

**CITY OF UNION
Business Meeting
August 5, 2019**

Regular Business

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM on August 5, 2019 by Mayor Pro Tem John Mefford.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Pro Tem Mefford led all attendees in the pledge to the flag.

Roll Call

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

Also present:

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

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Mefford asked for approval of the July 10 meeting minutes. Engineer Burke requested that a change be made to the public works portion from Arbor Springs to the Harmony Subdivision in the portion of the minutes addressing the Boone County Public Works Sign Study. Commissioner Miller moved to approve the July 10 meeting minutes with this change. Commissioner Ramage seconded that motion. **Motion approved 4-0.**

Citizen Comments

Mr. Warren Walker of the Community and Government Relations department at Duke Energy addressed the commission. Mr. Walker is in charge of government relations for Boone/Kenton Counties in Kentucky and Hamilton County in Ohio. Commissioner Miller inquired about the City being able to receive a summary billing, in order to eliminate the need for writing separate checks for the 6-8 separate bills the city receives each month. Mr. Walker indicated that he would work on getting these bills grouped into a single billing statement to increase staff efficiency and reduce paperwork costs. Miller also inquired about getting a count of the number of street light poles the City is responsible for the costs on. Duke staff noted there were 166 poles in Union, but not all of those poles may be in the city limits, and they would conduct a light survey to determine which poles are within the city jurisdiction. Miller also inquired about the costs to convert existing lighting to LED, and it was noted that the lights would need new fixtures and controllers to convert to LED operation, but that Duke would work on a proposal for a conversion to LED so the city can lower lighting costs. Miller also inquired about the status of the new light at the corner of US42 and Rice Pike. Administrator Plummer said that the light costs have submitted to the city, and will need approval by the group, with \$1500 for the light and \$6400 for a new transformer to operate the light. Once payment is received by Duke, work will move forward with the installation of the light.

Mr. Walker and his staff also updated on some upgrade projects that Duke will be conducting in the area. On Mt. Zion, to the East toward the Railroad tracks at Dixie Highway, Duke will be relocating and reallocating some lines to improve and upgrade the transmission grid in the area. Similar work will also take place in the same area but adjacent to the Richwood exit further South. These projects will take approximately 30 days, and while customers will not see an interruption in service, there will be work vehicles and cranes in those areas which will require traffic redirection and delays. Those delays may impact traffic flow in Union, particularly along the eastern portions of Mt. Zion Road.

No other citizens came forward with comment.

Financial Reports

Commissioner Miller noted the city made \$2990.00 in interest last month, due in the increase in the interest rate at the Federal Reserve. This amount is double the amount earned in interest for the same period last year. Miller also drew attention to two large payments made this month-the quarterly payment for Trash Services to Rumpke and the \$57,000 payment to Boone County Fiscal Court for the city's share of the Fowler Creek Sidewalk Project. Commissioner Miller moved to approve the June expenditures and bills. Commissioner Dulaney seconded that motion. **Motion approved 4-0.**

Mayor Comments

There was no report from Mayor Solomon nor Mayor Pro Tem Mefford.

Economic Development

Commissioner Ramage reported of the Phase 2 from Gresham Smith is complete and has been presented to the EDC and the changes are being incorporated in to final form, but otherwise it has been a quite month for EDC. The City will also hold another business owner mixer on Monday, August 12 at Union 42 Bourbon and Brew, and already many RSVPs have been received to attend.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Dulaney invited the group to attend a Lunch and Learn session hosted by SD1 on September 1 which will focus on stormwater issues. This luncheon is open to the public.

Dulaney noted that KYTC District 6 has said traffic will be diverted to the "new" portions of Mt. Zion Road so work can begin on the "old" portions to bring them up to the new road standard. This switch is expected to take place next week, and traffic will be diverted to the new roadway. The speed limit will remain in place throughout the construction zone. The new multi-use walking paths are also slated to open when the traffic is switched over.

Work continues on the 2019 Street Repair program with Michaels beginning work on Braxton Road and Whispering Trails. Dulaney also noted that there are two items of legislation to authorize and accept the contracts of GSI for work on the Gunpowder and Clarkston Road bridges.

City Engineer Burke and Dulaney also brought forth a request to authorize tree trimming along Old Union Road to resolve sightline issues near the Fowler Creek Subdivision. Overgrowth of trees and bushes in that area has reduced the needed sightlines for safety for drivers trying to exit onto Old Union Road. Because some of the work needed to achieve removal to adequate safety standards would be on private property owned by the Fowler's Creek Subdivision, permission would need to be obtained to enter this property area to abate the issue. Noreene Morgan, president of the Fowler's Creek HOA was present at the meeting and indicated the HOA would provide the letter to the city to permit this work on their property. The quote to remove these items is \$2900.00 from A&A. Commissioner Dulaney moved to accept the proposal to remediate the sightline issues. Commissioner Ramage seconded. **Motion approved, 4-0.**

Commissioner Miller moved to authorize the expenditure of up to \$3500.00 for the installation of the light at Rice Pike/US42. Commissioner Dulaney seconded. **Motion approved, 4-0.**

Commissioner Dulaney also reported on the city building parking lot project. This project will be delayed, as projected costs are more than \$30,000, and at this amount would require a public bid. Rising labor and asphalt costs are driving up the prices for work, and it is hope that the market may be better in spring. Also, with winter approaching, the asphalt plants will close soon and the work might not be able to be completed before they close. Dr. Turner (who purchased the property next to the City Building) has not finalized his parking lot plans for his planned business development. It is best that we wait to see his plans before finalizing this project.

Engineer Burke reported on the Harmony Subdivision sign review, which is being conducted by the Boone County Sign Division. They are currently reviewing signage to determine compliance with the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) and with city ordinances.

City Administrator Report

Administrator Plummer had no report.

Communications/Office Operations Report

Administrator Plummer reported in the absence of Director Hinkle. Celebrate America-still continuing to work on plans for UCA 2020 and will continue to update as more information is available

Breakfast with Santa will be December 7, 2019 at Union Fire. Santa is confirmed, and the city is already planning the event.

The next food truck event is Wednesday, August 7, with six trucks. The last event had approximately 300 attendees taking advantage of absolutely perfect weather. The city is working with parks on plans for the big Finale Event on Saturday, September 28.

The Union Business Mixer is on Monday, August 12, with 30 confirmed attendees. Still working on plans for one in October/November as well. Hinkle and Plummer are also still coordinating with KLC for a commission retreat this fall to work on city vision and values.

City Attorney Report

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

Resolutions.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-07--A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR FOR THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT BETWEEN GEOSTABILIZATION, INTERNATIONAL AND THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY FOR THE WEST ABUTMENT STABILIZATION NEAR 2070 CLARKSTON LANE BRIDGE OVER FOWLERS CREEK. Commissioner Miller moved to approve. Commissioner Dulaney seconded. **Motion passed, 4-0.**

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-08-- A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR FOR THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT BETWEEN GEOSTABILIZATION, INTERNATIONAL AND THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY FOR THE CENTER PIER STABILIZATION AT CHURCHILL DRIVE BRIDGE OVER GUNPOWDER CREEK. Commissioner Dulaney moved to approve. Commissioner Ramage seconded. **Motion passed, 4-0.**

Municipal Orders

none

Ordinances

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-10--AN ORDINANCE LEVYING AND FIXING THE TAX RATES OF THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY, FOR THE 2018 CALENDAR YEAR; LEVYING SAID TAX UPON REALANDTANGIBLE PROPERTY; FIXINGTHE DATE OFPAYMENT, DISCOUNT PAYMENT, DELINQUENCY AND INTEREST CHARGES; FIXING THE PURPOSE THEREFORE; AND SETTING FORTH THE PROCEDURE FOR COLLECTION OF TAXES. Commissioner Dulaney moved to approve. Commissioner Ramage seconded. **Motion passed, 4-0.**

Announcements

The Boone County Fair continues this week through Sunday. The Boone County Senior Picnic will be held at the Fairgrounds on September 11, and tickets are available for sale at the Union City Building during normal business hours.

Because of the Labor Day Holiday, the next meeting of the Union City Commission will be rescheduled. After a review of calendars, Commissioner Miller moved to set Tuesday, September 3 as a Special Meeting Date for the Union City Commission. Commissioner Dulaney seconded. **Motion passed, 4-0.**

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Dulaney and seconded by Commissioner Ramage. **Motion carried 4-0.** Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Larry Solomon, Mayor

Melissa Hinkle, Interim City Clerk