

CITY OF UNION
Special Business Meeting
October 7, 2019

Regular Business.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM on October 7, 2019 by Mayor Larry Solomon.

Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Roll Call.

A quorum was present: Commissioner Bryan Miller, Commissioner Eric Dulaney, Commissioner Jeremy Ramage and Mayor Larry Solomon. Commissioner John Mefford was absent.

Also present.

City Attorney-Greg Voss, Esq.; City Administrator-David Plummer; City Communications and Operations Director-Melissa Hinkle, City Clerk/Treasurer Christy Everman and City Engineer-Barry Burke.

Selection of City Clerk/Treasurer.

Mayor Solomon recommended to the group that Christina Everman be promoted to the position of City Clerk/Treasurer to fill the opening in the city staff. He noted she came highly recommended by staff members and had been serving the city in this role for several months on a temporary basis. Commissioner Dulaney moved to approve Municipal Order 2019-17 (text presented in legislation section) to appoint Christy Everman as City Clerk/Treasurer for the city. Commissioner Miller seconded that motion. **Motion approved 4-0.** Mayor Solomon also administered the oath of office to Clerk/Treasurer Everman.

Special Recognition.

Mayor Solomon recognized Margie Capek, Dan Capek and Kirk Hofman for their efforts in saving the life of Ray Decker on the evening of July 27, 2019. The group helped rescue Mr. Decker from a pool after he suffered a subdural hematoma following a dive into the pool. The trio performed life-saving measures until emergency services could arrive. Each was presented with a proclamation to recognize their efforts on behalf of the city.

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Solomon asked for approval of the September 3 meeting minutes. Engineer Burke requested three minor changes to the public works section related to the 2019 Road Repairs, to update some street information and some additional sidewalk and side drainage issues. Commissioner Dulaney moved to approve the September 3 meeting minutes with these changes. Commissioner Miller seconded that motion. **Motion approved 4-0.**

Financial Reports

Commissioner Miller presented the bills and noted that the city made \$1,869.01 in interest last month. He noted in just a few days more than \$77,000 had been collected in taxes, accounting for roughly 6% of the total amount of taxes owed to the city.

Commissioner Dulaney moved to approve the September expenditures and bills. Commissioner Ramage seconded that motion. **Motion approved 4-0.**

Mayor Comments

Mayor Solomon updated on the old Kroger building, noting that there had been no progress forward in the repairs needed to the western side of the outlots (where the liquor store had been previously located), nor had the parking lot been repaved as the city has requested. He has been in touch with Lisa Ammons, who indicated that Kroger is holding a meeting tomorrow to follow up, and he will continue to pursue this issue with Kroger management.

Public Comment

Mr. Ryan Riegler came forward to address the need for more sports fields in the City of Union. He is a coach with the Union Raiders football program and commented that there are several times when the team has no place to practice or limited places to practice because of the high demand for field time for both Ryle High School, Gray Middle school and other youth teams in the area. He asked the city to consider some type of public/private partnership to help develop more fields for use by teams inside the city. The Commission encouraged Mr. Riegler to bring this issue forward to Boone County Parks and also with the Boone County Fiscal Court, as he would like to utilize land at the Union Park are, and that land is owned by the county and managed by the park system.

Economic Development

Commissioner Ramage reported that the September meeting of the EDC was fairly short, and the group will be following up on the Gresham Smith report at the October meeting to begin to focus on the properties most suited for Town Center development.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Dulaney updated on the I71-75 Corridor enforcement program currently underway through cooperation of several law enforcement agencies, including the Boone and Kenton County Sheriff's Offices. The first phase of this enforcement drive saw the issuance of more than 100 tickets on the first day to drivers in the enforcement zone. This drive is designed to cut down on the number of traffic accidents in the area which contribute to long commute times into Cincinnati and other traffic issues in the enforcement area. He indicated that long-term data is needed to determine if this is successful, but funding has been provided to continue this program for up to two years.

Dulaney noted that KYTC District 6 continues slow and steady progress on Mt. Zion and that construction of the roadway should be done by end of 2019, but that the project will not be fully completed until 2020. Light

poles are going up in the Northern half of the project, and progress has been made on the Hathaway roundabout, with the possibility of it being open for the Ryle Homecoming parade.

City Engineer Burke updated on the bridge repair projects at Clarkston and Gunpowder. GSI was slated to begin on the project this week, but has been delayed by a project in Southwest Kentucky, and now are looking at a start date of October 14. He will continue to notify the city staff of the scheduling so residents can be informed of these projects. Each project will take one-to-two days with three-to-six hour work times. Both roads will remain open during the process.

The 2019 Street Repair program is nearly 100% complete. Burke also updated on a private cost sharing program with SD1 presented to the City Administrators group last month. This project allots \$75,000 across three counties in Northern Kentucky to help address private drainage issues with stormwater. Residents can apply for this program, but the City must complete the application as a co-permittee. Several commissioners along with City Administrator Plummer expressed concerns with this program, as it was presented after the budgeting process and no funds were allotted to participate in the program at City level, which requires the city to participate in the funding mechanism. Burke noted that SD1 is now presenting the program to citizens in the area without the City Approval, and he wanted the Commission to be aware of this situation if they were approached by a citizen interested in participating. The city does not have an active plan to be part of this program at this time.

Communications/Office Operations Report

Director Hinkle reported that the finale of the Union Food Truck series did not have the level of success they hoped for. Two trucks cancelled out of the event just two hours prior to the start, and the UK Football game scheduled at the same time seemed to draw many participants away. Those who attended did have a good experience and the planning group will be meeting in November to review the entire series and make changes to the 2020 program as needed.

Hinkle requested that the Commission approve 6-8 p.m. on October 31 as the official Trick-or-Treat times for the City of Union. Commissioner Ramage moved to approve this request. Commissioner Dulaney seconded.

Motion approved, 4-0.

City Administrator Report

Administrator Plummer asked the commission to review a proposal from Kentucky League of Cities to perform a visioning process for the City of Union, to help set up more long-range plans and goals for the city. This process will take a day, and will likely be held in February due to scheduling conflicts between commission members and the KLC staff who will conduct the exercise. Plummer will locate a venue most suited for this event and arrange for the necessary accommodations.

Plummer also notified the commission that the City will be receiving three portions of the current Mt. Zion Road from KYTC once the road construction is complete. These three sections must be renamed, and the name Old Mt. Zion road is not able to be utilized. Mayor Solomon said the Communications Committee has

already looked at this issue and has some recommendations to bring forward when the time comes to rename these roadways in 2020.

City Attorney Report

Attorney Voss updated that Elizabeth Barker has resigned from the Union/Walton Joint Code Enforcement Board, as she will be moving to Kenton County. Because the City of Union does not have a person to fill the position, the Mayor will contact Mayor Brown of Walton to see about placing a Walton resident into the City of Union position on his Board. In this way, the City of Union maintains this position as a City of Union position. Attorney Voss advised on the process to fill this position...both commissions must approve any appointment to the board.

Voss also clarified a portion of the City Administrators contract, noting that the reimbursement for health insurance covers a family plan, not an individual plan.

Attorney Voss also took an opportunity to thank the city and staff for their support of the 2019 Zachary Salmon Soldier Run. He noted the event was very successful, and the military members from the Unit enjoyed their meal and experience for the day.

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

Resolutions.

none

Municipal Orders

MUNICIPAL ORDER NO. 2019-15—A MUNICIPAL ORDER OF THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT AND APPROVING BRENT CALDWELL AS A NON-LAW ENFORCEMENT CITATION/CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER. Commissioner Miller moved to approve. Commissioner Ramage seconded. **Motion approved, 4-0.**

MUNICIPAL ORDER NO. 2019-16—A MUNICIPAL ORDER APPOINTING DAVID BAKER AS ACCOUNTANT/FINANCIAL ADVISOR FOR THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY. Commissioner Ramage moved to approve. Commissioner Miller seconded. **Motion approved, 4-0.**

MUNICIPAL ORDER NO. 2019-17—A MUNICIPAL ORDER APPOINTING CHRISTY EVERMAN AS CITY CLERK/TREASURER FOR THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY. Commissioner Dulaney moved to approve. Commissioner Miller seconded. **Motion approved, 4-0.**

Ordinances

none

Announcements

The next meeting of the commission will be Monday, November 4 at 6:30 pm at the City Building.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Dulaney and seconded by Commissioner Miller. **Motion carried 4-0.** Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Larry Solomon, Mayor

Christy Everman, City Clerk