

MINUTES  
UNION COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, JULY 13, 2021 AT 5:30 P.M.  
STREAMED TO FRANK HART UNION COUNTY  
SUPERVISOR FACEBOOK PAGE

Present: Chairman Frank Hart, Vice-Chairman Ben Ivey, Councilwoman Tracie Campbell via telephone, Councilman Ralph Tucker (arrived at 5:45 p.m.), Councilman David Sinclair, Clerk to Council Linda G. Jolly and County Attorney Sammy Diamaduros.

Absent: Councilman Tommie Hill and Councilman John Flood

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 or emailed to the members of the Union County Council, the County Attorney, Jeff Fellers with Clemson Extension, Jami Trammell with Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Mickey Gist, Mr. Robert Small, Mr. James Kollock, Mrs. Casie Jolly, Mike Stevens and Daniel Prince at WBCU Radio Station, Graham Williams at the County News, the News Room at the Spartanburg Herald Journal, Chris Lavender with the Spartanburg Herald Journal, Shell Suber at MHISC, and Michael Lee with MHISC as well as to elected officials and heads of various county departments and offices. A notice of the meeting and a copy of the agenda were also posted on the County's website.

Chairman Frank Hart called the meeting to order. Council Chaplin David Sinclair gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk to Council gave the Roll Call with the following results:

Tracie Campbell, District 1 – Present via telephone

Ralph Tucker, District 2 – Present (arrived at 5:45 p.m.)

David Sinclair, District 3 - Present

Ben Ivey, District 4 - Present

Tommie Hill, District 5 - Absent

John Flood, District 6 – Absent

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to dispense with reading of the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of the Union County Council held on June 8, 2021 and to adopt the minutes as written.

David Sinclair: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with David Sinclair from District 3 voting yes, and with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart stated next on the agenda was a service award. The Clerk to Council stated it was a service award certificate and gift certificate to Kevin Morrow for 5 years of service to Union County.

Chairman Frank Hart made a presentation to Don Shetley in recognition of his fifteen years of service as Chairman of the Union County Transportation Committee. He presented Mr. Shetley from House Representative Doug Gilliam and the members of the Union County Delegation with a flag which has flown over the South Carolina State House. He presented him with a Resolution from the House of Representatives honoring him for his service. From Union County and the Union County

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Transportation Committee Chairman Frank Hart presented Mr. Shetley with a plaque for his fifteen years of service.

Clerk of Court Melanie Lawson requested permission to fill a vacant budgeted clerical position in the Family Court/Child Support Office. She gave an update on the workload in her office.

David Sinclair: Made a motion to allow the Clerk of Court to fill a vacant budgeted clerical position in the Family Court/Child Support Office.

Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with David Sinclair from District 3 voting yes, and with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Probate Judge William All requested permission to fill a vacant budgeted clerical position in his office. He asked Council to consider in the future budgeting another position to help with mental health cases and guardian conservatorships.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to allow Probate Judge William All to fill a vacant budgeted clerical position in his office.

David Sinclair: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with David Sinclair from District 3 voting yes, and with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Public Works Director Rusty Snider requested permission to fill two vacant budgeted Equipment Operator I positions for his road crew.

David Sinclair: Made a motion to allow Public Works Director Rusty Snider to fill two vacant budgeted Equipment Operator I positions in his department.

Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with David Sinclair from District 3 voting yes, and with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Christina McDowell as Director of Alcohol and Drug Abuse requested permission to fill two vacant budgeted Clinical Counselor positions in her office.

Tracie Campbell: Made a motion to allow the Director of Alcohol and Drug Abuse to fill the two vacant budgeted Clinical Counselor positions in her office.

Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with David Sinclair from District 3 voting yes, and with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart stated Council had a copy of the resignation from Lauren Ward Greer from the Library Board. He said that would be his recommendation but he wanted to wait until the next meeting.

Chairman Frank Hart stated Council needed to consider appointments to boards and commissions and called for any recommendations for appointments.

Tracie Campbell: Made a motion to appoint Amanda Black to serve on the Fair Board.

Ben Ivey: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with David Sinclair from District 3 voting yes, and with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

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Chairman Frank Hart stated next on the agenda was to consider the Capital Project Sales Tax Commission project list. He said that would be deferred to a special meeting for a presentation from the Capital Project Sales Tax Commission.

Chairman Frank Hart called for any comments from elected officials and department heads.

Finance Director Ann Boggs stated Council should have a copy of the financial report for June. There are still entries to be made that should increase revenues. We are at 88-89% on expenditures. She stated she made the line-item allocations for the increases in the salaries and fringes that had been in the budget as a lump sum.

Public Works Director Rusty Snider stated they had been working on some projects at Timken Sports Complex. They did prep work for the paving of the parking lot across the street from the Complex and patching in the main parking lot. They did a little grade work for a new building at the Complex. They have been working on some washing issues on some of our roads due to the rain.

(Councilman Ralph Tucker arrived for the meeting at 5:45 p.m.)

Detention Center Director Niel McKeown said they have been busy since they have five positions open.

Delinquent Tax Collector Lorene Bevis stated they would start levying property in the next few weeks.

Airport and Stadium Manager Ronnie Wade stated they had gotten the notice regarding the grant for the Airport but had not received the grant from the FAA yet. This would be a grant for \$146,000 for the taxiway. The preliminary work has been done for the new building for the Timken Sports Complex. He said Kevin Shropshire was holding ball games as the game the night before was washed out due to rain.

Victim Advocate Coordinator Michelle Shugart said she would be preparing for court next week.

Community Development Director Kathy Jo Lancaster stated the Planning Commission will be holding a workshop next week to make some edits to the Comp Plan. The Plan will go out for public review for thirty days before having the public hearing and first reading of the ordinance for approval. Under the transportation initiative they have been talking about the need for public transportation in Union County. They will be talking to the South Carolina Department of Transportation concerning the Rural Transit Fund which helps counties provide transportation through a three-year pilot program. It would require a twenty percent in matching funds from the County. There is a federal grant opportunity offered through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to assist counties in bringing broadband infrastructure into areas not being served. One of the requirements is partnering with an internet provider in order to be eligible to submit the application. Charter has agreed to be the partner for Union County.

Tourism Director Curtiss Hunter said everything she has is conceptual and she could not talk about it right now.

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Economic Development Director Dolton Williams stated they have been working on projects and have opened eight or nine new projects over the past two weeks. Activity is high right now. He is working on several projects that were in progress before he came. They held an Existing Industry Partnership Forum with a good turn-out and feedback on their workforce needs. Jami Trammel has gotten started in her position with the Development Board.

Communications Dispatch Director Linda Mitchell gave a report on the call volume for Emergency Services for the month of May.

Chairman Frank Hart introduced a resolution stating Union County Council agrees to provide up to \$580,000 in funding to pay for a portion of the project administration costs, the required environmental review, and other project costs including property easements/acquisition, legal fees, and sewer facilities for the Wastewater Treatment Project for the Town of Carlisle.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to dispense with referring the resolution to a committee and to adopt the resolution stating Union County Council agrees to provide up to \$580,000 in funding to pay for a portion of the project administration costs, the required environmental review, and other project costs including property easements/acquisition, legal fees, and sewer facilities for the Wastewater Treatment Project for the Town of Carlisle.

David Sinclair: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ralph Tucker from District 2 voting yes, with David Sinclair from District 3 voting yes, and with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart introduced a resolution to authorize Union County to take necessary steps to qualify as a covered partnership with Spectrum Southeast, LLC for the purposes of applying for a federal grant for broadband expansion within Union County; and other matters related thereto.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to dispense with referring the resolution to a committee and to adopt the resolution to authorize Union County to take necessary steps to qualify as a covered partnership with Spectrum Southeast, LLC for the purposes of applying for a federal grant for broadband expansion within Union County; and other matters related thereto.

David Sinclair: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart said Spectrum was working on expanding their services in Union County. The grant would allow the County to fill in some of the gaps. He said our goal is to have broadband available to each and every house in Union County. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ralph Tucker from District 2 voting yes, with David Sinclair from District 3 voting yes, and with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart presented for third and final reading an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a Quit Claim Deed to Harold E. Shetley conveying the interest of Union County, South Carolina, in a certain parcel of real estate located at 1504 Main Street, Buffalo, South Carolina 29321 and as shown as Tax Map #072-02-04-006 (See Exhibit "A" attached hereto for a full legal description).

David Sinclair: Made a motion to adopt the ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a Quit Claim Deed to Harold E. Shetley conveying the interest of Union County, South Carolina, in a certain parcel of real estate located at 1504 Main Street, Buffalo, South Carolina 29321 and as shown as Tax Map #072-02-04-006 (See Exhibit "A" attached hereto for a full legal description).

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Tracie Campbell: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ralph Tucker from District 2 voting yes, with David Sinclair from District 3 voting yes, and with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart introduced in title only an ordinance to regulate outdoor burning in Union County within all unincorporated areas except as otherwise authorized or provided; and other matters related thereto, including, without limitation, exceptions and exemptions thereto and therefrom.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to dispense with referring the ordinance to a committee and to accept first reading in title only of the ordinance to regulate outdoor burning in Union County within all unincorporated areas except as otherwise authorized or provided; and other matters related thereto, including, without limitation, exceptions and exemptions thereto and therefrom.

David Sinclair: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ralph Tucker from District 2 voting yes, with David Sinclair from District 3 voting yes, and with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart requested an amendment to the agenda to add first reading in title only of an ordinance to impose a one percent Capital Project Sales Tax. The amendment to the agenda would require by State law a two-thirds vote of County Council and has to be an item for which they are not taking final action. The legal counsel informed him today that to actually implement the tax they would have to do an ordinance with three readings so they wanted to get the first reading in title only done.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to amend the agenda to add first reading in title only of an ordinance to impose a one percent Capital Project Sales Tax.

David Sinclair: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ralph Tucker from District 2 voting yes, with David Sinclair from District 3 voting yes, and with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote. Chairman Frank Hart stated that would satisfy the required two-thirds vote to amend the agenda.

Chairman Frank Hart introduced an ordinance in title only to impose a one percent Capital Project Sales Tax, subject to a referendum, within Union County, South Carolina pursuant to the Capital Project Sales Tax Act, as codified in 4-10-300, Et Seq., of the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended (The "Act"); to specify the purposes, projects and facilities for which the proceeds of such tax may be used; to provide the maximum time for which such tax may be imposed; to provide the maximum amount of General Obligation Bonds to be issued to provide for the payment of any costs of the projects and facilities and to pledge such tax to the payment of the bonds; to provide the maximum cost of the projects or facilities to be funded from the proceeds of such tax or bonds; to provide the maximum amount of net proceeds of the tax expected to be used to pay the cost of the projects or debt service on the bonds; to establish the priority in which the net proceeds of such tax are to be expended for the projects and purposes stated; to order a referendum prescribed by the Act to be conducted by the Union County Registration and Election Commission; to provide for the administration of such tax; and other matters relating thereto.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to dispense with referring the ordinance to a committee and to accept first reading of the ordinance in title only to impose a one percent Capital Project Sales Tax, subject to a referendum, within Union County, South Carolina pursuant to the Capital Project Sales Tax Act, as codified in 4-10-300, Et Seq., of the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended The "Act"); to specify the purposes, projects and facilities for which the proceeds of such tax may be used; to provide the maximum time for which such tax may be imposed; to provide the maximum amount of General

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Obligation Bonds to be issued to provide for the payment of any costs of the projects and facilities and to pledge such tax to the payment of the bonds; to provide the maximum cost of the projects or facilities to be funded from the proceeds of such tax or bonds; to provide the maximum amount of net proceeds of the tax expected to be used to pay the cost of the projects or debt service on the bonds; to establish the priority in which the net proceeds of such tax are to be expended for the projects and purposes stated; to order a referendum prescribed by the Act to be conducted by the Union County Registration and Election Commission; to provide for the administration of such tax; and other matters relating thereto.

Tracie Campbell: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ralph Tucker from District 2 voting yes, with David Sinclair from District 3 voting yes, and with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

Chairman Frank Hart said he would forego his Supervisor's Report.

Chairman Frank Hart called for any committee reports but there were none.

Chairman Frank Hart called for any other business but there was none.

Ben Ivey: Made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

David Sinclair: Seconded the motion. Chairman Frank Hart gave a roll call for the vote with Tracie Campbell from District 1 voting yes, with Ralph Tucker from District 2 voting yes, with David Sinclair from District 3 voting yes, and with Ben Ivey from District 4 voting yes resulting in a unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Frank Hart, Chairman  
Union County Council

Linda G. Jolly, Clerk to Council