

**MINUTES
UNION CITY BOROUGH
JUNE 23, 2020**

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 Council Meeting for the Borough of Union City was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Councilor Brumagin. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, and to meet the recommendations for “social distancing” the meeting was held by Conference Call. The public was notified by placing a legal ad in The Journal on June 19, 2020. Signs were posted at the City Building. It was also posted on the Union City Borough Facebook page and UnionCityPA.US. The public was requested to submit any public comment by mail or email.

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Brumagin, Hoban, Cross, Bowes, and Joyce. McGuire was absent.

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

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

HEARING OF THE VISITORS: There were no public comments.

Councilor Brumagin mentioned that the LECOM Medical Center in Union City is run by Corry Memorial Hospital. He has talked to them and requested that they market the business because they are difficult to contact because their phone number isn’t readily available and it isn’t run by LECOM in Erie as people expect. When contacting LECOM in Erie they didn’t know anything about it.

ZONING OFFICER: Zoning Officer, Dennis Ploss, said he had received two calls about the front lot of the Ethan Allen property wanting to know if the zoning could be changed from industrial to commercial. There would need to be an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance.

MAYOR NATALIE WILMOTH: The Mayor had no reports or recommendations.

STREET SUPERVISOR:

STREET SWEEPER UPDATE: The sweeper is currently out of service. The hopper is rusted out and there are two people coming to look at it and possibly give a price to repair it.

TIRE RECYCLING EVENT UPDATE: The event was from 8:00 -3:00 on June 13, 2020. There were 68 residents that took advantage of it and the dumpster was completely filled. The Borough Secretary will be submitting the request for reimbursement for 50% of the costs.

POT HOLES FILLED, PROBLEM ON BANK STREET: There is a roof drain from South Main Arms

that is causing eroding. It needs to have snowbirds on the roof and gutters.

COUNCIL RETROACTIVELY APPROVE STREETS TO BE INCLUDED IN PAVING AND SEAL COAT

BID. After the Council Meeting on June 9, 2020 where Council approved the streets to be put out for bid, it was recommended by PennDOT to select a few streets as streets that would be mostly certainly paved and then selected the remaining as options. This was recommended because it would more likely be bid at a lower cost.

MOTION TO RETROACTIVELY APPROVE THE FOLLOWING STREETS BE PUT OUT FOR A PAVING

BID: Graves Street – Bridge Street to driveway just past Dowman Street

Cherry Street – Midblock patch – full width

Washington Street – 8 various patches

Options 1-5 would be:

North 4th Ave – West High to dead-end

North 5th Avenue – West High to dead-end

Union Street – Gillette Street – Johnson Street

Putnam Street – Warden Street to bend, south side of street only

Washington Street – South Street to RR tracks

It was moved by Councilor Bowes and seconded by Councilor Cross to retroactively approve the recommended streets (list above) to be put out for a paving bid. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL Council was in Executive Session from 6:15 – 6:25 to discuss a personnel issue.

POLICE CHIEF: Chief Pernice will be making a change to the Protection From Abuse Act and Domestic Violence Policy in the Police Policy Manual. He will present it to Council for approval at the next meeting.

BOROUGH SECRETARY:

COUNCIL TO SELECT AND APPROVE 2020 APPLICATIONS FOR THE RENAISSANCE GRANT.

There were 17 applications for a total of \$50,819.64. The funding available for 2020/2021 is a total of \$60,000. The applications were emailed to Council with information about the Renaissance Grant program and a list of recommended properties based on what the largest economic impact on the Borough would be and represent the largest potential to negate blight.

MOTION TO APPROVE ALL 17 APPLICATIONS FOR THE RENAISSANCE GRANT. It was moved by Councilor Hoban and seconded by Councilor Joyce to approve all 17 applications for the Renaissance Grant. Councilor Cross and Bowes abstained. Motion carried.

COUNCIL TO MAKE A RETRO-ACTIVE VOTE REQUESTING ATTORNEY MICHAEL MILLER TO REVIEW AN ARBITRATION DECISION.

MOTION FOR RETRO-ACTIVE APPROVAL TO REQUEST ATTORNEY MICHAEL MILLER TO REVIEW THE ARBITRATION DECISION. It was moved by Councilor Bowes and seconded by

Councilor Cross for retro-active approval to request Attorney Michael Miller to review the arbitration decision. Councilor Hoban opposed; motion carried.

COUNCIL TO REVIEW PROPOSALS FOR REPAIR OF OVERHANG ON THE FRONT OF THE CITY BUILDING. One from Burger & Associates and Overhead Doors for \$2,350 and a second from Jesse Fiske, Sr., LLC for \$6,380.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE PROPOSAL FROM BURGER & ASSOCIATES AND OVERHEAD DOORS TO REPAIR THE OVERHANG ROOF ON THE FRONT OF THE CITY BUILDING AT A COST OF APPROXIMATELY \$2,350. It was moved by Councilor Bowes and seconded by Councilor Hoban to approve the proposal from Burger & Associates and Overhead Doors to repair the overhang roof on the front of the City Building at a cost of approximately \$2,350. Motion carried unanimously.

MULTI-MODAL GRANT: Lindy Paving is scheduled to start on Thursday, June 25, 2020 on the sidewalk on Johnson Street and then move to Miles Street. The property on the southern corner of South Main and Johnson Street has a retaining wall on the Main Street side. This was not included in the RFP and therefore wasn't included in the bid that was accepted from Lindy. They have stated that it would cost \$2640 more. Their bid was lower than what was budgeted. The Borough is required to pay the 30% match which would be approximately \$792. Borough needs to approve this.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE ADDITIONAL COST OF APPROXIMATELY \$2,640 FOR THE RETAINING WALL ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF JOHNSON STREET AT THE CORNER OF SOUTH MAIN STREET. THE TOTAL WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE GRANT FOR PAYMENT AND THE BOROUGH WILL BE REQUIRED TO COVER THE 30% MATCH OF APPROXIMATELY \$792. It was moved by Councilor Hoban and seconded by Councilor Cross to approve the additional cost of approximately \$2,640 for the retaining wall on the south side of Johnson Street at the corner of South Main Street. The total will be submitted to the grant for payment and the Borough will be required to cover the 30% match of approximately \$792. Motion carried unanimously.

DCNR GRANT – ADA ACCESS AT CAFLISCH PARK: The deed information has been approved by DCNR. It has been determined that Caflich & Devereaux Parks have received Land Water and Conservation Funding in the past and because of this these properties can NEVER be anything other than a park. We have actually had to have deed work completed and it has been done through Attorney Wachter and the Knox Law Firm. The quote for equipment has been received and will be done through Co-Stars.

FRENCH CREEK FESTIVAL: UC Pride has postponed any events for this until possibly the same week-end that homecoming would have been. Mayor Wilmoth mentioned that the original date selected for homecoming may be changed.

DISCUSS WALKWORKS GRANT FOR ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN. An email was sent to Council to provide information on this grant. The application is due July 2, 2020. We could apply for up to \$20,000 however, with the information that has already been

gathered, it could most likely be completed for \$15,000. No match is required. The EADS Group will complete the application with information they currently have and other information that the Borough would provide for a cost not to exceed \$850.

MOTION TO APPROVE APPLYING FOR THE WALKWORKS GRANT FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND THE EADS GROUP SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$850. It was moved by Councilor Joyce and seconded by Councilor Bowes to approve applying for the WalkWorks Grant for an active transportation plan and THE EADS Group submitting the application at a cost not to exceed \$850. Motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE: Council President

DISCUSS STOP SIGNS ON HAZEN STREET AT PARADE. This is currently a 4-way stop.

A complaint that people aren't stopping at this intersection and it makes more sense to put a 4-way stop and Washington and Parade. It either needs to be enforced or remove the signs on Parade Street. The Mayor will ask Chief Pernice to check it out regarding access for pedestrians, traffic, amount of kids, etc.

EMS, FIRE & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATOR: The Liaison for EMS/Fire was not in attendance.

PARKS AND RECREATION: The Liaison for Parks and Recreation, Councilor Joyce, reported the summary park plan and survey responses report has been given to the Steering Committee members. There were 131 survey responses. There will be a meeting to review this prior to the plan being completed.

PERSONNEL AND PLANNING: The Liaison of Personnel and Planning had no reports or Recommendations.

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

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Councilor Bowes and seconded by Councilor Joyce that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 7:28 P.M._

ATTEST