

**MINUTES  
UNION CITY BOROUGH  
MAY 22, 2018**

**VISION STATEMENT:** “The Union City area is a thriving rural community of families, businesses and organizations dedicated to encouraging growth while maintaining small town values.”

The meeting of the Union City Borough Council was called to order at 6:02 P.M. by Councilor Conklin. The meeting was held at Union City Borough Building

Councilors present were Conklin, Steadman, Kolaja, and McGuire. Brumagin and Hoban were absent.

Officials present were Mayor Natalie Wilmoth, Borough Secretary Cindy Wells, Police Chief David Pernice, Streets Supervisor Bob Phillips, and Zoning Officer Dennis Ploss.

See the sign-in sheet for visitors present.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** It was moved by Councilor Kolaja and seconded by Councilor McGuire to adopt the agenda as amended to include the Information Summary. Motion carried unanimously.

**MOTION ON MINUTES:** It was moved by Councilor McGuire and seconded by Councilor Kolaja that all Councilors having read the minutes from the meeting held May 8, 2018 and the minutes from the Public Hearing held May 8, 2018, be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

**HEARING OF THE VISITORS:**

James Buzzanco, Second Avenue, reported neighbors complaining about cats on their property. He also reported that he is trapping cats and skunks. A neighbor bordering his property has tall grass and he has confirmed that there is poison oak on the lot. He wants to know what is going to be done by Council about the cat problem. Even putting information out about keeping them inside. Councilor Kolaja stated we are waiting on information to see what can legally be done.

**UNION CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY:** Council will have an agreement drawn up regarding the ownership of the land/building, and the artifacts.

The Museum would like permission from Borough Council to dispose of a large amount of rocks. The rocks have been piled on the back steps in boxes for many years. They are left over rocks from Harry Smiley's rock collection. The main collection is on display in the Museum. They had Professor Brian Zimmerman, a Geology Professor from Edinboro College, look at them. He sorted and labeled the ones he felt had a value. They will keep them and add them to the display. The rest they do not want because there is no value to them. Council agreed that they should be given to the school.

**COMPLAINT FORMS:** Complaint forms were reviewed by Council and there were no questions.

**MAYOR:** Mayor Wilmoth wanted to recognize Chief Pernice for his actions when he responded to a call where a child was hit by a car. The grandmother commends him for controlling the issue and credits him for saving the child's life.

The Police Department sponsored the Borough Clean-up Day. In 2017 there were only 7 volunteers and this year there was 20. The Borough truck picked up the bags of garbage and the truck was almost full. She wanted to recognize all those that volunteered.

Mayor Wilmoth reminded everyone of the Memorial Day parade at 9:00 AM at the American Legion Memorial on First Avenue. The parade will proceed to St. Theresa Cemetery and end at the Evergreen Cemetery. She is hoping Council members will plan to attend.

Mayor Wilmoth reminded Council of the reception for the UCCF on June 11, 2018 at 6:30 PM.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:**

**ANTIQUÉ FIRE TRUCK AGREEMENT:** Councilor Steadman stated the Fire Department is reviewing the proposed agreement.

**SIDEWALK USE:** Chief Pernice had an article last fall that appeared in the Corry Journal. They will republish the article with a few changes. Police will give a warning for pedestrians in the streets and then start charging.

**PUBLIC WORKS:**

**JR EQUIPMENT OPERATOR:** Bob Phillips, Street Supervisor, and Councilor Conklin,

interviewed Eric Schwab on May 15, 2018. They recommend hiring Eric Schwab.

**MOTION TO SEND ERIC SCHWAB AN OFFER LETTER FOR THE POSITION OF JR. EQUIPMENT OPERATOR WITH A STARTING DATE OF MAY 29, 2018.**

It was moved by Councilor McGuire and seconded by Councilor Kolaja to send Eric Schwab an offer letter for the position of Jr. Equipment Operator with a starting date of May 29, 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

**RAILROAD CROSSING GRADE AT SIXTH AVENUE:** Bob Phillips talked to Jesse from the railroad and they will try and grade the slope.

**PARKS AND RECREATION:**

**INFORMATION ABOUT MULCH AND TREE REMOVAL AT THE PARKS:** Bob has checked on prices for the mulch. A price sheet was provided. Approximately 158 yards would be needed for the First Avenue park and the Washington Street park. The insurance company doesn't have any specific requirements. Two willow trees need removed on Bentley Run. Bob had an estimate from J's Tree Service in the amount of \$1,800.00 to remove the two trees along the creek. One would not be able to be removed at the base. One large branch is already off.

**MOTION THAT THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REMOVE THE LIMB THAT HAS FALLEN AND ALSO PURCHASE PLAYGROUND CHIPS/MULCH FOR AROUND THE PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT IN THE FIRST AVENUE PARK AND WASHINGTON STREET PARK, FROM NELSON'S AT \$17.00 PER YARD.** It was moved by Councilor Kolaja and seconded by Councilor McGuire that the

Public Works Department remove the limb that has fallen and also purchase playground chips/mulch for around the playground equipment in the First Avenue park and Washington Street park, from Nelson's at \$17.00 per yard. Motion carried unanimously.

**SUMMER FUN DAY:** The insurance company stated that this would be covered under our regular policy. We will have a waiver for anyone who uses the slide. The date is uncertain but there is a Parks & Rec meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May. Councilor Kolaja stated he would help the Parks and Recreation Commission set the slide up.

**BOROUGH SECRETARY:**

**PUBLIC HEARING:** An email from Solicitor Wachter concerning the settlement with Cheryl

Capela's pension was sent and provided to Council.

**UNION CITY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AND FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT**

**GRANT:** There will be

an additional \$2,000 from the Union City Community Foundation for the Façade Improvement Grant. The Borough will be receiving the "I Believe Award" for the work at improving Main Street. This award provides the extra \$2,000. All of Council has been invited to the reception and should plan to attend.

The Façade Improvement Grant improvements to the City Building won't be started until July/August

**RENAISSANCE GRANT:** The Borough has been approved for \$50,000 from ECGRA for the

Renaissance Grant with payments to be made \$25,000 in 2018, \$20,000 in 2019, and \$5,000 in 2020. Council needs to approve the process for this grant. Council reviewed the application and guidelines.

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED RENAISSANCE GRANT GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION WITH CHANGES TO REMOVE THE INCLUSION OF SIDEWALKS, LANDSCAPING & TREES; REMOVE THE AREA OF THE RIGHT-OF-WAY BETWEEN THE SIDEWALK & CURB; AND ELIMINATE THE APPLICATION FEE.** It was moved by Councilor McGuire and seconded by

Councilor Kolaja to approve the recommended Renaissance Grant Guidelines and application with changes to remove the inclusion of sidewalks landscaping & trees; remove the area of the right-of-way between the sidewalk & curb; and eliminate the application fee. Motion carried unanimously.

**FINANCE:**

**PURCHASE TABLES AND A SHED TO STORE THEM:** For National Night Out we use

approximately 20 tables and about 40 chairs. The Fire Department gave us wood tables when they replaced them with new ones, along with the folding chairs. The tables are very heavy, and we don't have any place to store them. Currently they are at Amanda Slaney's garage. We would like to be able to sell them when we have an auction. That money could be used towards the purchase of new ones. In the meantime, we would like to purchase a 14' X 10' shed to be set at the Borough garage and purchase 15 new 8' folding tables. The cost of the shed is approximately \$1,590, 15 tables delivered would be approximately \$1,275 for a total of \$,2685. Council determined not to

sell the tables. Since the new tables would be lighter weight, they could be stored upstairs.

**MOTION TO PURCHASE 15 - 8' TABLES FROM SAM'S CLUB AT THE COST OF \$1199.70 AND A 14' X 10' SHED FOR \$1,409.80 PLUS DELIVERY TO STORE THEM.** It was moved by Councilor

McGuire to purchase 15 - 8' tables from Sam's Club at the cost of \$1199.70 and a 14' x 10' shed to store them. There was lack of second, motion failed.

**MOTION TO PURCHASE 15 - 8' TABLES FROM SAM'S CLUB AT THE COST OF \$1199.70.** It was

moved by Councilor Kolaja and seconded by Councilor Steadman to purchase 15 - 8' tables from Sam's Club at the cost of \$1199.70. Motion carried unanimously.

**DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR GENERAL LIQUID FUELS AUDIT:** The audit was completed. There were no findings or recommendations.

**UC BOROUGH POLICE PENSION AND NON-UNIFORM PENSION:** Denny Fortin from Northwest

Savings would like to come and do a presentation again on the pension. Bi-annual reviews had been discussed in the past. Council wants him to meet with the Borough Secretary/Treasure, Cindy Wells.

**SIDEWALK GRANT:** Council to approve \$5,000 for the Sidewalk Grant fund. The money could

transfer from the General Fund, if the funds are short, and it could come from the savings account or the Capital Improvement. The transfers would only be done when the funds were needed. The 2018 budget allowed \$500 this is an additional \$5,000. We received \$1,000 from the Union City Community House Association.

Council to approve the amount to be paid for the Sidewalk Grant. Currently the amount

is .50/sq. ft. A 4X5 sidewalk panel would be a total grant payment of \$10.00. Increase the grant payment to \$1.50/sq. ft. A 4X5 sidewalk panel would be a total grant payment of \$30.00.

**MOTION TO APPROVE TRANSFERRING UP TO \$5,000.00 FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE SIDEWALK GRANT FUND WHEN FUNDS ARE NEEDED AND TO INCREASE THE GRANT AMOUNT FROM .50/SQ. FT. TO \$1.50/SQ. FT.** It was moved by Councilor Kolaja and seconded by

Councilor Steadman to approve transferring up to \$5,000.00 from the General Fund to the Sidewalk Grant Fund when funds are needed and

to increase the grant amount from .50/sq. ft. to \$1.50/sq. ft. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATION:**

**RACCOON REFUSE ZONING HEARING:** The Zoning Board approved the Special Exception for

the Solid Waste Transfer Station contingent upon the sale of the property to Raccoon Refuse, must be fenced and secured, operate under regular business hours, and also, contingent upon the issuance of a permit by PennDOT for a driveway along the north side of the property of 77 South Main Street and the south side of the rail road tracks.

Ernest Sell has asked if Council would consider vacating the portion of Lincoln Street from the closing at the tracks south to his property line. Council would propose that after the sale of the property to Raccoon Refuse it would be considered but a turn around would need to be provided, especially for plow trucks in the winter.

**MOTION TO PASS THE PROPOSED ZONING ORDINANCE INCLUDING MAPS, CHARTS, TEXTUAL MATTER AND OTHER MATTERS INTENDED TO FORM THE WHOLE ORDINANCE AND REPEAL THE CURRENT ZONING ORDINANCE #910 AND THE POLITICAL SIGN ORDINANCE #819.** It was

moved by Councilor Kolaja and seconded by Councilor McGuire to pass the proposed zoning ordinance including maps, charts, textual matter and other matters intended to form the whole ordinance and repeal the current zoning ordinance #190 and the political sign ordinance #819. Motion carried unanimously.

**MOTION TO PASS A RESOLUTION WHICH AMENDS THE BOROUGH OF UNION CITY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.** It was moved by Councilor Kolaja and seconded by Councilor McGuire

to pass a resolution which amends the Borough of Union City Comprehensive Plan.

Motion carried unanimously.

**GPI CITY BUILDING REPAIR SPECS:** Specs were emailed to Council and are also in your folders.

Council approved sending the specs to the previous contacts notifying them of the specifics and providing them the opportunity to re-quote.

**MOTION TO APPROVE SENDING THE SPECS FROM GPI'S ENGINEER FOR REPAIRING THE SOUTH EAST CORNER OF THE CITY BUILDING TO THE PREVIOUS CONTRACTORS, NOTIFYING THEM OF THE UPDATED SPECS AND PROVIDING THEM THE OPPORTUNITY TO RE-QUOTE.** It

was moved by Councilor Kolaja and seconded by Councilor Steadman to approve sending the specs from GPI's engineer for repairing the south east corner of the City Building to the previous contractors, notifying them of the updated specs and providing them the opportunity to re-quote. Motion carried unanimously.

**PERSONNEL AND PLANNING:** No reports.

**MOTION TO MAKE THE INFORMATIONAL SUMMARY A PART OF THE MINUTES.** It was moved

by Councilor Steadman and Councilor McGuire to make the Informational Summary a part of the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

**MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO DISCUSS FINES FOR OVERWEIGHT LOADS.** It was moved

by Councilor Kolaja and seconded by Councilor McGuire to suspend the rules to discuss fines for overweight loads. Motion carried unanimously.

**ORDINANCE FOR FINES FOR OVERWEIGHT LOADS:** Chief Pernice requests that Council amend

the ordinance and increase the fines to the maximum fine permitted. Council agreed to have the Borough Secretary check with Solicitor Wachter to determine what that amount could be.

**ADJOURNMENT:** It was moved by Councilor Kolaja and seconded by Councilor McGuire that the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 P.M.

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ATTEST