

**CITY OF UNION**  
**Special Business Meeting**  
**November 4, 2019**

**Regular Business**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM on November 4, 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 John Mefford, Commissioner Bryan Miller, Commissioner Eric Dulaney, Commissioner Jeremy Ramage and Mayor Larry Solomon.

**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.

**Citizen Comments**

Ms. Fran Cheser of 9004 Royal Oak Lane came forward with a petition signed by residents of the Fowlers Creek Subdivision to request a street light near the new sidewalk on Old Union Road. She noted that the area is dark, and with the winter months, makes it more difficult to walk safely. Mayor Solomon accepted the petition on behalf of the commission and directed the Public Works Committee to look at the situation and bring forth recommendations to the group for next steps.

Adam Cheney of SD1 presented a power point presentation on a new program for a Cost-Share Program to address stormwater issues on private property. The city would need to apply on behalf of the residents to the program as a co-permittee under the agreements with SD1. Commission members asked several questions about the funding of the program, how the program would be administered and how long the program might last. Currently the program has \$75,000 in yearly funding, which covers approved projects in three counties (Boone, Campbell, Kenton). When the funding is exhausted, the program concludes until more money would be allocated in a new budget cycle. Cheney anticipates the program will continue multiple years, but that would be dependent on funding being allocated by the board of SD1 for the program during budget planning.

Mr. Tim Lippert of 10547 Mountain Laurel Way has a drainage issue on his property, and on an adjoining neighbors property to the rear of their homes that he would like to utilize this program to address at an approximate cost of \$6,000. He said this problem began on his property in approximately 2017 when work was done on US42, but Mr. Cheney cautioned that it is difficult to prove causation on drainage issues, due to the variety of factors that can be involved in controlling stormwater and groundwater.

The commission will review the SD1 proposal and city staff will bring forth a plan to implement an application and approval program with the city for residents to apply to this Cost-Share Program. Commissioner Dulaney

noted that no funding had been allocated for this program during the budget cycle. The Commission will review the staff proposal at a future meeting and determine what level, if any, the city will participate in the program with SD1 and residents.

Mr. David Martin, Boone County Clerk of Courts, came forward to update the commission on the Real ID program being implemented by the Commonwealth of Kentucky. This program is to bring the state into compliance with Federal Laws regarding the issuance of identification which meets Federal Standards for airline travel and admission to federal installations, such as military bases. Currently Kentucky is in non-compliance, and Kentucky Drivers Licenses will not be allowed to be used for air travel and federal access after October 1, 2020. The program is still in development, and has been plagued by a number of issues including computer and hardware issues and staffing at the local levels to implement the program. Currently, the state is looking into establishing regional offices to comply with the program and these offices would be responsible for issuing the Real ID program. Mr. Martin is advocating for Boone County to be the location of one of these offices, and noted that it was likely that there would be also on in Campbell or Kenton County, with Covington being a likely site. He also recommended that those who travel frequently consider applying for a US Passport, as those are acceptable for access for both airline travel and Federal access to secured facilities.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Mayor Solomon asked for approval of the October 7 meeting minutes. Commissioner Miller moved to approve the October 7 meeting minutes. Commissioner Dulaney seconded that motion. **Motion approved 5-0.**

### **Financial Reports**

Commissioner Miller presented the bills and noted that the city made 2, 278.00 in interest last month and has made 9,070.00 in interest this fiscal year. This number is down slightly, due to the decrease in the federal rate. He also noted that 90% of city property taxes have been collected so far this year and 89% of the tangible bills have also been paid. Miller did inquire about a bill for service fees submitted by Attorney Voss. Voss explained that these fees are related to the city action of foreclosure on the Willis property, and that multiple services are required because several co-applicants and defendants are out of state and each must be served notice on the action when changes or motions are made.

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

### **Mayor Comments**

Mayor Solomon had no updates.

### **Economic Development**

Commissioner Ramage noted that the last EDC meeting focused on feedback on the Gresham-Smith report and they are in the process of bringing that feedback to Gresham Smith for incorporation in to the final report. He noted that the commission will be moving forward with a KLC-guided Visioning session in February, and

he would like to have EDC review the results of that session to incorporate relevant items into their goals and direction for 2020-2021.

### **Public Works Report**

Commissioner Dulaney reported that the guardrail on Wetherington Boulevard had again been damaged by a car accident. Administrator Plummer is in conversation with Boone County Sheriffs Office to obtain a copy of the police report and file with insurance for the necessary repairs. A discussion was held about other potential ideas to address speed in this area to help eliminate the high number of vehicular accidents. Administrator Plummer was tasked with looking into a flashing speed indicator light system that other area communities are using (Fort Thomas, Edgewood) to advise motorists of their speed and to help them slow down. He will report on his findings in a future meeting.

Dulaney noted that work is picking up on Mt. Zion road and that KYTC has said they intend to have traffic on the new road from Gunpowder to Old Union Road by the end of 2020. A new light at the new intersection is planned to be operational by Thanksgiving, and it will flash yellow for a few weeks to get motorists ready for the change. Once that is complete, the light at the current intersection of 42 and Mt. Zion will be shut off and the new light will become fully functional. Other work along the corridor includes new driveways for those homeowners on the North side who will have new access to the area. KYTC is hopeful to get this also completed by the start of winter weather, so these areas will be easier to have snow and ice removal.

Engineer Burke noted that there is a little work remaining on the 2019 Street Repairs program, primarily some extra work items of potholes and pavement repair that were additionally added after the bid process. He noted that work would begin at 7:30 AM on November 5 on the repair of the bridges at Clarkston and by the end of the week to the Churchill Drive bridges. Those repairs should take 7-10 working days, and signage has been placed to notify citizens of the work. Director Hinkle also noted that notifications have been placed on the website and social media as well, and she contacted Boone County Schools to also let them know of the work. The bridges will remain open, but lane closures will be necessary to complete the work.

Administrator Plummer reported that he is waiting on an estimate of costs from Boone County Public Works to replace all of the signage in Hempsteade to the blue signs used by the City of Union. He will report to the commission when those costs are made available. Plummer also noted that he and Commissioner Miller were reviewing the information provided by Duke Energy regarding the streetlights and power usage in the City of Union. They had several questions regarding the data and requested a follow up meeting with Duke to clarify these issues. They will report their findings to the commission once their review is complete.

### **City Administrator Report**

Administrator Plummer had only one item, the SD1 Cost-Sharing program which was covered earlier in the meeting and had no further report.

## **Communications/Office Operations Report**

Director Hinkle brought the commission a request from Boone County to waive the ABC Licensing fee for Lassing Pointe Golf Course. The City has traditionally waived this fee as part of inter-governmental process. Commissioner Ramage asked how much the fee is. Hinkle said it is approximately \$1800 per year. The commission conducted a voice-vote for this approval, and it **passed 5-0**.

Hinkle reminded the group that the city will hold a ribbon cutting ceremony for BenchMark Physical Therapy in the Kroger outlot building. This event will be at 10 a.m. on November 5. Commissioner Dulaney and Mayor Solomon plan to attend.

## **City Attorney Report**

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

#### *Resolutions.*

**RESOLUTION NO. 2019-18**—A RESOLUTION CONSENTING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF BEN DETRAZ TO FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF ADAM CROWEAK AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE UNION/WALTON JOINT CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD TO SERVE THE REMAINDER OF HIS TERM THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020.

Commissioner Ramage moved to approve. Commissioner Miller seconded. **Motion approved, 5-0.**

#### *Municipal Orders*

**MUNICIPAL ORDER NO. 2019-17**—A MUNICIPAL ORDER APPOINTING ADAM CROWEAK TO SERVE ON THE UNION/WALTON JOINT CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD. Commissioner Mefford moved to approve. Commissioner Dulaney seconded. **Motion approved, 5-0.**

#### *Ordinances*

**none**

#### **Announcements**

The next meeting of the commission will be Monday, December 2 at 6:30 pm at the City Building. Director Hinkle also noted that the city will hold the annual staff/officials Christmas party on Friday, December 6 at 6:30 p.m. and that Breakfast with Santa will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, December 7 at the Union Fire Protection District.

#### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Mefford and seconded by Commissioner Miller. **Motion carried 5-0.** Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

**ATTEST:**

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**Larry Solomon, Mayor**

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**Christy Everman, City Clerk**