

**MINUTES  
UNION CITY BOROUGH  
NOVEMBER 12, 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 7:00 P.M. by Councilor Hoban. The meeting was held at Union City Elementary School, LGI Room, 91 Miles Street, Union City.

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

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** were Solicitor Timothy Wachter, Mayor Natalie Wilmoth, Borough Secretary Cindy Wells, Police Chief David Pernice, Streets Supervisor Bob Phillips, Zoning Officer Dennis Ploss.

**VISITORS PRESENT:** No visitors were present.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** It was moved by Councilor McGuire 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 Steadman that all Councilors having read the minutes from the council meeting October 22, 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 McGuire and seconded by Councilor Cross that the unpaid bills be ordered paid and those paid be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** Review Code Enforcement Report for October 2019. There were no questions.

BIU inspection for property on South Main Street. The original inspection was March 8, 2018. They had several extensions with the last one until October 1, 2019. They submitted a letter stating the repairs would be done by October. The property was re-inspected October 29, 2019 and there are still several violations. The owner did contact BIU and was told they would give the extension until December 6, 2019. No more extensions will be given, and fines will be issued at that time. Council agreed unanimously.

**CHERRY HILL PROPERTY UPDATE:** BIU completed a final inspection to 31 Miles and there were no violations. They will be completing the inspection for 77 South Main Street. Carl Boone said he is still having someone remove items from the block building on 31 Miles Street. Other than that, he believes everything has been taken care of.

**ZONING OFFICER:** Review Zoning Report for October 2019. There were no questions for Dennis Ploss regarding Report.

**MAYOR:** The Mayor had no report or recommendations.

**BOROUGH SECRETARY:**

**OUTSIDE CONDENSER AT CITY BUILDING:** Webster Plumbing moved the condenser behind the City Building underneath the roof in the back at no charge to the Borough. A letter thanking Chip was sent.

**PA UNEMPLOYMENT SOLVENCY FEE:** The Borough received a letter regarding the 2020 Solvency Fee in the amount of \$825.73. This has not been paid the past few years. Council needs to determine if they want to pay it for 2020. Council agreed unanimously to not pay it.

**LETTER RECEIVED FROM PA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD:** Letter notifying the Borough that they have received an application for Tavern Gaming for license 50317TG. This would be Kim's Townhouse.

**PREVIOUS DAMAGE TO THE POLICE VEHICLE:** A Civil Complaint was filed and Trevor Winters was found guilty. He was ordered to pay \$766.96. No payment has been received so the DJ is certifying it and Attorney Wachter will have it taken to the EC Courthouse Prothonotary's office to file against his credit. It will need renewed every 5 years if it isn't paid. It should prohibit him from having the ability to get a loan until it is paid.

**INFORMATION ON FIXED ELECTRIC RATES:** The Borough is in a contract with WGL through the Manufacturers Association at a rate of 4.745 and will expire December 31, 2020. Kinect Energy, who was the previous supplier and are affiliated to the PSAB and is offering a locked in 36-month rate at 3.814. Rates were also checked at Manufactures Association and APPI.

**MOTION TO APPROVE SIGNING A 36-MONTH AGREEMENT WITH KINECT ENERGY LOCKING IN THE ELECTRIC RATE AT 3.814.** It was moved by Councilor Steadman and seconded by Councilor Cross to approve signing a 36-month agreement with Kinect Energy locking in the electric rate at 3.814. Motion carried unanimously.

**REVIEW PROPOSED ORDINANCE – LERTA:** The proposed ordinance was emailed to Council on October 28, and November 8, 2019 for review. Solicitor Wachter stated that Council needed to decide what area it would cover and what the "sunset clause" would be, if any. A public hearing would need to be scheduled prior to passing the ordinance and someone who could testify to the blighted nature in the Borough and the benefits of

LERTA would need to attend. Rick Novotny, Redevelopment Authority, or Christie Mahney from the Landbank would be possibilities. Council agreed it would be Borough wide for the area and no “sunset clause”. Secretary Wells will contact one of the mentioned to attend the Public Hearing.

**A COMBINED MOTION WAS MADE – SEE BELOW.**

**REVIEW PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE:** The proposed ordinance was emailed to Council on October 28, and November 8, 2019 for review. A Public Hearing will need scheduled prior to passing the proposed amendment to the Zoning ordinance.

**MOTION TO APPROVE ADVERTISING A PUBLIC HEARING, DATE TO BE DETERMINED, FOR THE PROPOSED LERTA ORDINANCE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE.** It was moved by Councilor McGuire and seconded by Councilor Cross to approve advertising a public hearing, date to be determined, for the proposed LERTA ordinance and the proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.

**REVIEW PROPOSED ORDINANCE- RE: SMOKING IN PARKS:** The proposed ordinance was emailed to Council October 24, and November 8, 2019 for review. This will most likely be voted on at the same meeting as the two above ordinances.

**MOTION TO APPROVE ADVERTISING THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE PROHIBITING AGAINST SMOKING IN PARKS.** It was moved by Councilor McGuire and seconded by Councilor Cross to approve advertising the proposed ordinance prohibiting against smoking in parks. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATION:**

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

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** The Director of Public Safety stated everyone needs to keep the fire hydrants shoveled out. Also, thank the UCVFD for fighting the recent house fire.

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

**STREET SUPERVISOR:** Bob Phillips, Street Supervisor reported that the clutch assembly on the pony motor for the street sweeper is shot. This motor runs the sweeper but not the actual “truck”. The clutch assembly is approximately \$3,200 and gaskets and bearings may be needed, and that cost is unknown. Council agreed unanimously to ordering parts up to \$4,000, but anything over that would need their approval. The Streets Department can work on the repairs throughout the winter. There was discussion on the costs involved in replacing the street sweeper since it is 21 years old. Council agreed that Bob should see what he can find in a used street sweeper to be considered in the future.

Bob also reported they had plowed two-days and everything looked good.

**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.

**FINANCE:**

**RETRO ACTIVE MOTION TO APPROVE PURCHASE OF POLICE VEHICLE:** Albion Borough has a 2013 Ford Taurus from their Police Department.

**RETRO ACTIVE MOTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF THE 2013 FORD TAURUS FROM ALBION BOROUGH FOR THE PRICE OF \$5750.** It was moved by Councilor Steadman and seconded by Councilor McGuire to approve the purchase of the 2013 Ford Taurus from Albion Borough for the price of \$5,750. Motion carried unanimously.

**BUDGET REVIEW:** The Finance Committee (Brumagin, Hoban, Steadman, Mayor Wilmoth) met on Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup> to review the complete budget. Chief Pernice and Bob Phillips, Street Supervisor presented their budgets. The Committee requested some changes and Hoban, Steadman, Mayor Wilmoth met prior to this Council meeting and reviewed the budget. They all agreed to present the budget for Department and Council review.

Chief Pernice provided information on car computers. Chief Pernice reported that for the computers air cards will be needed the cost will be approximately \$80/month for two. This is calculated in the budget. He also requested that Council consider a 4<sup>th</sup> full-time officer because in the proposed budget it only allows for three.

Bob Phillips asked about what was included in account #409.100. It is for supplies and repairs to the City Building.

**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 unanimously.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 P.M.\_

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** To discuss personnel with no action to be taken. Executive session 8:03 – 8:30.

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ATTEST