

**MINUTES
UNION CITY BOROUGH
JANUARY 12, 2021**

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 6:09 P.M. by Councilor Brumagin. The meeting was held virtually by Zoom. There was a legal notice placed in The Journal, posted on the door of the City Building, and on Facebook.

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

OFFICIALS PRESENT: were Solicitor Timothy Wachter; Mayor, Natalie Wilmoth, Borough Manager, Cindy Wells; Police Chief, David Pernice; and Zoning Officer, Jason Sayers.

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

MOTION ON MINUTES: It was moved by Councilor Cross and seconded by Councilor Hoban that all Councilors, having read the minutes, approve the Public Hearing minutes and Council Meeting minutes from December 22, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

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

HEARING OF THE VISITORS: There were no visitors.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Code Enforcement Report for December 2020 was provided and Council had no questions. Code Enforcement Officer Riley Cross reported that he would be meeting with the property owner of 40 North Main along with the Building Inspector Mike Grill to discuss the Structural Report on regarding the back wall.

ZONING OFFICER: Zoning Report for December 2020 was provided and reviewed. Council had no questions.

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

SOLICITOR WACHTER: Solicitor Wachter had no reports or recommendations.

POLICE CHIEF: Chief Pernice requested permission from Council to move forward with hiring at least one part-time officer. Council agreed to start the process.

STREET SUPERVISOR: The 4th quarter 2020 report was provided along with a Project Plan for 2021. Street Supervisor Bob Phillips was not present.

BOROUGH MANAGER:

OPENING OF BIDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN IN THE NEW PARKING LOT ON SOUTH MAIN STREET. Bids were opened and reviewed.

Kingsview Enterprises, Inc	\$16,380.00
Dwyer Plumbing & Excavating	\$26,750.00
Afton Trucking, Inc	\$29,800.00
Lindy Paving	\$59,560.00
Joseph McCormick Construction	\$60,120.65

MOTION TO TABLE ACCEPTANCE OF A BID FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN, AND SEND THEM TO THE ENGINEER, DAVID LAIRD ASSOCIATES, FOR REVIEW AND WAIT UNTIL UNION CITY PRIDE MAKES A DECISION ON WHETHER TO MOVE AHEAD WITH THEIR PORTION OF THE PROJECT. It was moved by Councilor Hoban and seconded by Councilor Cross to table acceptance of a bid for the construction of the stormwater management plan and send them to the engineer, David Laird Associates, for review and until Union City Pride makes a decision on whether to move ahead with their portion of the project. Motion carried unanimously.

ZONING BOARD: There is a vacancy on the Zoning Board. Michelle Blystone notified the Borough Office she would be willing to serve. She would be finishing the term that was previously held by Brian Maynard that expires on December 31, 2021.

MOTION TO APPOINT MICHELLE BLYSTONE TO THE ZONING BOARD, TO FULFILL THE TERM LEFT VACANT BY THE RESIGNATION OF BRIAN MAYNARD, WHICH EXPIRES DECEMBER 31, 2021. It was moved by Councilor Hoban and seconded by Councilor Cross to appoint Michelle Blystone to the Zoning Board, to fulfill the term left vacant by the resignation of Brian Maynard, which expires December 31, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

CIVIL SERVICE BOARD: There is a vacancy on the Civil Service Board. Since Chris Blum was never sworn in that vacancy was never filled. Councilor Brumagin will talk to someone who might be interested.

ERIE AREA COG: Erie Area COG membership requires Council to appoint one Council member as a delegate. As many alternates as you want can be appointed and they don't need to be a Council member. They usually meet at 3:00 the first Wednesday of each month. Currently Riley Cross is the Delegate. Mathew Joyce and Cindy Wells are alternates.

MOTION TO APPOINT COUNCILOR RILEY CROSS AS A DELEGATE FOR THE ERIE AREA COG AND APPOINT COUNCILOR MATHEW JOYCE AND BOROUGH MANAGER CINDY WELLS AS

ALTERNATES. It was moved by Councilor Hoban and seconded by Councilor Cross to appoint Councilor Cross as a delegate for the Erie Area COG and appoint Councilor Mathew Joyce and Borough Manager Cindy Wells as alternates. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL TO DISCUSS AMENDING THE PARKING ORDINANCE. A petition was presented at the Council Meeting on November 24, 2020 requesting parking be changed to allow parking in the winter on Center Street. Other changes that should be made are the addition of the new parking lot; and require proof of insurance, inspection, and registration to purchase a parking permit; establish a ticketing time on how often a ticket can be issued, establish a towing time that a car can be towed, and set prices for parking tickets issued during snow events. Several different options were discussed.

MOTION TO TABLE DISCUSSION ON THE PARKING ORDINANCE. It was moved by Councilor Cross and seconded by Councilor Hoban to table discussion on the parking ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE 1103: This ordinance is regarding the hiring of part-time and extra police officers when the need would arise. This ordinance is no longer legal because the Borough would be required to hire through the Civil Service process. It needs to be repealed. It could be done at the time another ordinance is being advertised.

MOTION TO ADVERTISE REPEALING ORDINANCE 1103 AT THE TIME ANOTHER ORDINANCE IS ADVERTISED. THIS ORDINANCE IS REGARDING THE HIRING OF PART-TIME POLICE AND EXTRA POLICE, WHICH CURRENT LAW REQUIRES BE DONE THROUGH THE CIVIL SERVICE PROCESS. It was moved by Councilor Hoban and seconded by Councilor Cross to advertise repealing ordinance 1103 at the time another ordinance is advertised. This ordinance is regarding the hiring of part-time police and extra police, which current law requires be done through the Civil service Process. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE PENALTY RATE FOR PROPERTY TAX: Erie County Council has asked municipalities to waive penalties on 2021 property taxes if taxes are paid in full by December 31, 2021. The proposed ordinance was advertised on December 29, 2020.

MOTION TO PASS AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE PENALTY RATE ON REAL ESTATE TAXES FOR THE TAX YEAR 2021. THE PENALTY WOULD BE ELIMINATED FOR THE YEAR 2021 AS LONG AS THE TAXES WERE PAID IN FULL BY DECEMBER 31, 2021. It was moved by Councilor Hoban and seconded by Councilor Joyce to pass an ordinance establishing the penalty rate on real estate taxes for the year 2021. The penalty would be eliminated for the year 2021 as long as the taxes were paid in full by December 31, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

STRUCTURAL ASSESSMENT AND SECOND FLOOR USE REPORT: The Structural Assessment and

Second Floor Use Report was completed in December 2020. It was requested by the Committee that Council put on record that they approve and accept the study by resolution as a reference document.

MOTION TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION (2021-01) THAT BOROUGH COUNCIL APPROVES AND ACCEPTS THE STRUCTURAL ASSESSMENT AND SECOND FLOOR USE REPORT DATED DECEMBER 2020, AS A REFERENCE DOCUMENT. It was moved by Councilor Hoban and seconded by Councilor Joyce to approve a Resolution (2021-01) that Borough Council approves and accepts the Structural Assessment and Second Floor Use Report Dated December 2020, as a reference document. Motion carried unanimously.

DCNR GRANT FOR PARKS: The EADS Group will be completing an application to the DCNR for park improvements at Southwest Park.

WALKWORKS ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN: At the December 8, 2020 meeting Council agreed to accept the quote of \$15,000 with The EADS Group to complete an Active Transportation Plan. An agreement has been received and is being reviewed by the Borough Manager and Solicitor Wachter.

MOTION TO APPROVE SIGNING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH AND THE EADS GROUP TO COMPLETE AN ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN AFTER FINAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF SOLICITOR WACHTER AND THE BOROUGH MANAGER. It was moved by Councilor Cross and seconded by Councilor Joyce to approve signing an agreement between the Borough and The EADS Group to complete an Active Transportation Plan after final review and approval of Solicitor Wachter and the Borough Manager. Motion carried unanimously.

ERIE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGHES: The ECAB meeting is Wednesday January 20, 2021 at the American Legion in Waterford, at 6:30 PM. Reservations are due by January 16th. Please email by Thursday, January 14th if you are interested in attending.

ADMINISTRATIVE: Administration had no reports or recommendations.

PERSONNEL AND PLANNING: The Liaison of Personnel and Planning had no reports or Recommendations. He did ask about the removal of election signs. Solicitor Wachter stated that the Courts say there is no timeline on freedom of speech. The signs should not be placed in the right-of-way but that would eliminate all signs, including yard sales, not just political, and would need to be enforced all the time.

EMS, FIRE & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATOR: The Liaison for EMS/Fire was absent.

UCVFD END OF YEAR REPORT FOR 2020: The UCVFD End of Year Report for 2020 was provided by Fire Chief, Isaiah Edwards. The report was emailed to Council members prior to this meeting.

PARKS AND RECREATION: The Liaison for Parks and Recreation had no reports or

recommendations.

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

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Councilor Hoban and seconded by Councilor Cross that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 7:09 P.M._

ATTEST