

CITY OF UNION
Business Meeting
MINUTES
August 1, 2016

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM on August 1, 2016 by Mayor Larry Solomon.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Solomon led all attendees in the pledge to the flag.

Oath of Office:

Matthew Dowling was sworn in as City administrator of the City of Union, Kentucky, by Notary Public Larry K. Solomon

Roll Call:

A quorum was present:

Mayor Larry Solomon

Commissioner Ken Heil

Commissioner John Mefford

Commissioner Bryan Miller

Commissioner Jeremy Ramage

Also present:

City Attorney- Greg Voss, Esq.

City Clerk- Kathy Porter

City Engineer- Barry Burke

City Administrator- Matt Dowling

Approval of Minutes:

After a discussion of the Chamber of Commerce invoice, Commissioner Mefford made a motion to approve last Meeting Minutes. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Miller. **Motion carried 4-0.** The Commissioners agreed not to continue membership to the Chamber of Commerce as a result of said discussion.

Financial Balance Sheet Summary Report (as of July 26, 2016):

Commissioner Miller moved to accept the Financial Balance Sheet Summary Report as presented.

Commissioner Heil seconded. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Statement of Receipts (July 1, 2015 through July 26, 2016):

Commissioner Miller moved to accept the Statement of Receipts for the period July 1, 2015 through July 26, 2016. Commissioner Ramage seconded. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Annual Budget/Spend Comparison Report (July 1, 2015 through July 26, 2016):

Commissioner Heil moved to accept the report as presented. Commissioner Mefford seconded that motion.
Motion carried 4-0.

Bills for Payment:

Commissioner Miller questioned a storm water bill for the Rice Cemetery. City Administrator stated he would contact SD1 and report back. With no further questions, Commissioner Heil moved to approve the bills for payment. Commissioner Miller seconded. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Visitors and Guests:

State Representative Sal Santoro was in attendance and rose to address the assembly. He reported that the state is fiscally sound with a \$49-million-dollar surplus and that property tax receipts are higher for the state this year over previous years. There is a lot of new development across Boone County and two of the state's road projects, the Mt. Zion Road upgrade and the improvements being made to the intersection of Hicks Pike/Rice Pike and Route 42 just south of the city limits, are already underway.

Mayor Report:

Mayor Solomon reported that he, Commissioner Miller, and City Administrator Dowling attended the retirement celebration for Jerry Lux who retired from Kroger. Mr. Lux is a Union resident and Administrator Dowling read a proclamation from the city honoring him during the ceremony.

Mayor Solomon also completed the yearly evaluation of Clerk Porter and he reported that the evaluation went very well and that Clerk Porter does a very good job for the city. City Administrator Dowling has not been working for the City long enough to be formally evaluated. Mayor Solomon also stated that he was very pleased how well Clerk Porter and Administrator were working together and they were making a fine team.

Committee Reports:

Planning & Zoning:

Matt Apke gave a report on the following items:

- The Boone Springs development project was unanimously approved.
- The 536/Mt. Zion Road project will begin in October and the Hicks Pike/Rice Pike and Route 42 intersection project will begin in 2017.
- Frogtown will be busy with the building of the new school at St. Tim's Parish and with the installation of sidewalks on the south side of the road.

Economic Development Committee:

Commissioner Ramage reported on behalf of the committee:

- The committee is reaching out to Kroger for a development timeline
- The apartments at Affinity are under construction
- The committee continues to work with Dr. Wright to encourage the development of the corner property at Frogtown Road and Route 42.
- Six developers have been identified as possible candidates for development of the Union Town Center.

- The EDC will be working with the Boone County officials and Planning Commission to organize a field trip to visit other cities that have successfully navigated the development of their own towns in order to gather helpful advice and ideas on the path forward for Union. This field trip is scheduled for September 1 2016. Mayor Solomon said he would be changing his schedule to take part in this event.

Communications Committee:

- Travis Schraffenberger reported that a committee member, Patrick Romelli, is developing a plan for signage options similar to the types of signs previously suggested by Commissioner Ramage.
- Administrator Matt Dowling presented the commissioners with a proposal for hiring a part-time communications coordinator. Under his proposal, the maximum cost for the position would be \$21,000/year and because the city has recently lost two part-time employees, there would be no negative impact on the city budget by adding the position. After discussion, Commissioner Miller made a motion for the city to hire a part-time communications coordinator. Commissioner Mefford seconded. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Annual Budget/Five-Year Fiscal Planning:

No news to report.

Community Building:

Administrator Matt Dowling reported that the vegetation and debris behind the Community Building has been removed.

Public Works/Engineering:

Engineer Burke reported on the following:

- The City is exploring options to alleviate Whispering Trail heavy rain flooding issues. A meeting on the new proposal was planned for August 4 at 1:00 PM. Mayor Solomon, Commissioner Heil and Engineer Burke would attend that meeting.
- Administrator Dowling has a bid package for the replacement of the fencing at Lassing Green. Motion to put the fencing job out for bid was made by Commissioner Mefford. Seconded by Commissioner Miller. **Motion carried 4-0.**
- Cincinnati Bell has 17 encroachment requests throughout the city for the installation of fiber for their Fioptics product. Engineer Burke will follow-up on this issue for the City.

Ohio Kentucky Indiana Board:

The OKI had no meeting in July. Commissioner Miller will be attending the next meeting which will be held in Lawrenceburg, IN.

City Administrator Report:

City Administrator Dowling reported that changes have been proposed for SDI's Private Sewer Repair Program. The proposal would take the city out of the process. Attorney Voss is reviewing the agreement that the city must approve to determine how the agreement will impact the city and city residents if and when sewer lines need to be repaired. He will report back next month with his findings.

City Clerk Report:

Clerk Porter will be attending several training sessions over the next several weeks.

City Attorney Report:

City Attorney Voss informed the commission of House Bill 422 (signed by Governor Bevin in April) that made changes to the enforcement of nuisance ordinances. He encouraged the city to create a nuisance board. Mayor Solomon stated that Walton is interested in creating a joint nuisance board with the City of Union. Attorney Voss also reminded the Commissioners that the process of updating the City's nuisance ordinance has not yet been completed.

Legislation: Ordinances/Resolutions/Municipal Orders (prepared by Attorney Greg D. Voss):

No legislation presented.

Announcements:

The first Monday of September falls on September 5th Labor Day Holiday. As such, another day/time has to be selected for the next Business Meeting. Mayor Solomon favored meeting the day following Labor Day. Commissioner Heil motioned to schedule the next City Commission meeting Tuesday, September 6, 2016 at 7:00 PM. Commissioner Ramage seconded. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Adjournment:

Commissioner Mefford motioned to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Ramage. **Motion Carried 4-0.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

Signed this 6th day of September, 2016.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Larry Solomon, Mayor

Kathy Porter, City Clerk/Treasurer