

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

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

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 – 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 – Absent

Dora Martin: Made a motion to dispense with reading of the minutes of the regular monthly meeting held on January 11, 2006 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 Rena Fowler for 5 years of dedicated service, to William D. All for 5 years of dedicated service, to Gary Frost for 5 years of dedicated service, to William Holcombe for 15 years of dedicated service and to Sammy Phipps for 25 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 Ms. Teena C. Heym. This unexpired term was created by the resignation of Ms. Betty E. Pecko.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to appoint Ms. Teena C. Heym to serve on the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission.

Toney Farr: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated there is still a vacancy on the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission due to the resignation of Ms. Beth Summer-Strait.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to advertise the vacancy.

Toney Farr: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated there were two vacancies on the Library Board. The only applicant was Mrs. Suzanne W. Byrd.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to appoint Mrs. Suzanne W. Byrd to service on the Library Board and to advertise the remaining vacancy.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated there were terms on the Fair Board and Stadium Commission which had expired.

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Dora Martin: Made a motion to advertise the positions on the Fair Board and Stadium Commission.  
Tommy Ford: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh presented for third and final reading an ordinance to create a Union County Tourism Commission; to provide for the composition, construction, structure, organization, powers, duties, and functions of the Union County Tourism Commission; to provide the duties, responsibilities and terms of office of commission members; to provide for the election of officers of the commission and employment of personnel for the commission; and to provide for other matters relating thereto.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to adopt the ordinance to create a Union County Tourism Commission as presented.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh asked for permission to advertise for the vacancies on that Board which will consist of fifteen members.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to advertise the vacancies for the Union County Tourism Commission.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh presented for third and final reading an amendment to the Union County Personnel Policy to include a statement pertaining to the Americans with Disabilities Act for reasonable accommodations and redefining the statement pertaining to equal employment and nondiscrimination.

Toney Farr: Made a motion to adopt the amendment to the Personnel Policy as stated.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh presented for third and final reading an amendment to the ordinance pertaining to appointments to Boards and Commissions to be based upon attendance.

Toney Farr: Made a motion to adopt the amendment to the ordinance pertaining to appointments to Boards and Commissions as stated.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh called for any committee reports.

Councilwoman Dora Martin asked Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh to expound on the concept for the old Buffalo Mill property. Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated County Council would like to present a concept to the Tourism Committee and the Museum Historic Society. As the County purchases the old Buffalo Mill office, they would like to look at the idea of turning it into the Upstate Textile Mill Baseball League Museum and invite anyone who played in textile mill baseball. They also propose purchasing the property where the power plant was located to be used as a youth baseball field and call it Hero's Park or something of that nature. It would be a drawing point for tourism. Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated they already have the Buffalo Mill office secured based on the \$35,000.00 so they would only need to negotiate on the adjoining lot.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Committee on County Administration and Finance to give the Supervisor permission to negotiate up to the appraisal value of the vacant lot.

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

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh asked Council if they had any other business.

Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated that he along with Councilman Tommy Ford, and Councilman Chump Hanvey were continuously meeting with the Hospital Board to review the RFPs and would be doing so for two more nights.

County Tax Assessor Bill Randall presented for condemnation property located on 2nd Street in Ottoray. He had talked with Mr. Burgess yesterday who told him he planned to have the house torn down by the end of April and that he had talked to Ricky Trammel about tearing it down. Chairman Donnie Betenbaugh stated they are at the end of the second ninety days notice. He asked Council if they wanted to give the property owner another ninety day extension.

Toney Farr: Made a motion to grant the property owner another ninety days.

Randall Hanvey: Seconded the motion.

Councilwoman Dora Martin stated that she would like to have it in writing that the property owner plans

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to have the house torn down in that period of time.  
The vote on the motion was unanimous.

Dora Martin: Made a motion to adjourn.  
Randall Hanvey: Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.  
The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Donnie R. Betenbaugh, Chairman  
Union County Council

Linda G. Jolly, Clerk to Council

