

**MINUTES
UNION CITY BOROUGH
JANUARY 25, 2022**

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 Cross. The meeting was at the First United Methodist Church, 42 East High Street, Union City.

COUNCILORS PRESENT were Cross, Joyce, Bowes, Douglas, Warner, Winkler. Brumagin was absent.

OFFICIALS PRESENT were Mayor, Natalie Wilmoth; Borough Manager, Cindy Wells; Police Chief, David Pernice; and Streets Supervisor, Bob Phillips.

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

MOTION ON MINUTES: It was moved by Councilor Joyce and seconded by Councilor Winkler that all Councilors, having read the minutes, approve Council Meeting minutes for the reorganizational Meeting and the regular Council Meeting from January 3, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

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

HEARING OF THE VISITORS Alex Blystone presented information on New Directions. They would have a van that offers drug screenings and has a Doctor on call. They offer methadone, cyboxin, etc. It would be in Union City once a week or daily depending on the need. She is seeking support from municipalities. On-going financial support is mostly through PA, NY, and OH Medicaid.

No one on Council or the Police Chief is familiar with this program. Information was left for their review and Council will talk to the Chief and the Solicitor prior to making any decision.

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

POLICE CHIEF: The Police Chief had no reports or recommendations.

STREET SUPERVISOR: The Street Supervisor stated they have been plowing a lot of snow. The Borough Manager thanked Bob and the Streets Department and pointed out they had put in a lot of hours with the amount of snow there had been and they have done a great job in taking care of it.

BOROUGH MANAGER:

MISCELLANEOUS UPDATES:

Pension 4th quarter and annual 2021 statements are available for review
Update on broadband with Impact Corry – Still waiting on an answer from the grant application. Was supposed to be January but may delay it.
Update on Municipal Lien Interest Reduction – originally 10 properties, 1 previously satisfied, 4 more satisfied (approximately \$11,900), and 2 set-up on payment plan which will be another \$3,000.
Council was previously provided a proposed ordinance regarding wireless and 5G Act 50 of 2021 that will be discussed at the Council Meeting on February 8, 2022.
DCNR Grant application for improvements to Southwest Park was denied. Will be submitting another application with some changes. Also submitting an application to the DCNR and the DCED for implementing a portion of the French Creek Trail in Devereaux Park.

UNION CITY POLICE BARGAINING UNIT CONTRACT: Council to ratify the contract. A letter from the Bargaining Unit has not been received.

MOTION TO TABLE RATIFYING THE THREE-YEAR CONTRACT WITH THE UNION CITY POLICE BARGAINING UNIT THAT HAS BEEN NEGOTIATED. A motion was made by Councilor Bowes and seconded by Councilor Winkler. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING INDIVIDUALS FOR INSTRUCTION FOR PENSION PLANS Northwest savings bank requires a resolution stating the names and signatures of the individuals authorized to provide instructions for the pension plans.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION (2022-04) AUTHORIZING RILEY CROSS, DANIEL BRUMAGIN AND CINDY WELLS TO HAVE COMPLETE AUTHORIZATION TO PROVIDE INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PLANS AND LIMITED AUTHORIZATION TO PROVIDE INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING BENEFIT PAYMENT AND ROUTINE ADMINISTRATION MATTERS OF THE PLANS, WITH ANY TWO SIGNATURES. A motion was made by Councilor Joyce and seconded by Councilor Winkler. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR EC MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE GAP FUNDING PROGRAM The application is for infrastructure that is over and above what was in the budget.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION (2022-05) PROVIDING APPROVAL FOR THE APPLICATION FOR ERIE COUNTY MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE GAP FUNDING PROGRAM. A motion was

made by Councilor Bowes and seconded by Councilor Joyce. Motion carried unanimously.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE BOARD OF APPEALS ALTERNATE Matthew Joyce was appointed to the board on January 3, 2022 and was previously the alternate. There is still a vacancy for an alternate. Currently there is Greg Bowes, Dan Brumagin and Matthew Joyce.

MOTION FOR APPOINTMENT OF AN ALTERNATE TO THE PROPERTY MAINTENANCE BOARD OF APPEALS: A motion was made by Councilor Joyce and seconded by Councilor Douglas appointing Councilor Coltin Warner. Motion carried unanimously.

ZONING HEARING BOARD Currently there is a vacancy for a Zoning Hearing Board member and an alternate. Glenn Himrod was previously an alternate and is willing to serve on the board. Also, Clinton Chapman is willing to serve.

MOTION APPOINTING GLENN HIMROD TO THE ZONING HEARING BOARD AND CLINTON CHAPMAN AS AN ALTERNATE ON THE ZONING HEARING BOARD. A motion was made by Councilor Bowes and seconded by Councilor Joyce. Motion carried unanimously.

VACANCY FOR A CONSTABLE IN DISTRICT 1 AND 2: Information was received that there are two vacancies for Constable and Borough Council are to fill these. Council had nominations.

BUFFALO FIRE TRUCK The truck was listed in Municibid and sold for \$525. What would Council like to have done with the money, go into the General Fund or make a donation to the UCVFD? Council agreed to donate the money to the UCVFD.

HIRING OF NICK KUECZYNSKI FOR SNOW PLOWING ON AN AS NEEDED BASIS. When an employee was not able to drive there was a need to have a CDL driver available for snow plowing.

RETRO ACTIVE VOTE APPROVING THE HIRING OF NICK KUECZYNSKI TO PLOW SNOW ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS EFFECTIVE JANUARY 10, 2022. A motion was made by Councilor Bowes and seconded by Councilor Joyce. Motion carried unanimously.

LETTER FROM THE UCVFD AMBULANCE SERVICE. The letter is requesting \$24,000 to cover a budget shortfall. The funds can be paid from the ARPA funds that were received.

MOTION TO APPROVE A PAYMENT OF \$24,000 TO THE UCVFD AMBULANCE SERVICE FOR THE YEAR OF 2022 TO HELP COVER A BUDGET SHORTFALL, TO BE PAID FROM THE ARPA FUNDS RECEIVED BY THE BOROUGH. A motion was made by Councilor Winkler and seconded by Councilor Bowes. Motion carried unanimously.

LETTER RECEIVED REQUESTING A ZONING CHANGE. A letter was received from Larry Obert requesting a zoning change from C2 Commercial to RLB Residential Limited Business at

85 North Main Street. The request needs approval from EC Planning and from Union Area Planning, a public hearing, and an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance. The proposed ordinance has been given to Council. Council agreed to proceed with presenting the necessary process.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE. Currently Section 305 (B) (4) Enforcement, Violations and Penalties, states in the case an enforcement notice is not complied with the zoning administrator needs consent from Borough Council, the solicitor, or other officer of the municipality. Requesting that no consent is necessary.

Asking Council to approve having the Solicitor include changes with the amended ordinance for 5G and wireless that will be proposed in February. Council agreed to add to the proposed ordinance.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE 1111 QUALITY OF LIFE. Currently the fines are \$25, \$50, \$100, \$300. Fines can be issued daily. Propose allowing \$1000 fine for non-compliance instead of issuing a \$300 fine daily. An amended ordinance will be needed. Council would like the Solicitor to provide suggestions for adding the \$1000 fine.

PROPOSAL FOR ADVERTISING ON ELECTRONIC SIGN: Greg Bowes, owner of the Buzz of UC Café, is proposing to the Borough, advertising on an electronic message board that they are putting in place, to promote Borough related messages and events, emergency notices, winter parking, etc. Because Greg is on Council, the Ethics Act requires a legal notice to provide others an opportunity to give proposals. Once this is out, he will provide details because he doesn't want details out until after proposals are received. Consensus of Council was to place the ad.

ADMINISTRATION:

Personnel Policy Manual was provided to Council. President Cross would like to make some changes and would like Council's recommendations if they have any and then the personnel committee will review it and give recommendations to Council.

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 reported that the Winter Fun Day will be Sunday, January 30, 2022, from 2:00 – 5:00. There will be several activities.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Executive Session to discuss personnel, property, and legal issues with possible action to be taken. Executive session was from 6:49 – 7:44.

MOTION TO PAY FOR EMPLOYEE SAP DRUG TESTING. A motion was made by Councilor Bowes

and seconded by Councilor Warner. It was a tie vote with council, 3 yes and 3 no. The Mayor broke the tie and voted no. Motion failed.

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Councilor Bowes and seconded by Councilor Joyce that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 7:46 P.M.

ATTEST