

MINUTES
UNION COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2023 AT 5:30 P.M.
GRAND JURY ROOM AT UNION COUNTY COURTHOUSE
LIVE STREAMED TO WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GEARUPUNIONSC.COM

Present: Chairman Phillip Russell, II, Councilman Danny Bright, Council Vice Chair David Sinclair, Councilwoman Annie Smith, Councilwoman Carolyn Rutherford, Clerk to Council Kindra W. Horne and County Attorney Sammy Diamaduros. Councilman John Flood participated via phone.

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, Mr. Mickey Gist, Mr. Robert Small, Mr. James Kollock, Mrs. Casie Jolly, Daniel Prince at WBCU Radio Station, Graham Williams at the County News, the News Room at 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 Phillip Russell, II called the meeting to order at 5:30PM. Councilman Danny Bright gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Danny Bright, District 1 – Present

District 2 – Vacant

David Sinclair, District 3 – Present

Annie Smith, District 4 - Present

Carolyn Rutherford, District 5 – Present

John Flood, District 6 – via phone (at roll call he was not available on the line but he did return to the phone later on in the meeting)

Vice Chair David Sinclair: Made a motion to approve the minutes as written for the regular monthly meeting of the Union County Council held on May 9, 2023.

Danny Bright: Seconded the motion. Chairman Phillip Russell, II asked for questions, comments, deletions and there were none. Chairman Russell called for a vote with the result being all in favor of the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Phillip Russell, II presented a service award to Kathy McConnell, an employee with the Election Commission for 5 years of dedicated service to Union County and to Nathan Burdine, a Sheriff's Deputy for 20 years of service to the County.

Chairman Russell noted that the first item on the agenda was for Mr. Dainard Autrey to speak about some code concerns for a property on Hawkins Road. Mr. Autrey has sent an email noting that Code Enforcement had made some progress with the property and he appreciates the effort and would not need to speak at this time.

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The second item on the agenda was to consider our representation on the Olde English District Board. Currently it is Curtiss Hunter, Olde English District has requested that she be re-appointed to the board. She is currently serving on the Alcohol and Drug Board and cannot serve on both so if re-appointed she will resign her Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission seat to accept the seat on the Olde English District Board. Councilwoman Carolyn Rutherford made a motion to appoint Curtiss Hunter the Olde English District, Councilwoman Annie Smith seconded the motion and Chairman Russell called for the vote, with all in favor the motion carried.

Chairman Russell asked if there were any elected officials wishing to speak and there were none.

Chairman Russell announced that the next item on the agenda was third reading of the 2023-2024 Budget Ordinance. Two readings have been held, First reading on the 11th of April, and second reading on the 9th of May. A public hearing was held today prior to the council meeting. Councilwoman Smith had gotten a text from Councilman Flood to call him back as their call had disconnect, the call was placed and Councilman Flood was able to get back on the line to join the meeting. Chairman Russell called for a motion to accept third reading of the 2023-2024 Budget Ordinance. Councilman John Flood made the motion to adopt the 2023-2024 Budget Ordinance as presented. Vice chair David Sinclair made a second. Chairman Russell called for discussion and there was none. Chairman Russell requested a roll call vote by the Clerk to Council. A roll call vote was performed with the following results:

District 1, Danny Bright-No

District 2, Vacant

District 3, David Sinclair-Yes

District 4, Annie Smith-Yes

District 5, Carolyn Rutherford-No

District 6, John Flood-Yes

The motion passed with a 3/2 vote.

Chairman Russell brought to the attention of council a packet given to them with the applications for those who have applied for appointment to Boards and Commissions. The recommendations and appointments will be made at the July meeting.

Councilwoman Rutherford did not understand the appointing order, Chairman Russell and Vice chair Sinclair explained to her that because she was filling an unexpired council term for Councilman Tommie Hill, Sr., who passed away, that he had made the appointments for his District prior to his death and therefore it was not time for her to make recommendations for appointments as those members terms had not expired yet.

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Chairman Russell went over his supervisor's report (attached).

Chairman Russell requested a motion to adjourn, a motion was made by councilmember Annie Smith and a second was made by councilmember Carolyn Rutherford. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned. Vice chair David Sinclair made a second, all were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 5:50PM.

Phillip Russell, II, Chairman
Union County Council

Kindra W. Horne, Clerk to Council