Bogan.

Tommy Ford: Made a motion to appoint Ms. Pat Bogan to fill the unexpired term on the Library Board.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated there were four positions on the Fair Board to be recommended from the Council Chairman, Council District 2, Council District 4 and Council District 6. The applicants were Donald R. Sanders, Curtiss A. Hunter, Donald Lawson, William A. Jolly, Harry O. Helms, Clyde D. Jennings, Dennis Millwood, H. A. Buck Vinson, Beth Summer-Strait, James A. Fron, Jeff Lawson, and Marion E. McAbee.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh recommended Mr. Donald R. Sanders.

Councilwoman Dora Martin recommended Ms. Curtiss A. Hunter.

Councilman Joey English recommended Mr. Harry Helms.

Councilman Joe Lawson recommended Mr. Donald Lawson.

Randall Hanvey: Made a motion to accept the recommendations for appointments to the Fair Board as stated.

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

Councilman Donnie Betenbaugh stated there were two vacancies on the Stadium Commission and only one applicant who was Freddie Gault.

Joe Lawson: Made a motion to appoint Mr. Freddie Gault to serve on the Stadium Commission and to advertise for the second vacancy.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated there were four positions on the Hospital Board whose terms would expire March 31st. Two of the positions would have to be filled by a medical doctor and practicing physician within the Union Hospital District and two positions would be at large.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to advertise the four positions on the Hospital Board.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated that Council had discussed at their last meeting the Buffalo Mill office and acreage surrounding it. The appraisal on the 3.977 acres is \$19,500.00. The property owner is asking \$5,000.00 an acre on that property at a cost of \$19,885.00.

Joe Lawson: Made a motion to accept the asking price of \$19,885.00 to purchase the 3.977 acres.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated the appraisal on the old Buffalo Mill office building is \$41,000.00. The company was under the impression that there was going to be a

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property tax credit for anything over \$35,000.00 on that property. That was not the case and the County had anticipated giving them a letter of donation for anything over the \$35,000.00. The Council does not have the authority to give a property tax credit so the owner said he would take the appraised value of \$41,000.00 for the building.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to purchase the old Buffalo Mill office building for \$41,000.00.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated the County has the grant in the amount of \$250,000.00 for the Small Business Center for phase one and two on that building. In order to get drawings and designs for phase three and four they would need to go through an architectural firm. The firm of Langley and Associates who is handling the first two phases stated they could do that for \$26,000.00. Councilman Joe Lawson asked that this be referred to the Finance Committee and Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh did so.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh called for any elected officials or department heads who wished to address Council. Airport Manager Ron Wade announced that on March 23rd they would be holding the Grand Re-Opening of the airport from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Senator Jim DeMint had agreed to be there. Mr. Betenbaugh stated this would be the re-opening of the runway with the additional five hundred foot extension.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated the LSP project had been progressing quickly. BMW had contacted them and would be asking Council for a fee-in-lieu agreement for an additional fifty million dollar investment in the LSP Project. This would put it at nearly a one hundred fifty million dollar project. BMW will be moving their equipment into that facility also.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh presented a resolution authorizing an Inducement Agreement between LSP Automotive Systems, LLC and Union County.

Joe Lawson: Made a motion to dispense with referring the resolution to a committee and to adopt the resolution authorizing an Inducement Agreement between LSP Automotive Systems, LLC and Union County.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh presented a resolution authorizing the closing and consenting to the judicial closing and abandonment of portions of two streets in the County of Union being (1) Mulberry Drive from its point on the western boundary of the Bonham Volunteer Fire Department property westward a distance of approximately 1010.7 feet, and (2) Commerce Way from its intersection with Mulberry Drive southward a distance of 1100.2 feet to a point.

Joe Lawson: Made a motion to dispense with referring the resolution to a committee and to adopt the resolution closing Mulberry Drive and Commerce Way as stated.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh gave third and final reading of an ordinance authorizing a contract for the sale of land, and Access Agreement, and ratifying an Incentive and

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Inducement Agreement between Union County and LSP Automotive Systems, LLC. Union County owns or has the right to acquire by a voluntary transfer from the current owner several tracts of land consisting of 61.77 acres located in and near the area generally known as the Union Commerce Park in Union County and more specifically identified in Exhibit A attached hereto for the purpose of attracting new industries to the County in order to create jobs and increase the tax base of the County.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to adopt the ordinance authorizing a contract for sale of land, and Access Agreement, and ratifying an Incentive and Inducement Agreement between Union County and LSP Automotive Systems, LLC.

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

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh asked Council if they had any other business. Mr. Donald Wildman who is legal counsel for LSP asked that findings of facts in the resolution for the road closings be reflected in the minutes. Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh asked the Clerk to Council to include a copy of the resolution in its entirety as a part of the minutes of the meeting and read the title of that resolution.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh presented for review and approval the audits and financial statements for Union Carnegie Library, Union Services, and Catawba Regional Council of Governments.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to accept the audits and financial statements as presented.

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

Randall Hanvey: Made a motion to adjourn.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 4:49 p.m.

Donnie R. Betenbaugh, Chairman
Union County Council

Linda G. Jolly, Clerk to Council

