

**MINUTES
UNION CITY BOROUGH
APRIL 11, 2023**

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. The meeting will be opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

COUNCILORS PRESENT were Cross, Joyce, Warner, Winkler, and Osborn. Daggett and Steadman were absent.

OFFICIALS PRESENT were Solicitor Tim Wachter; Mayor, Natalie Wilmoth; Borough Manager, Cindy Wells; and Police Chief, David Pernice.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion made by Councilor Warner and seconded by Councilor Winkler that the agenda stands approved as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION ON MINUTES: Motion made by Councilor Warner and seconded by Councilor Joyce that all Councilors, having read the minutes, approve minutes from the Council Meeting March 28, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION ON SECRETARY’S REPORT: Motion made by Councilor Winkler and seconded by Councilor Warner that the Secretary’s Report be accepted and made a part of the minutes of this meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION ON BILLS: Motion made by Councilor Warner and seconded by Councilor Winkler that the unpaid bills be ordered paid and those paid be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

HEARING OF THE VISITORS:

Alfred Chaney, 32129 Mooney Road, Waterford owns 57 Putnam Street. There is water that runs from his field in the back. He would need to run a pipe but would need to go to the catch basin on the other side of the street. Water also runs across the road and freezes. He would like the Borough to run the pipe under the street. Councilor Cross told him they would talk to the Street Supervisor Bob Phillips to discuss the situation.

Herb Riede thanked Chief Pernice for holding the Meet & Greet.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Code Enforcement Report for March 2023. Council wanted to know the status on 57 South Street. The Borough Manager will check with Code Enforcement. There were no other questions.

ZONING: Zoning Report for March 2023. There were no questions.

POLICE DEPARTMENT The Police Chief reported that the Meet & Greet was held on April 5, 2023. They had some attendees.
On March 29th and 30th, 2023 the Chief and Officer Shelly attended training at the Blasco Library. They discussed drug interdiction on traffic stops. There was no cost for the training.
On April 6, 2023 the DA held an update Seminar. Information was presented on a program for drug and alcohol offenders that instead of charging them they could get treatment right away.
Chief wanted to also let Council know that he is very impressed with the knowledge of Officer Shelly and stated he is a real asset to the Department.
March parking ticket and police report and there were no questions.

PUBLIC WORKS: Since the Street Supervisor wasn't in attendance the Borough Manager provided a report.

The Street Supervisor needed to take his personal truck in for repairs and wanted permission to use the Borough Truck to take home. He would only drive it to work and if there were any emergency call outs. Borough Council unanimously agreed to this while his personal vehicle is in for repairs. The Solicitor didn't have any problems with this, especially since there was the possibility of emergency call outs.

Catch Basins & Storm Sewer lines on Fifth Avenue. One property owner has agreed that he will pay for the installation of a catch basin and pipe on his property to drain his yard. He would connect it into a storm drain in the street. It had previously been approved to install storm drains on Fifth Avenue if the property owner did this. The materials had already been purchased. Borough Council agreed unanimously again.

MAYOR: The Mayor had no reports or recommendations.

SOLICITOR: The Solicitor had no reports or recommendations at this time.

BOROUGH MANAGER:

MISCELLANEOUS UPDATES:

Copies of complaint forms were provided to Council. They had all been settled. Any garbage complaints were also presented. There were no complaints from residents. Council had no questions.

Statement of Financial Interest is still needed from some Council members
ECAB meeting Tuesday, April 18, 2023. Email sent to Council. You will need to make your reservations by April 14th. Request an email if you are planning to attend so payment can be issued.

Fair Housing Workshop, Thursday, April 13, 2023 from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM at the Millcreek Township Municipal Building. Information was provided to Council in folders at the last meeting.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service stakeholder for proposed new national wildlife refuge in

northwest PA and southwest NY. Wednesday, April 19 at 1:00 PM. Email send to Council so they can join the online meeting.

Union City Pride meeting is on Thursday, April 20, 2023 at 6:00 PM at the City Building. It was mentioned that the Township has property off Blystone Road they may consider selling in the future.

INFINITE ERIE RURAL REVITALIZATION: At the last Infinite Erie meeting there was concern expressed regarding the reduction of County Gaming Funds being cut from ECGRA funding. ECGRA has done a lot to help revitalize small communities and the ongoing funding is necessary for rural revitalization. They are one of the most flexible and responsive funders to move investments into the smaller rural communities. Several of the municipalities have decided to send a letter of support and notify the media about the potential cuts. Is Council interested in being included in the letter or support? Council stated that the information was too vague and at this time they wouldn't provide that. However, it could be considered and they would like to see the letter. The Solicitor reported that the intent of the County is they would keep all the gaming funds that ECGRA receives to apply toward EMS services.

MOTION TO TABLE PROVIDING A LETTER TO INFINITE ERIE SUPPORTING THE CONTINUED FUNDING TO ECGRA. Motion made by Councilor Joyce and seconded by Councilor Warner. Motion carried unanimously.

NORTHWEST PENSION INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES: We currently have "Balanced-Growth". During the Pension Committee meeting there were no recommendations to change the type of investments.

MOTION TO CONTINUE WITH THE BALANCED-GROWTH INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES WITH NORTHWEST FOR THE POLICE PENSION AND THE NON-UNIFORM PENSION. Motion made by Councilor Joyce and seconded by Councilor Winkler. Motion carried unanimously.

"SMOOTHING" THE POLICE PENSION AND THE NON-UNIFORM PENSION: During the Pension Committee meeting on March 28, 2023 it was recommended that Council approve "smoothing" for both pensions. This changes the MMO amounts to be spread out over the next several years and keeps the payments more level. This was tabled at the last meeting.

MOTION TO APPROVE "SMOOTHING" THE POLICE PENSION AND THE NON-UNIFORM PENSION AS RECOMMENDED BY DON BOETGER WITH DEFINITE THAT MANAGES OUR PENSIONS. Motion made by Councilor Joyce and seconded by Councilor Winkler. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE ERIE COUNTY 2023 HAZARD VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT AND MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE: The Borough is required to have a Hazardous Mitigation Plan in place. This will update the plan. FEMA and PEMA have both reviewed it the suggested changes were made.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE ERIE COUNTY 2023 HAZARD VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT AND MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE. Motion made by Councilor Joyce and seconded by Councilor Warner. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE A RESOLUTION UPDATING THE BOROUGH FEES BY ADDING THE STREET STORAGE & WASTE DUMPSTER PERMIT FEES: The Street Storage & Waste Dumpster ordinance was passed on March 28, 2023. The permit fees are to be set by resolution.

MOTION TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION UPDATING THE BOROUGH FEES BY ADDING THE STREET STORAGE WASTE DUMPSTER PERMIT FEES. Motion made by Councilor Joyce and seconded by Councilor Warner. Motion carried unanimously.

BENTLY RUN EMERGENCY PERMIT FOR STREAMBANK STABILIZATION WORK: The emergency permit was received. Updates will be provided.

MOTION TO TABLE ANY DECISION CONCERNING BENTLY RUN STREAMBANK STABILIZATION WORK. Motion made by Councilor Joyce and seconded by Councilor Winkler. Motion carried unanimously.

GROUP INSURANCE BENEFITS: A decision regarding approval for types of leave of absence was tabled at the March 28, 2023 meeting.

MOTION TO PROVIDE WHATEVER KIND OF INSURANCE COVERAGE CURRENTLY RECEIVES FOR UP TO 24 MONTHS, WITH THE BOROUGH COVERING THE PREMIUMS FOR THE FIRST THREE MONTHS AND 50% OF THE PREMIUMS FOR AN ADDITIONAL 6 MONTHS, AFTER WHICH TIME THE EMPLOYEE CAN PAY THE FULL PREMIUM THE REMAINING 18 MONTHS FOR A DISABILITY LEAVE OR WORKERS COMPENSATION LEAVE. Motion made by Councilor Joyce and seconded by Councilor Warner. Motion carried unanimously with Councilor Cross Abstaining because this policy affects the Municipal Authority and he is an employee there.

UPDATED EMPLOYEE LEAVE OF ABSENCE POLICY: Solicitor Wachter will provide an updated Leave of Absence policy.

2023 PAVING AND SEAL COAT BIDS: The paving bids are as follows:

BIDDER	BASE BID	OPTION 1	OPTION 2	OPTION 3
Joe McCormick	\$136,164	\$23,282	\$14,080	\$16,812
Lindy Paving	\$118,071.40	\$22,145.25	\$13,902.50	\$16,302.50
Cross Paving	\$94,756.68	\$16,440.90	\$9,961.20	\$11,887.00

Available Funds:

Liquid Fuels	\$ 91,552
County Aid	<u>\$ 15,608</u>
TOTAL	\$107,160

Recommend that any decision be tabled until the April 25, 2023 meeting so we will have

the Seal Coat bids. Also, we will have a better understanding of costs for the stabilization of Bentley Run and potential reimbursement through the Performance Bond.

MOTION TO TABLE ANY DECISION ON 2023 PAVING BIDS UNTIL THE APRIL 25, 2023 MEETING.

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

ADMINISTRATION: Council President had no reports or recommendations.

DEPARTMENT LIAISON REPORTS: Department Liaisons had no reports or recommendations.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Councilor Joyce and seconded by Councilor Warner that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 6:48 P.M.

ATTEST