

**CITY OF UNION**  
**Special Business Meeting**  
**May 6, 2019**

**Regular Business**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM on May 6, 2019 by Mayor Larry Solomon. Of note, this meeting was held at the Union Fire Protection District due to renovations to the Union City Building.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**Roll Call**

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

**Also present:**

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

**Special Presentation**

Mayor Solomon read a proclamation recognizing the Gray Middle School Gator Cheerleading Squad on their recent NACAM National Championship. Each member of the team was presented copies of the proclamation after a brief photo session.

Mayor Solomon also read a proclamation recognizing the Gray Middle School Gator Archery Team on their recent Kentucky Middle School State Championship. Each member of the team was presented copies of the proclamation after a second brief photo session.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mayor Solomon asked for approval of the April 1 meeting minutes. Commissioner Mefford moved to approve the April 1 meeting minutes. Commissioner Miller seconded that motion. **Motion approved 4-0.**

**Financial Reports**

Commissioner Miller gave an overview of the monthly budget. Miller noted that the city is on target for their budgeted spending through the end of the year and that city staff had been able to collect more than 50,000 in back and delinquent taxes this year. He also noted that the city has earned \$27,643 in interest on their accounts this year. He also noted that he and Administrator Plummer are in a review with Duke Energy of the 417 lights in the city to determine any cost savings for those lights and to ensure all lighting is being properly billed to the appropriate entities.

The Commission reviewed the Budget/Spend Comparison report from through April 30, 2019; and also reviewed bills for payment through April 30. Commissioner Dulaney moved to approve the City's monthly financial statement in total. Commissioner Mefford seconded. **Motion approved 4-0.**

### **Citizen Comments**

Two Boy Scouts with Troop 805 (St. Timothy's) came forward and asked a brief question regarding the city budget as part of their work with the Citizen and the Community Merit Badge.

### **Mayor Comments**

Mayor Solomon noted that Commissioner Dulaney would be attending the May 9<sup>th</sup> Tri-Ed Luncheon as a representative of the city. He reviewed the budget presentation by the Boone County Planning Commission at the recent Judge and 3 Mayors meeting. The budget process went smoothly, and funding is again according to the agreed upon schedule of the group. He did note that BCPC will be investing heavily this year in expanding their GIS services throughout the county.

The Mayor also reviewed a proposal currently before the county to enact inspections and registration fees for Golf Carts. Attorney Voss informed the group that HB154 at the state would allow for the local regulation of golf carts and their use. This bill has been a priority primarily of delivery services like Amazon and UPS, who utilize golf carts as a cost-effective and eco-friendly way to deliver packages in subdivisions. The city can enact such provisions, but the group agreed to take a wait-and-see approach to see if Boone County takes action on the item first.

Finally, Mayor Solomon advised the group that the Florence Mall had sold to a new management company, Brookfield Industries. He had no further information on how the sale would affect the mall and its current operation.

### **Economic Development**

In the absence of Commissioner Ramage, Administrator Plummer provided the update for EDC. The Gresham Smith report is due to be finalized in the coming week, with draft copies provided to the EDC and commission for comment. The document draft was 74 pages, and many comments had been provided as feedback to the draft. Plummer reminded the group to submit any final comments on the draft copy to him so he can get those to Gresham Smith for the final copy. The second phase of the project, the review of potential Town Center sites is now underway as well. Plummer also noted that Glamour Nails, Sugarfire and Orange Theory Fitness are all open at the Kroger outlots, and that Dominoes, Pet People, and Chipolte are currently under-construction in the tenant finish stages. He also noted that Buffalo Wings and Rings has also submitted site plans to the Boone County Planning Commission for approval.

## **Public Works Report**

Commissioner Dulaney updated that work is underway on the Fowler's Creek sidewalk project and that most of the work on the Northern side has been done. Dulaney also advised that the repaving of Glenfield Court, which was delayed by the early onset of winter weather last year, should be completed by the end of the month, and that the resurfacing of Double Eagle Drive by Ryle High School has been completed. He noted that the city was able to partner with Boone County in this effort to save costs in mobilization and to utilize a cheaper rate per ton of asphalt through the county.

Engineer Burke presented the bid documents for approval to submit to interested parties for bid for the 2019 Street Repairs Project for the City of Union. He noted that there would be a couple of extra work items that would be added to this list that were brought to the city's attention in the last week, but that the documents were ready for presentation. The commission approved letting the project to Bid. The bids will be due to the city on May 28<sup>th</sup>, prior to the scheduled Public Works Committee meeting.

Engineer Burke also reviewed a couple of local projects that were completed by homeowners in the public right of way without receiving the proper Encroachment Permits from the city. Burke emphasized the importance of these permit processes, and noted that these permits are issued without any cost to the homeowner. Without these permits, the city can not be sure the work is done up to acceptable public standards, and if the workmanship is inferior, or the work fails, the city should expect the homeowner who performed the unpermitted work to bear the costs of repairs at 100 percent to bring the items to acceptable public standard. City staff will continue to work with residents to ensure they understand the permitting process and follow the proper procedures.

## **City Administrator Report**

Administrator Plummer reported that the work in the renovation of the City Building is on or perhaps slightly ahead of schedule. He noted that drywall is done and all carpet has been selected for the new areas. He also noted that city staff members selected the wall colors for the new areas to be painted.

## **Communications/Office Operations Report**

Director Hinkle noted that 99 children registered at the Easter Egg Hunt, but that 501 had RSVP'd to the event prior to the day of the hunt. It was suspected that the heavy rain in the region accounted for the decline in attendance, as the hunt had to be held indoors because of weather conditions.

Hinkle announced that the 2019 Union Celebrates America will be held at St. Timothy's Catholic Church this year, moving from the previous location at the old Fire House. This new venue has adequate lighting, power and water needs and should allow for the event to grow slightly this year. With this new location, the Parade will also be adjusted, and moved to follow the Ryle Homecoming route, starting on Old Union Road, up Mt. Zion and down US42 to Double Eagle. This shorter route should also allow the parade to run more efficiently, and allow for better traffic flow and provide less disruption to businesses in the Kroger area.

Hinkle also announced that Union will hold a Food Truck Pop Up Series this year at the Union Park (former Union Pool), in collaboration with Boone County Parks and Cincinnati Food Truck Association. Starting May 29<sup>th</sup>, and occurring every other Wednesday until September 18<sup>th</sup>, three to five food trucks will set up at the Union Park from 5:30-8:30 to serve food. There will also be two larger Kick Off and Finale Events on Saturdays in June and September, with entertainment and music to enhance the event. The events have already received a very strong response on social media, so it is hoped they will serve to revitalize the Union Park area.

Hinkle is also working on a Union Business Mixer on May 20<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:30 at Union 42 Bourbon and Brew. This event will allow local business owners to come together to network, talk with city officials and learn more about the Union Town Center in a relaxed environment.

### **City Attorney Report**

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

##### Resolutions.

none

##### Municipal Orders

**MUNICIPAL ORDER NO. 2019-10** -- A MUNICIPAL ORDER ACCEPTING THE CONTRACT OF RUMPKE OF KENTUCKY, INC. TO PROVIDE SOLID WASTE AND CURBSIDE RECYCLING COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL SERVICES AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT. Commissioner Miller moved to approve. Commissioner Dulaney seconded. **Motion passed, 4-0.**

##### Ordinances

**ORDINANCE NO. 2019-01**- AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A PORTION OF THE MODEL PROCUREMENT CODE SET FORTH IN KRS 45A.345 TO KRS 45A.460. Commissioner Dulaney moved to approve. Commissioner Mefford seconded. **Motion passed, 4-0.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2019-02** - AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AN ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2019 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2020 BY ESTIMATING REVENUES AND RESOURCES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF CITY GOVERNMENT FOR THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY. *First Reading*

Commissioner Miller noted that this budget proposal included a \$44,000 increase in trash services in the new Rumpke contract; three major projects (the Fowler's Creek Sidewalk, Clarkson Street Bridge Repair, Gunpowder Greens Bridge Repair) for \$180,000 and that the city would be in a deficit funding of \$187,672 for the year, due to these unanticipated expenses, primarily for the large infrastructure needs.

Mayor Solomon noted that the city would continue to work with Representative Sal Santoro to try to obtain funds from the state to help relieve the bridge repair costs, but that these funds were unlikely to be obtained and that the city would be responsible for the repairs.

**Announcements**

The Municipal Road Aid and Cole and Mineral Fund Hearings will be held on June 3, at the Union Fire Protection District. These hearings are required by statute.

The next scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, June 3, 2019 at 6:30 PM at the Union Fire Protection District. This will be a special meeting, because it is not being held at the City Building. Commissioner Mefford will be running this meeting as the Mayor will be out of town.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Dulaney and seconded by Commissioner Miller. **Motion carried 4-0.** Meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

**ATTEST:**

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**Larry Solomon, Mayor**

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**Melissa Hinkle, Interim City Clerk**