

**CITY OF UNION  
Business Meeting  
February 5, 2018**

**Regular Business**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM on February 5, 2018 by Mayor Larry Solomon.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Solomon, along with Noah, a Cub Scout with Cub Pack 32, led all attendees in the pledge to the flag.

**Roll Call**

A quorum was present: Mayor Larry Solomon, Commissioner Bryan Miller, Commissioner Jeremy Ramage, and Commissioner Eric Dulaney. Commissioner John Mefford was not present.

**Also present:**

City Attorney-Greg Voss, Esq.

City Administrator-David Plummer

City Communications and Operations Director-Melissa Stark Hinkle

City Clerk Donna Wahoff

**Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Miller moved to approve the January 10 special business meeting. Commissioner Ramage seconded that motion. **Motion approved 3-0.**

**Financial Reports**

The Commission reviewed the Budget/Spend Comparison report from December 31, 2017 to January 31, 2018; and also reviewed bills for payment through January 31. Commissioner Miller inquired about flood insurance that has been budgeted for the upcoming year for the Union Community Building. As that building is no longer city property, city staff will follow up with the insurance company to ensure the policies are cancelled and any overpayment of premium is refunded. Commissioner Miller moved to approve the City's monthly financial statement in total. Commissioner Dulaney seconded. **Motion approved 3-0.**

**Mayoral Report**

Mayor Solomon updated on the old Kroger Location, and confirmed the plans to create a Click-List store at the location, owned and operated by Kroger. This new store will serve as a click-list hub for all area stores, and also provide a pick up location for Click-List orders in the area. It is anticipated that this store will create 40-50 new jobs in Union, and additionally, there will be improvements made to the parking lot area. The Kroger Fuel Center will remain open, and will be receiving \$200,000 worth of improvements, including new bathrooms, to serve as a stand-alone location. The Mayor shared a letter from the Boone County Planning Commission, granting permission to Kroger for this use, as a minor site plan revision. Kroger has not provided a timeline for construction or implementation of this new use, but it is anticipated to be mid-year. This Click-List only store

in Union is serving as a test market for the entire Kroger Company, much like the Kitchen 1883 restaurant has for the Kroger Corporation.

Solomon also updated on the Bourbon Tourism plan, also known as B-Line that is currently underway in Northern Kentucky. This plan is part of the Bourbon Trail Tourism initiative, and is designed to position Northern Kentucky as the “Gateway to the Bourbon Trail.” Solomon noted the importance of Union to this plan, with the nearby Boone County Distillery and the addition of the new Union 42 Bourbon and Brews bar open in downtown Union. Solomon, along with city staff members, will be meeting with representatives from the program to see how Union can be a part of the planning stages and how area businesses can be incorporated into the Bourbon Trail initiative.

Solomon also provided an update to the Mt. Zion Road Project. Weather permitting, construction will pick up significantly in the coming weeks. Unless something unforeseen is located; the utility relocations are complete. The contractor is currently completing a retaining wall near the lakes at Hempstead. Earthwork near Old Union Rd. will begin as weather permits. Material from that earthwork will be exported for roadway fills at the project on US 42 @ Rice / Hicks Pike. Storm sewer and waterline construction is expected to begin at the interstate end of the project, and at the 42 end of the project. Some minor traffic adjustments can be expected in early spring once weather is sufficient to allow paving. Overall, the pace of the project should be much faster moving forward without so many utility obstructions. As a reminder, everyone should be patient and watch for work crews and construction traffic in the work zone.

Mayor Solomon directed that no City Committee send any formal communications or requests to the State (Commonwealth of Kentucky), County, nor other City Government entities. All formal communications or requests shall come from the City Commission with the Mayor's signature.

### **Public Comment**

Several members of Boy Scout Troop 702 in Union and Cub Pack 32 were in attendance to meet requirements for various scout achievements. Several members of the cub troop came forward with questions for the Commission.

- One cub asked about the plans for development of areas in Union near the new Kroger location. Mayor Solomon answered with a brief description of the Union Town Plan and the history of the project. He also emphasized that the city is also keeping the idea of green space and public use facilities as a strong part of the planning process.
- A second cub asked about the bike paths along US 42 and the amount of trash in those paths. City staff advised that the paths are part of the state highway maintenance, and are typically cleaned yearly as part of the highway maintenance plan. However, debris being tracked into the paths as part of area construction projects can be addressed, and Mayor Solomon asked that city staff follow up with area contractors to ensure they are not adding unwanted debris and trash to biking areas. Commissioner Miller also pointed out that once spring arrives, the City landscaping staff will be mowing in the green spaces adjacent to the bike paths, and they do assist in picking up trash and clearing debris along the sidewalks and bike paths.

- Mayor Solomon also advised that the new Mt. Zion project will include expanded bike paths along the new highway, and they will have additional sidewalk area as well to encourage more citizen activity along the route and increase pedestrian and biker safety.

David Martin of Hebron addressed the Commission. Mr. Martin is running for Boone County Clerk of Courts in the upcoming primary election. Mr. Martin had previously served as the Union's City Administrator in 2015. He provided the Commission with a brief overview of his credentials and campaign announcement release. He also addressed a couple of questions regarding his campaign from the cub scouts in attendance.

### **Boone County Planning Update**

Commissioner Ramage said that he expects the parcel of land in front of the Kroger Fuel Center adjacent to US 42 will be developed into a Panera Bread location, and that he expects the recommendations from the Boone County Planning Commission regarding that potential development to be before the commission on March 8. He announced that the next meeting of the Economic Development Committee will be on February 21<sup>st</sup> at 6 p.m. at the Union City Building.

### **Public Works**

Commissioner Dulaney reported that the work to install a guardrail on Wetherington Boulevard has been completed. He also reported that several pot holes, in Lassing Green, Whispering Trails and near Ryle High School have been filled by Ground Systems for the City. He also reported that the Comprehensive Improvement Plan (CIP) will be updated in March and that he, CAO Plummer and Engineer Burke will conduct their annual review of city streets and road inspection in early March, once Burke returns from vacation in Florida.

### **Office Administration Report/Communications Report**

Director Hinkle updated the commission that the annual city Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. Due to the sale of the Union Community Building, this year's hunt will be held at Union Presbyterian Church, and thanked Rev. Lisa Stenner for working with the city to provide this location for city use. Overflow parking is hoped to be arranged with St. Timothy's if needed for the event.

Union Celebrates America is set for Friday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, and will be held at the same location as last year. She thanked DelMonde, Inc. and Mr. Steve Lackman for agreeing to host the event for the city at the former Community Building for one more year. She reported that all but one vendor from 2017 have been confirmed for 2018, and that the band and fireworks have also been arranged and the permit applications have been submitted to the Transportation Cabinet for approval.

Hinkle also brought forth a request to purchase a new computer and provide transitional support for the Office Assistant Christy Everman. Her current computer is suffering a hardware failure and has been evaluated by NKOL and was determined by them as not to be recommended for repair. She also requested additional monies to upgrade the QuickBooks software to a more current version. The version currently in use is not supported by the company, and is not compatible with the auditing software used by the auditing firm

or the City Treasurer. Commissioner Dulaney moved to authorize these expenditures. Commissioner Ramage seconded. **Motion Passed, 3-0.**

### **City Administrator Report**

Administrator Plummer advised that the sale of the Community Building was finalized on February 1, and the closing and money transfer has been completed. The building was sold to DelMonde, Inc. He recognized Director Hinkle for her efforts in cleaning out the remaining items and trash from the center, and recommended she receive a commendation in her personnel file for efforts above the normal call of duty.

### **City Attorney Report**

Attorney Voss had no report.

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

#### **Resolutions.**

No resolutions to be read this month.

#### **Municipal Orders**

No municipal orders to be read this month.

#### **Ordinances**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2017-22**—AN ORDINANCE BY THE CITY OF UNION TO OVERRIDE THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOONE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION CONCERNING A ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT TO SECTION 2513 CONDITIONAL USES AND CRITERIA. Commissioner Dulaney moved to approve, Miller Seconded. **Motion approved 4-0 with Solomon voting aye.**

**ORDINANCE 2018-01**--AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AND ENACTING THE COMPREHENSIVE PAY PLAN FOR THE NON-ELECTED CITY OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH KRS 83A.070(2). Commissioner Miller moved to approve, Dulaney Seconded. **Motion approved 4-0 with Solomon voting aye.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2018-02**---AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE CREATION OF THE POSITION OF MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN FOR THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY SPECIFYING POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE POSITION. Commissioner Dulaney moved to approve, Ramage Seconded. **Motion approved 4-0 with Solomon voting aye.**

#### **Announcements:**

Mayor Solomon announced that he would be out of town on February 19-20 and asked that Commissioner Miller serve as Mayor Pro Tem.

The March meeting of the Commission will be on Monday, March 5, 2018 at 7 p.m.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Miller, and seconded by Commissioner Dulaney. **Motion approved 3-0.** Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

**ATTEST:**

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**Larry Solomon, Mayor**

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**Donna Wahoff, City Clerk**