

**TOWN OF UNIONVILLE
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING**

DRAFT

The Unionville Town Council held a special meeting with Union County and Town of Fairview on Monday, February 13, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in Town Hall, 1102 Unionville Church Road, Monroe, NC. Mayor Simpson and Commissioners Randy Baucom, Ken Brown, Robert Croutch and Edd Little were present. Commissioner Jaren Simpson was absent. Fairview officials who were present were Mayor Libby Long, and Commissioners Jerry Clontz, B. B. Haigler, Arnold Price, and Bradley Purser. Union County officials in attendance were Chairman Jerry Simpson and Commissioners Todd Johnson and Jonathan Thomas. County Manager Cindy Coto was also present.

Everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag, after which Commissioner Robert Croutch led the prayer of invocation.

Mayor Simpson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order and introduced Unionville officials. Mayor Long introduced Fairview officials, and Chairman Simpson introduced Union County officials.

The first item of business was Union County's Transportation Advisory Board. Mayor Long made inquiry as to whether the county plans to reestablish this board or pursue a transportation planner. Chairman Simpson stated that he and Jonathan Thomas were the co-chairmen of this large committee and it was seldom that a quorum was present at meetings. The group thought it would be most beneficial for someone to serve in the position of transportation planner/engineer, and Manager Coto is researching this process. Manager Coto added that the county will have a budget work session Monday, February 20, 2012 and they will discuss this issue, and likelihood will be based on available funding. The goal is for a county-wide transportation plan. Chairman Simpson stated that the bypass area is also a critical area which will affect Unionville and Fairview simultaneously.

The next item of business was regarding Union County's water and sewer plans for Unionville and Fairview areas. Manager Coto stated that on December 19, 2011, the Commissioners adopted a 20-year master plan that includes a five-year plan for water and wastewater capital improvements for our towns. These plans are available on the county's website. The county staff will plan meetings with the municipalities to further discuss. Mayor Long made inquiry as to what the county would expect from the municipalities. Manager Coto stated that the communities must put in ansulair lines and the county will provide treatment lines. A joint meeting with Mayors Simpson and Long was encouraged. Commissioner Johnson stated that the Carolina heelsplitter prefaces everything they plan. A question was raised about the safety and welfare of the public. Mayor Long made inquiry as to water line plans. Manager Coto did not have an answer, but will advise of any meetings regarding this issue. Mayor Long also made inquiry as to a map of all wells in Fairview. Manager Coto stated that Environmental Health might have that information. The issue of arsenic in drinking water was voiced. Manager Coto stated that there are state grants for extending water lines where a water quality issue is present. Chairman Simpson agreed that quality water is critical to growth and development and

they are working toward that end. He stated that the county has signed a lease with Catawba and plans to expand the plant and they are currently working with Yadkin and Anson counties. Mayor Long asked if all of Unionville was on county water. Mayor Simpson said no, and there are problems with wells, especially wells in new developments. Commissioner Johnson reminded everyone about the fees associated with hooking on to county water. Mayor Simpson made inquiry as to why the rate increases with usage and if there is a volume discount. Manager Coto stated that the commercial rate is not tiered, but Commissioner Thomas stated that farmers should be allowed the commercial rate. Mayor Simpson estimated farmer consumption of 80,000 to 100,000 gallons of water for the eight-week growth period of one flock of chickens. Mayor Long made inquiry as to a moratorium on taps if there is a drought. Commissioner Johnson stated that the state issues drought-level regulations. Chairman Simpson stated that they are attempting to eliminate a moratorium on taps through the twenty-year water and sewer plan.

Mayor Long made inquiry as to an article in the local paper stating that the Planning Board will be limiting text amendments to the Land Use Ordinance. Commissioner Thomas stated that in December, 2010 they voted to rewrite the ordinance. They would like to slow down some of the text amendments while they are going through this process. Staff will be recommending a contract award at Monday's meeting and the ordinance should be complete in 12-18 months. Commissioner Johnson stated that they would like to have input from the municipalities and Home Owners' Associations.

Mayor Long made inquiry as to Union County's Education Foundation status and the use of property taxes for this purpose. Commissioner Thomas stated they would like to have a matching grant process to raise money for schools; taxes will only be used if the school has allocated them for this use.

Commissioner Ken Brown made inquiry as to long-range funding for volunteer fire departments with regard to the fire fee and fire tax. Commissioner Thomas stated that the fire commission has been reconstituted. His position on the commission was replaced with a citizen, as he did not feel comfortable voting on issues within the commission and again as a county commissioner. He hopes that by the end of the year there will be a recommendation. Manager Coto will provide a list of commission members. Mayor Long made inquiry as to the breakdown of the county budget. Union County's website shows 69% of funds go to schools, 13 % to public safety, 7 % to human services, 6% to general government, 2% to economic development, 2% to cultural and recreation, and 1% to non-departmental.

Commissioner Randy Baucom made inquiry as to the Unionville Community Center's request to share county sewer with Unionville School, a request that it at least six years old. No one from the county was aware of this request, but will find out and advise.

Mayor Long made inquiry as to Unionville having signed the Interlocal Agreement for the Piedmont Collection Site. Clerk Sonya Gaddy made inquiry as to the procedure for signing and returning this agreement, as she hasn't received a reply to her email. Manager Coto will advise. Commissioner Edd Little expressed his appreciation to the county for their work in helping save this facility, as it is very frequently used.

There being no other business, and upon motion duly made by Ken Brown, seconded by Robert Croutch, Council unanimously adjourned this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Sonya W. Gaddy
Clerk

Approved as to form:

R. Kenneth Helms, Jr., Town Attorney