

**CITY OF UNION  
Business Meeting  
February 3, 2020**

**Regular Business**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM on February 3, 2020 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 John Mefford, Commissioner Jeremy Ramage, Commissioner Eric Dulaney, Commissioner Bryan Miller, and Mayor Larry Solomon.

**Also present:**

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

**Approval of Minutes**

Mayor Solomon asked for approval of the January 6 meeting minutes. Commissioner Dulaney moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Mefford seconded that motion. **Motion approved 4-0**, with Commissioner Miller abstaining as he did not attend January 6 meeting.

**Financial Reports**

Commissioner Miller noted that the city made \$2250.03 in interest, bringing the year to date total to \$15,927.46. He also noted the large check for more than \$68,000 for the repairs to the Clarkston Street Bridge in the bills to pay.

Commissioner Ramage moved to approve the January expenditures and bills. Commissioner Mefford seconded that motion. **Motion approved 5-0.**

**Mayor Comments**

Mayor Solomon presented a proclamation recognizing National FBLA-PBL Week to representatives from the FBLA Chapters at Ryle and Cooper High Schools. Miss Phoebe Clark, a state officer from the Ryle Chapter gave a brief presentation on the group and their mission and purpose to the commission. Ms. Connie Witt, a State FBLA advisor also invited members of the commission to attend the upcoming Regional and State FBLA conventions at NKU and the Galt House in Louisville. She also invited members to participate as judges or mentors for various FBLA functions in the area.

**Citizen Comments**

Ms. Phyllis Myer of 9067 Royal Oak came forward to thank the commission for the streetlight approval at Fowlers Creek on Old US 42. Ms. Myer was informed that no approval for installation of the light had been

voted upon by the commission and no installation was scheduled. The request for a light is being evaluated for inclusion in the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year Budget by the Public Works Committee. The Commission told her that if the residents of Fowler Creek wished to have the light installed sooner, the HOA could arrange for installation and payment as a private matter.

### **Economic Development**

Commissioner Ramage noted that EDC did not meet in January. High Gloss Salon has opened a new business in the Kroger Outlots next to Pet People and Chipotle. Buffalo Wings and Rings is in the framing stages to the north of the Kroger Marketplace near the Pharmacy entrance.

### **Public Works Report**

Commissioner Dulaney noted that electrical crews are working along Mt. Zion, and connections have been completed to some of the traffic and other lighting structures, but work is not complete. Concrete work and work on the walking paths continues as weather permits. KYTC is now looking at sometime in March to potentially open the new intersection at US42, but no definite timetable has been established.

A speed study was presented for both Arbor Springs and Evensong areas where complaints of speeding had been presented by citizens. Both studies showed low presence of speeders and a low enforcement recommendation. The public works committee recommends no further action be taken at this time, but to encourage residents to call the Boone County Sheriff's Office to report speeders.

As part of this effort, Commissioner Dulaney developed a proposal for a speed hump policy for the City of Union. This proposal is designed to codify and streamline the process by which residents could request the construction of a speed hump in their neighborhood/street. Commissioner Miller requested that the policy possibly include the addition of radar or other speed notification signs to the list of potential remedies available to citizens, in addition to a speed hump, as an effort to reduce the city liability. Mayor Solomon commended Commissioner Dulaney on a thoroughly researched policy with well designed proposals. He recommended that the policy be renamed as a Traffic Calming policy, since more than just speed humps requests could be included. The Commission conducted a 5-0 oral vote to approve that Attorney Voss take this policy and develop it into a Municipal Order for the March meeting to codify the policy into city procedures.

Dulaney updated on the bridge repair projects at Clarkston and Gunpowder. Clarkston has been completed and awaiting inspection from KYTC. Work on Gunpowder was to begin late the prior week, but weather had delayed that project being started. Payment has been issued for the completed work on Clarkston, and the PWC and Engineer Burke will continue to monitor the remaining portions of the construction.

Damage to the guardrail at Wetherington Boulevard, and the fire hydrant have been repaired, and signage to better indicate the curvature of the road in the area has been installed by Boone County Sign Division in an effort to reduce the accidents occurring in the area. If the new signage is unsuccessful in deterring further damage, other methods may have to be considered at a later date to improve safety in the area.

Dulaney also noted that Boone County Urban Forestry Commission has moved forward to an RFP for the Mt. Zion corridor design. He is hopeful that the design can be incorporated into the reconstruction of the entrance for Rice Cemetery so costs can be shared. However, this work can not begin until the right-of-way has been released by KYTC to the City.

Commissioner Dulaney presented an issue with damage to the cul-de-sac at the end of Whispering Trail. The grass median has been damaged twice in two weeks by vehicles, one as intentional vandalism, and one as incidental damage from snow and ice removal. This area has been privately mowed by residents, and damage occurs often in the area. Commissioner Miller moved to remove the island to minimize maintenance and repair costs to the city. Commissioner Dulaney seconded. **Motion approved, 5-0.** Commissioner Mefford will draft correspondence to the residents in the area to inform them that this change will be made, weather permitting at a time where best costs and labor can be obtained by the city.

### **City Administrator Report**

Administrator Plummer presented a review of a proposed procedure to allow citizens to participate in the SD1 Cost Sharing Program. The City must apply with the citizen to this program as a Co-Permitee for the application for cost-reimbursement to the homeowner to be accepted. SD1 informed the city this morning that the proposed policy listed in the legislative section is “in conflict with their policy on in-kind services provided by the City, and that billing of these services can not be conducted as part of the policy”. Engineer Burke suggested as an alternative, a cap on the number of hours/costs of in-kind services provided by City Staff, so city expenses can be kept to a manageable amount. Commissioner Ramage and Commissioner Miller both expressed concerns about these costs and the concern of city liability should repairs not meet homeowner expectations. Commissioner Miller also questioned the use of government resources on private property, and feels this is not an appropriate pathway for government in general. The commission decided not to participate in the SD1 Cost Sharing Program.

Administrator Plummer also advised the group that Boone County Parks is working on a revision of their master plan for County Parks, and more information would be coming forward, including survey and public meeting opportunities to provide feedback.

Administrator Plummer also noted that work picking up trash along Old Union Road near Westbrook has been completed by the Boone County Sheriffs Work Camp. Several citizens have commented on the improvement in the area.

### **Communications/Office Operations Report**

Director Hinkle reminded the Commission that their W2 tax documentation is located in their cubicles in the commission room, and to please pick those up promptly.

Director Hinkle also brought forth a request from Boy Scout Troop 702 to utilize the corner of Old Union Road near Whispering Trails for the Worlds Longest Yard Sale in August. The commission granted permission to the

group, as long as required liability waver forms are signed and on file with city staff prior to the sale date. Hinkle will forward the required forms to the scout leader for their completion.

### **City Attorney Report**

Attorney Voss presented a book by Linda Patterson, "A Dove Among Eagles" recognizing several cities, including Union, for their support of the Armed Forces, and in particular, the Union Adopt-A-Unit. His wife, Kim, who coordinates the Adopt-A-Unit efforts was also mentioned in the book. The book is available for purchase online and through some booksellers in the area.

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

#### **Resolutions.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-01**—A RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE UNION CITY COMMISSION DECLARING THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY A SECOND AMENDMENT SANCTUARY CITY. Commissioner Dulaney moved to approve. Commissioner Miller seconded. **Motion approved, 5-0.**

#### **Municipal Orders**

**MUNICIPAL ORDER NO. 2020-02**—A MUNICIPAL ORDER AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF UNION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SANITATION DISTRICT 1 COST-SHARE PROGRAM AND TO SET THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF UNION RESIDENT(S) **No MOTION TO READ. Fails by lack of action or motion.**

#### **Ordinances**

**none**

#### **Announcements**

The next meeting of the commission will be Monday, March 2, 2020 at 6:30 pm at the City Building.

City offices will be closed on February 17 for President's Day.

#### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Mefford and seconded by Commissioner Ramage. **Motion carried 5-0.** Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

**ATTEST:**

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**Larry Solomon, Mayor**

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**Christy Everman, City Clerk**