

MINUTES  
UNION COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2023 AT 5:30 P.M.  
GRAND JURY ROOM AT UNION COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Present: Chairman Phillip Russell, II, Councilman Danny Bright, Councilman John Glenn, Councilwoman Annie Smith, Councilwoman Carolyn Rutherford, Councilman John Flood, County Attorney Sammy Diamaduros and Clerk to Council Kindra Horne.

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 David Sinclair 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  
John Glenn, District 2-Present  
David Sinclair, District 3 – Present  
Annie Smith, District 4 – Present  
Carolyn Rutherford, District 5 - Present  
John Flood, District 6 – Present

Councilman David Sinclair made a motion to approve the minutes as written for the regular monthly meeting of the Union County Council held November 14, 2023. Councilman Carolyn Rutherford seconded the motion. Chairman Russell called for questions, there were none. He then called for a vote with all members voting in favor of the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Russell presented service awards to the following:

Ashley Olivia Morris-5 years of service with Union County EMS

Chairman Russell moved to the first agenda item of business; he requested that council consider scheduling a joint meeting with the Union County School Board to receive an update from the Spartanburg Community College committee. This committee was formed to develop a plan on how SCC would continue to provide educational support and training in Union County. January 16, 2024 at 5:30 is the date that seems to be convenient for most all involved. Councilman John Flood made a motion to schedule the meeting for the requested date and time, Vice chair Sinclair seconded. Chairman Russell

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called for a vote, all were in favor and the vote carried unanimously. The location for the meeting will be determined and sent out the public and council.

Chairman Russell called on the elected officials who were present and the only comment made was from Treasurer Debbie Robertson who wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Chairman Russell announced the 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of the FILOT Ordinance for Project Lightning, a public hearing had been held prior to council meeting at 5:15 with no public comments made. This FILOT is between Union County and Lockhart Power for over \$13 million dollars in upgrades to their facility. Council Danny Bright made a motion to dispense with referring to committee and accept 3<sup>rd</sup> reading. Councilman John Glenn seconded the motion, chairman Russell called for questions and there were none. Chairman Russell called for a vote and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Russell went over the Supervisor's report which had been sent out via email and will be posted online with the minutes, once approved.

Councilwoman Rutherford announced that next Thursday December 21, 2023 she was planning to hold a Christmas candle light vigil to pray for Union County as a whole, it will be held behind the junction at 5:30PM.

Chairman Russell said that council needed to consider a recommendation from the finance committee to establish a capital fund for \$850,000 that had been voted on in finance committee. Chairman Russell opened the floor for discussion. Vice chair Sinclair noted that councilman Flood had been wanting to do this for a long time and that this was a great step. Councilman Flood noted that it was a goal he had been looking towards for many years and a great step to get us out of crisis management mode. Chairman Russell concurred, and stipulated that funds could not be spent without majority vote of council. Chairman Russell called for a vote and all of council voted to establish the capital fund.

Chairman Russell called for announcements. There were none. Chairman Russell reminded of our board training for council on January 23, 2024 at 5:30.

Vicechair Sinclair made a motion to adjourn, councilwoman Annie Smith seconded. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 6:00PM.

Phillip Russell, II, Chairman  
Union County Council

Kindra W. Horne, Clerk to Council