

**MINUTES
UNION CITY BOROUGH
APRIL 9, 2019**

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 7:03 P.M. by Councilor Brumagin. The meeting was held at Union City High School, LGI Room, 105 Concord Street.

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Brumagin, Hoban, Steadman, McGuire, and Cross were present. Councilor Kolaja was absent.

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Solicitor Timothy Wachter, Mayor Natalie Wilmoth, Borough Secretary Cindy Wells, Chief David Pernice, Streets Supervisor Bob Phillips, Zoning Officer Dennis Ploss, and Code Enforcement Shawn Tharp.

VISITORS PRESENT: See the sign-in sheet.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: It was moved by Councilor Emmett and seconded by Councilor Cross

to adopt the agenda as amended by adding an Executive Session at the end with no action to be taken. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION ON MINUTES: It was moved by Councilor McGuire and seconded by Councilor Cross

that all Councilors having read the minutes from the council meeting on March 26, 2019 be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION ON SECRETARY’S REPORT: It was moved by Councilor Cross and seconded by

Councilor Steadman that the Secretary’s Report be accepted and made a part of the minutes of this meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION ON BILLS: It was moved by Councilor McGuire and seconded by Councilor

Cross that the unpaid bills be ordered paid and those paid be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

HAM RADIO OPERATORS: Dave Wellman discussed the issue of having a back-up radio system

in case of an emergency. There are approximately 100 Ham Radio Operators in Erie

County. Erie County has 21 pre-assigned teams for emergency. The cost for a radio, power supply, and antenna is around \$500. A communication overload or failure effects every municipality and

should set an emergency Ham Radio. The Union City repeater will be linked permanently to West County. In an emergency an assigned team would come in and operate the radios. Council asked to table this until the next meeting.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Council reviewed Code Enforcement Report for March 2019. There

were no questions regarding the report. Shawn did state it had been 5-years or longer since he had received a pay increase and requested that Council consider that since he is doing more.

CHERRY HILL PROPERTY UPDATE: The violations have not been corrected. Code Enforcement will be issuing Quality-of-Life tickets.

ZONING OFFICER: There were no questions for Dennis Ploss regarding the Zoning Report.

Dennis stated that several people have contacted him about Zoning Permits.

PROPERTIES THAT HAVE CHANGED LAND USE CODES: There are several properties that have

changed from single family to two or three family that did not go through the required process and have inspections completed. There are also some that were two-family that went to single-family. Dennis reported that they need to be inspected to check the egress of the units. They don't have the correct Occupancy Permit and there are certain requirements that go with rental properties. Something needs done & Dennis did talk to the Solicitor. Cindy Wells stated there is a process that must be followed. Letters must be sent notifying the property owners that they must be in compliance for an Occupancy Certificate. Solicitor Wachter stated UCC requires the inspections need to be done which are two separate enforcement options. The first letter should notify them and then if it is not done another letter sent.

MAYOR: The Mayor reported that at the UCVFD Awards Dinner recognized two of our officers,

Officers Rekitt & Kondrlik, for outstanding performance in responding to emergencies. The Fire Department stated that the relationship between the Fire Department and Police Department is the best it has ever been.

SOLICITOR: Solicitor Wachter reported that the Auditor General will be doing compliance

reviews for the Section 218 agreements with municipalities. This regards government employees having the ability to collect Social Security retirement or disability benefits. No compliance work has been done since the 1950's. He has received copies of the 1950's and

late 1960's agreement and we will be able to get changes made if there is any non-compliance.

BOROUGH SECRETARY:

ZONING AMENDMENT: Council reviewed and approved the proposed amendment to the

Zoning Ordinance for a change to the set-back on fences to 2'. It will be sent to EC Planning & local planning and then have a public hearing. Council all agreed to proceed.

RENAISSANCE BLOCK GRANT: The applications were presented to Council. There was 16

applications and projects totaling over \$62,000 for a \$25,000 grant. Council focused on properties that were not rental properties because of the number of applications. The recommended properties have the largest economic impact on the Borough and represent the largest potential to negate blight.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED PROPERTIES FOR THE RENAISSANCE GRANT 2019 PROJECTS:

It was moved by Councilor Hoban and seconded by Councilor McGuire to approve the recommended properties for the Renaissance Grant 2019 projects. Motion carried unanimously.

EMA RADIOS: The mobile radio was installed in the Conference Room at the City Building.

BASKETBALL HOOPS/POLES REPLACEMENT AT DEVEREAUX PARK:

Chief applied for grant with Dick's Sporting Goods. Commitment for cash for one.

PARKING AMENDMENT ORDINANCE: The amendment passed at the last Council meeting

included information for Disability Parking Permit. There is a \$100 application fee for the original permit and it does state Council can require an annual renewal fee. There was no discussion concerning this at the last meeting and Council should decide if they want a renewal fee or not.

MOTION TO SET A FEE OF \$10.00 FOR THE ANNUAL RENEWAL FEE FOR A DISABILITY PARKING PERMIT:

It was moved by Councilor Steadman and seconded by Councilor McGuire to set a fee of \$10.00 for the annual renewal fee for a disability parking permit. Motion carried unanimously.

MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION GRANT: Update on the amount property owners will be

charged according to what Council requested at a previous meeting is \$4.18 per linear foot. The most that anyone would pay would be \$1000.00 and that is only one person and the lowest is \$83.60. It will provide approximately \$6,000 towards the required matching funds for the grant. Letters will be sent out in the next few weeks.

ADMINISTRATION:

UNION CITY RESERVOIR IS CLOSED: Councilor Brumagin reported that logging is being done at the Union City Reservoir and it is closed until around Memorial Day week-end.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION: There is still a vacancy on the Civil Service Commission whose term will end December 31, 2020.

ZONING HEARING BOARD: There is still a vacancy on the Zoning Hearing Board whose term will expire December 31, 2021.

FINANCE: The Director of Finance had no reports or recommendations.

POLICE CHIEF: Chief reported that ordinances regarding dogs, fires, and curfew are on the Borough Website. If anyone has any problems, they should contact the Police Department.

PUBLIC SAFETY: The Director of Public Safety had no reports or recommendations.

PARKS AND RECREATION: The Director of Parks and Recreation had no reports or recommendations.

EASTER EGG HUNT: This will be held on April 14, 2019.

STREET SUPERVISOR:

GUARD RAILS AT THE DEAD ENDS ON SECOND & THIRD AVENUE:

Everything is ready for the guard rails to be installed on 2nd & 3rd Avenue and they should be installed no later than April 18, 2019.

BENTLEY RUN: There is cement in the creek and washing away the banks. Council agreed that it should be removed, and the Streets Department should not physically drive in the stream when doing so. If there are sidewalk projects, they may be able to line the stream bank but that will need to be checked to see if can be done prior to doing it.

2019 PAVING PROJECTS: Liquid Fuels received \$106,669.50 and County Aid should be \$20,550 for a total of \$127,219.50. The list of proposed streets was presented. It was mentioned that First Avenue, upper Miles Street, and Kilburn should be sealed with tar & chip. The north end of Second Avenue was originally going to be done last year and was removed from the project. Council agreed that it should be added to the 2019 paving projects and along with the other proposed streets and get cost estimates.

PUBLIC WORKS: The Director of Public Works had no reports or recommendations.

PERSONNEL AND PLANNING: The Director of Personnel and Planning had no reports or recommendations.

INFORMATIONAL SUMMARY: If there is no objection, the Informational Summary will stand approved and be made a part of the minutes of this meeting. Council approved.

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Councilor McGuire and seconded by Councilor Steadman that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:57 P.M._

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Council had an Executive Session with no action to be taken from 8:00 – 8:15 PM.

ATTEST