

**MINUTES
UNION CITY BOROUGH
MAY 14TH, 2024**

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 is at the First Global Methodist Church, 42 East High Street, Union City. The meeting be opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

COUNCILORS PRESENT were Cross, Joyce, Winkler, Osborn, Steadman, and Kerns. Uber was absent.

OFFICIALS PRESENT were Solicitor, Rachel Glasoe; Mayor, Robert Wolf; Borough Manager, Cindy Wells; Police Chief, David Pernice; and Streets Supervisor, Bob Phillips.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion made by Councilor Joyce and seconded by Councilor Osborn the agenda stands approved as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION ON MINUTES: Motion Made by Councilor Kerns and seconded by Councilor Steadman that all Councilors, having read the minutes, approve minutes from the Council meeting on April 15th, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

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

MOTION ON BILLS: Motion by Councilor Joyce and seconded by Councilor Osborn that unpaid bills be ordered paid and those paid be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

HEARING OF THE VISITORS: No one wished to speak.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Reviewed April 2024 report. No questions were asked.

ZONING: Reviewed April 2024 report. No questions were asked.

MAYOR: The Mayor had nothing to report at this time.

POLICE CHIEF: Reviewed April police reports. No questions were asked.

K9 Unit - Chief Pernice stated Officer Shelley has pulled a lot of information together and had him present information regarding a K9 unit. He was able to locate Tristate in Warren OH that charges \$15,000 for a dog and offers a grant to cover half the cost. He has talked to many PD’s, including Cambridge Springs, Edinboro, Wesleyville, Bradford and others and they all had good comments. A quote for medical insurance and liability insurance is needed. But medical insurance was approximately \$100/year. The biggest expense would be injuries to the dog. Dr Chapman is willing to provide the annual shots and physical. There could be fund raising done

which helps involve the community, such as t-shirts, challenge coins, stuffed animals with police patch, golf scramble which could generate \$5,000 to \$10,000, and other types of fund raising. There is a lot of funding available, and shelters typically provide food. The department would be pro-active in seeking funding. Chief Pernice stated the Department still has the \$10,000 from the Carlburg Estate that could help cover costs. Councilor Cross stated Council needs to review the information. Councilor Joyce asked if the organization fees are a one-time fee or annual. Officer Shelly believes it is a one-time fee. Officer Steadman asked about costs to outfit the car. Those costs are approximately \$6,110. One of the current vehicles could be outfitted for that. Chief Pernice wanted to send a letter seeking donation but Councilor Cross stated it was too soon to do that. There would be an expense for the vehicle as the Officer would need to take a police vehicle home. It is estimated to be approximately \$1,500/year. Council will review and talk at the next meeting.

New Police Vehicle – Chief Pernice stated that if a car was going to be taken for the dog he would recommend selling the Crown Vic. His research shows they are selling at a high price currently. Ours only has approximately 50,000 miles. He mentioned that there is the USDA grant and there will be a one-year lead time if when it is ordered. The USDA grant is available until August 30, 2027.

Lexipol Policies – Chief Pernice had submitted four sub-sections to Attorney Hertzling. She approved part and suggested removing part. Chief Pernice wants to initiate the policies with Council's approval. Police staff will have a log-in to be able to review the policies and signoff accepting them. Attorney Glasoe stated Julia only reviews personnel policies. Rachel sent some over to the DA's office for review and is waiting to hear back on a couple. Rachel also has some concerns on some of the other policies but stated the concerns can be worked out. Several were flagged for her review. She felt Council needs to review some with Use of Force, ride-along. Chief Pernice asked if it was only some sections or all of them. He wanted the flagged ones removed and pass the remaining. Then they could continue to work on them. Cindy Wells pointed out that there are several sections that refer to things that aren't even in the police department and other sections are already in the Borough Policy and Procedure Manual and should be removed from Lexipol. Rachel will continue to review and information will be presented.

Lawn Mowers on Streets & Sidewalks – Chief Pernice stated he has received complaints and would like Council to consider an ordinance regulating this. What a lawn mower use at home is, from business to residence and other lots they maintain. Issue a one-time permit for the specific mower. Only from sun-rise to sun-down. People with suspended licenses are driving. These are not considered farm tractors. Attorney Glasoe stated riding mowers are considered a motor vehicle. Council asked Chief Pernice to provide some sample ordinances.

Clean-up day – Chief worked with the school's clean-up day and was at the Little League ball field. Everyone did a great job.

Civil Service Testing – There were 2 candidates for the written and physical agility. Only one passed both tests and will move onto the oral examination.

STREETS: Bob Phillips reported about the **work at 33 Miles** requiring the storm drainpipe needed replaced and the ditch cemented. It needed to be completed before paving and is complete.

Municipal Lot #2 – Blacktop Sealing \$4,990 – This work is being scheduled.

Discussion of parking spaces on South Main Street – Need to check on the process required to make changes. Chief Pernice has requested that the parking space in front of the museum be eliminated along with the space to the north of the Municipal Lot #3 entrance.

Paving will be done on May 28th, 2024 and crack sealing is done.

BOROUGH MANAGER: MISCELLANEOUS UPDATES

ECATO Annual Firemen’s Conference Dinner – Reservations due May 23, 2024

TA Set Aside projected start date 7/15/24

1st quarter Budget Comparison provided to Council

Unfunded Mandate – Notification from PSAB

Letter for French Creek Trail Phase 1 Devereaux Park – Letter stating compliance with plan UC Chair Office Ownership- EC Landbank wants to know if the Borough would be willing to accept ownership after the Landbank makes repairs. Council agreed they would.

Cemetery Millings- Evergreen Cemetery would like one load. They allow the Borough to get dirt from them periodically. Council agreed to let them have a load.

RESIGNATIONS FOR CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: Resignation of Terri Migliaccio and Morgan Migliaccio were received effective May 31, 2024.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF TERRI MIGLIACCIO, CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER AND MORGAN MIGLIACCIO, DEPUTY CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER EFFECTIVE MAY 31, 2024. Motion by Councilor Kerns, seconded by Councilor Osborn. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS FOR REQUESTS FROM ERIE COUNTY LAND BANK TAX EXONERATIONS. The Land Bank purchased three properties 48 Miles, 80 East High and 121 East High.

MOTION TO APPROVE THREE RESOLUTIONS FOR TAX EXONERATION ON 48 MILES STREET, 80 EAST HIGH AND 121 EAST HIGH. Motion by Councilor Winkler, seconded by Councilor Osborn. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION TO APPROVE WATTSBURG BOROUGH JOINING CREMA: Wattsburg Borough has submitted a request to join CREMA which must be approved by the municipalities who are already a member of CREMA.

MOTION TO APPROVE WATTSBURG BOROUGH JOINING CREMA. Motion by Councilor Joyce, seconded by Councilor Steadman. Motion carried unanimously.

APPOINTMENT TO LIBRARY BOARD: The Library Board has recommended appointing Lori Tenney to fill the remaining term of Yvonne Stauffer which ends December 31, 2024.

MOTION TO APPOINT LORI TENNEY TO FILL THE REMAINING TERM OF YVONNE STAUFFER WHOSE TERM ENDS ON DECEMBER 31, 2024. Motion by Councilor Steadman, and seconded by Councilor

Winkler. Motion carried unanimously.

RENAISSANCE GRANT APPLICATIONS: Eight applications were received totaling a grant amount of \$25,260.58. There is currently \$ 43,686.07 in Renaissance Grant funding available. It is recommended that all applications be approved based on the fact that these improvements to the properties will help in the fight against blight.

MOTION APPROVING THE EIGHT RECOMMENED RENAISSANCE GRANT APPLICATIONS TOTALING \$25,260.58. Motion by Councilor Joyce, seconded by Councilor Kerns. Brian Osborn abstained from voting due to personal conflict. Motion carried.

MOTION TO APPROVE POTENTIAL SALE OF 18 GILLETTE STREET OWNED BY ERIE COUNTY LANDBANK.

The Erie County Land Bank has received an application for the purchase of the property. The property was mowed by the neighbor the last couple of years. Henry and Cathy Sproat are interested in purchasing it as a side yard. In the future they would like to build a garage on the end of their house and this lot would provide yard space. In my conversation with Cathy, I explained they would be required to maintain and mow it and, unless it was combined with their house parcel, they would not be able to put a shed, garage, etc. (accessory structure) on it. She said she understood. They were unable to attend the meeting tonight.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE SALE OF 18 GILLETTE STREET TO HENRY AND CATHY SPROAT AS LONG AS ALL ERIE COUNTY LAND BANK REQUIREMENTS ARE MET. Motion by Councilor Steadman, seconded by Councilor Kerns. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING PERSONNEL No action was taken the time was 7:06 PM – 7:53PM

ADMINISTRATION: Nothing to report.

DEPARTMENT LIAISON REPORTS: Department Liaisons had nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Councilor Steadman and seconded by Councilor Joyce that the meeting be adjourned at 8:01 P.M.