

**MINUTES
UNION CITY BOROUGH
MAY 11, 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 6:00 P.M. by Councilor Brumagin. The meeting was at the First United Methodist Church, 42 East High Street, Union City. It was advertised in The Journal and at the City Building.

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

OFFICIALS PRESENT: were Solicitor Chris Sennett, Mayor Wilmoth, Borough Manager Cindy Wells, Streets Supervisor Bob Phillips, and Zoning Officer Jason Sayers.

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

MOTION ON MINUTES: It was moved by Councilor Cross and seconded by Councilor Joyce that all Councilors, having read the minutes, approve the Council Meeting minutes from April 13, 2021 & the Special Meeting April 23rd, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

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

HEARING OF THE VISITORS: No visitors requested to speak.

ZONING OFFICER: The Zoning Report for April 2021 was provided, and Officer Sayers reviewed it. Council had no questions.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Code Enforcement Report for April 2021 was provided and Council had no questions.

SOLICITOR SENNETT: The Solicitor reported that he had worked on the Parking Ordinance and the amended Garbage and Property Maintenance Ordinance. He had also reviewed some code enforcement questions with Councilor Brumagin.

MAYOR NATALIE WILMOTH: The Mayor reported that the UC Ministerium was having a Borough Birthday event on Sunday, May 23, 2021 from 3:00 – 5:00 PM. They could still use some volunteers and asked Council to stop by for the event.

There was only one applicant for the part-time police officer position. Chief Pernice, Mayor Wilmoth and Borough Manager Cindy Wells will be giving the oral exam on June 1, 2021.

SUGGESTED CHANGES TO CIVIL SERVICE RULES & REGULATIONS: At the last meeting Chief Pernice requested changes to the Civil Service Rules. He requested that the minimum score for the written exam and the physical agility portion of the test be lowered to 70%. He had also requested that the maximum age for an applicant be 40 years old. Council discussed these and everyone disagreed with the maximum age requirement of 40 years old.

MOTION TO CHANGE THE CIVIL SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS BY CHANGING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE COMBINED SCORE OF THE WRITTEN EXAM AND THE PHYSICAL AGILITY TESTING TO A MINIMUM OF 70% AND NO CHANGE TO THE APPLICATION AGE REQUIREMENTS. It was moved by Councilor Bowes and seconded by Councilor Cross to change the Civil Service Rules and Regulations by changing the requirements for the combined score of the written exam and physical agility testing to a minimum of 70% and no change to the application age requirements. Motion carried unanimously.

STREET SUPERVISOR: The Street Supervisor Bob Phillips reported that the repairs to the neighboring property at the City Building were completed and the agreement signed.

STORM SEWER - Mansfield had been called to come and clean out the storm sewer on North Street and Putnam Street area. They used the camera and found tree roots had plugged the storm sewer. They used the grinder and vac truck to clean it out.

CRACK SEALING - Suit Kote completed the crack sealing on all the streets except Warden Street. Council discussed having Suite Kote complete the street when back in this area.

MOTION TO SPEND THE ADDITIONAL FUNDS OF APPROXIMATELY \$1,000 TO HAVE SUIT KOTE COMPLETE THE CRACK SEALING ON WARDEN STREET. It was moved by Councilor McGuire and seconded by Councilor Cross to spend the additional funds of approximately \$1,000 to have Suit Kote complete the crack sealing on Warden Street. Motion carried unanimously.

BOROUGH MANAGER:

MISCELLANEOUS UPDATES:

PSAB Fall Conference October 8-10th, 2021 in Erie and encourage Council to attend.

PennDOT Project – Projected start date May 18th or 19th, 2021

Meeting regarding broadband infrastructure – City Building, May 13th at 9:00 AM.

His Work, His Way – looking for volunteers and potential projects.

Compliance Audit from the Auditor General for the Pensions are available.

The Solvency Fee for PA Unemployment was not paid.

The Borough received \$5,000 from the UC Community House Asso. for banners on

Main Street and the remaining to go towards the City Building Feasibility Study. We still need approximately \$11,000 in funds.

The 12 trees were planted on Main Street by the Western PA Conservancy at no cost to the Borough.

May 26th The Borough birthday event is at 5:00 and requesting that Council attend.

DEP REGARDING THE CITY LANDFILL: DEP sent a letter requesting that the Borough restrict access to the site, install no trespassing signs, annually inspect the site, etc. The Streets Department will be completing the requirements in the next couple of months.

PARKING LOT RENTAL: Question was asked about renting the parking lot for a fundraiser and allowing alcohol to be sold. Solicitor Sennett reported that Ordinance 872 does not allow open containers of alcohol on Borough property. However, there is a provision that would allow Council to vote and make an exception, but an agreement would need to be signed by the one making the request. Council agreed that they would consider a request.

COUNCIL DISCUSS THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE PARKING ORDINANCE. Council reviewed the final draft of the parking ordinance.

MOTION TO ADVERTISE THE PROPOSED PARKING ORDINANCE, REPEALING ALL PREVIOUS PARKING ORDINANCES. It was moved by Councilor Cross and seconded by Councilor Joyce to advertise the proposed Parking Ordinance, repealing all previous parking ordinances. Motion carried unanimously.

ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS: Council continued the discussion on the following proposals:

1. Remove the required 2' set-back for fencing and allow the fence to be placed on the property line.
2. Exempt certain accessory structures from Zoning Permit requirements.
3. To Specify the set-back requirements for storage sheds located in residence's fenced in yards.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED ZONING ORDINANCE CHANGES TO BE SENT TO ERIE COUNTY PLANNING AND THE UNION PLANNING COMMISSION FOR THEIR APPROVAL AND THEN ADVERTISE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING. It was moved by Councilor Cross and seconded by Councilor McGuire to approve the proposed Zoning Ordinance changes to be sent to Erie County Planning and the Union Planning Commission for their approval and then advertise for a Public Hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE: Administration had no reports or recommendations.

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

EMS, FIRE & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATOR: The Liaison for EMS/Fire had no

reports or recommendations.

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

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Councilor McGuire and seconded by Councilor Joyce that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 6:40 P.M._

ATTEST