

**MINUTES
UNION CITY BOROUGH
AUGUST 27, 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 6:00 P.M. by Councilor Brumagin. The meeting was held at the City Building, 13 South Main Street, Union City.

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

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Natalie Wilmoth, Borough Secretary Cindy Wells, Police Chief David Pernice, and Zoning Officer Dennis Ploss.

VISITORS PRESENT: See the sign-in sheet.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: It was moved by Councilor Kolaja and seconded by Councilor Cross that the agenda stands approved as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION ON MINUTES: It was moved by Councilor Cross and seconded by Councilor McGuire that all Councilors having read the minutes from the council meeting July 23, 2019 be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION ON SECRETARY’S REPORT: It was moved by Councilor McGuire and seconded by Councilor Cross 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 Cross and seconded by Councilor McGuire that the unpaid bills be ordered paid and those paid be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

HEARING OF THE VISITORS:

Sharon Syed wanted to know if Council had made any decisions on changing the light bulbs on the street lights on Main Street between High Street and Concord Street. The Streets Department had replaced the three closest to High Street with high wattage bulbs. They changed three south of the City Building to medium wattage. The cost for medium is \$50.56/bulb and high is \$58.06/bulb. Council agreed that the lights between South Street and Concord Street should all be changed to high wattage.

COMPLAINTS: Council reviewed the complaint forms and had no questions.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Council reviewed the Code Enforcement Report for July 2019.

92 SOUTH MAIN STREET: EC Landbank is submitting the paperwork to purchase the property

from the Repository. Council suggested having the Landbank consider 127 East High Street.

CHERRY HILL PROPERTY UPDATE: A report was received from Carl Boone and said they should be finishing up in the next couple of weeks. The silo was taken down yesterday. BIU will be completing a final inspection on 31 Miles Street.

BIU PROPERTY INSPECTIONS: Council approved an inspection on 44 South Street since a complaint was received.

ZONING OFFICER: Council reviewed the Zoning Report for July 2019 and had no questions for Dennis Ploss.

MAYOR: The Mayor commended the Police Department for a nice National Night Out despite all the rain. There was approximately 300 people. Also, Parks and Recreation had a great Summer Fun Day.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Pernice read the resignation letter of Officer Rekitt.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF OFFICER ANTHONY REKITT EFFECTIVE AUGUST 24, 2019. It was moved by Councilor Cross and seconded by Councilor Kolaja to accept the resignation of Officer Anthony Rekitt effective August 24, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

BOROUGH SECRETARY:

EC DEPT OF PUBLIC SAFETY – A meeting was held at the Fire Department with the Mayor, Charlie Steadman, Dustin Kolaja, Riley Cross, and Borough Secretary Cindy Wells. Larry Obert, Shirley Lafferty, Fire Chief Isaiah Edwards, Deputy Chief Nick Kueczynski, Union Township officials EJ Brown and Denny Triscuit. Others were also in attendance. There was discussion about the problems with getting volunteers and what to do and also about problems with the ambulance service covering so many other areas.

CDBG GRANT: The Borough applied for the CDBG Grant for Single Family Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation. Union City Borough did not receive the grant this year.

MEETING WITH UNION TOWNSHIP: Councilors Brumagin, Steadman, and Kolaja, and Street Supervisor Bob Phillips are to meet.

SIDEWALK GRANT: So far in 2019 1107' of sidewalk has been replaced under this grant, for a total paid of \$6643.50. This is about \$1,600 over what was budgeted. An application was submitted to the UC Community House Association and we haven't received a response. An application was also submitted to the UCCF for \$3,000 which has been approved. That amount is contingent upon the amount the UCCHA provides because that will be deducted from the \$3,000. There are still outstanding permits which will total approximately 238' for at \$1,430. We are still promoting this grants availability.

Letters have gone out to the property owners on North Main Street from High Street to North Street, along with a few other areas in the Borough. The letters are allowing these properties to complete the projects by July 31, 2020. Another letter was sent out to a property owner on Parade Street where a complaint had been received. The owner contacted the Borough and they don't have the funds to repair their sidewalk. Cindy is looking for other options for them.

RESIGNATION FROM JANEL SMITH FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION: Janel's resignation for the Parks & Recreation Commission was received August 2, 2019.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF JANEL SMITH FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION: It was moved by Councilor Kolaja and seconded by Councilor Cross to accept the resignation of Janel Smith for the Parks and Recreation Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

APPOINTMENT TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION TO FINISH OUT THE VACANT TERM LEFT OF JANEL SMITH THAT EXPIRES DECEMBER 31, 2021. Jessica Reynolds would like to suggest the appointment of Lindsey Troyer to fill the vacant term of Janel Smith that expires December 31, 2021, contingent upon the required background checks.

MOTION TO APPOINT LINDSEY TROYER TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION TO FILL THE VACANT TERM OF JANEL SMITH THAT EXPIRES DECEMBER 31, 2021, CONTINGENT UPON THE REQUIRED BACKGROUND CHECKS. It was moved by Councilor Koloja and seconded by Councilor Cross to appoint Lindsey Troyer to the Parks and Recreation Commission to fill the vacant term of Janel Smith that expires December 31, 2021 contingent upon the required background checks. Motion carried unanimously.

SOUTH WEST PARK: Jack Croston has been taking care of mowing the South West Park. We received information that he isn't going to be able to continue for the next couple months so the Streets Department will be taking care of it.

ECGRA ANCHOR BUILDING GRANT: The plan is to submit an application for this grant to request funding that will provide for ADA access to the first floor of the City Building. The updated total for the proposed project is approximately \$80,000. This grant would provide for 50% and then apply to other grants for the other 50%.

ADMINISTRATION: The Director of Administration had no reports or recommendations.

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.

REPEAL MOTION MADE AT LAST MONTHS COUNCIL MEETING: Council made a motion to

waive the late fee and give the discount for Ron Combs for the 2019 Property Tax Due June 30, 2019. A letter was received from Fiore Leone, Chairman of Erie County Council. They are requesting that the Borough repeal that motion.

MOTION TO REPEAL THE MOTION THAT WAS MADE ON JULY 23, 2019 TO WAIVE THE LATE FEE AND GIVE THE DISCOUNT FOR RON COMBS FOR THE 2019 PROPERTY TAX DUE JUNE 30, 2019. It was moved by Councilor Koloja and seconded by Councilor Cross to repeal the motion that was made on July 23, 2019 to waive the late fee and give the discount for Ron Combs for the 2019 property tax due June 30, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

PARADE STREET METHODIST CHURCH: The Church wants to pave the parking lot in 2020. The Borough was considering replacing the storm drain in 2019. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

PUBLIC SAFETY: Councilor Kolaja mentioned the UCVFD had their 80th anniversary open house last week-end.

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

STREET SUPERVISOR: Bob Phillips wasn't at the meeting.

2019 PAVING PROJECTS: The Borough Secretary reported the projects are completed.

STREET SWEEPER: The air compressor has been installed and additional leaks were found and additional parts were replaced.

CATCH BASIN INSTALLATIONS: Catch basins are supposed to be installed this week on Washington Street.

BASKETBALL HOOPS IN DEVEREAUX PARK: The basketball hoops and poles are installed. The Streets Department sealed the asphalt and painted new lines for the court. It was paid with money from Country Fair, Erie Insurance-Duane Jackson Insurance, and the Borough.

STREETS DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTING A CHANGE TO THE POLICY MANUAL FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE: They would like the policy to also state the Borough will provide summer boots possibly with a limit to \$100. After much discussion Council changed the policy. Winter work boots will no longer be provided, and there will be a clothing allowance of \$100 per year toward the purchase of any other work-related clothing, personal work boots, jeans or shorts.

MOTION TO MAKE A CHANGE TO THE POLICY MANUAL SECTION VII (F). CLOTHING AND ALLOWANCE: It was moved by Councilor Kolaja and seconded by Councilor McGuire to change the Employee Policy Manual, Section VII (F) Clothing and Allowance that the Borough no longer provides winter work boots and provide a clothing allowance of \$100 per year

toward the purchase of any other work-related clothing, personal work boots, jeans or shorts. Motion carried unanimously.

SPARTANSBURG BOROUGH REQUEST EQUIPMENT RENTAL: Ben Byler, President of Spartansburg Borough Council would like to have the lines painted on Main Street. The Borough would send an employee with the equipment and paint, work with their employees and complete it. They would in turn pay for our employee, mileage, equipment rental at \$12.00 per hour, and whatever paint was used.

MOTION TO APPROVE STREETS DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE TAKE THE LINE PAINT SPRAYER TO SPARTANSBURG TO PAINT THEIR PARKING LINES. THEY WOULD PAY FOR THE MILEAGE, PAINT, EQUIPMENT RENTAL AT \$12.00 /HOUR AND ONE EMPLOYEE. It was moved by Councilor Kolaja and seconded by Councilor Cross to approve the equipment rental of the line paint sprayer and one employee to Spartansburg Borough. They would pay for mileage, equipment rental @ \$12.00/hour, paint, and Borough employee. Motion carried unanimously.

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:04 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Council started Executive Session at 7:06 to discuss a bid contract requirement not met and personnel. Session ended at 7:34.

ATTEST