

**CITY OF UNION
Business Meeting
March 2, 2020**

Regular Business

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM on March 2, 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 Clerk Christy Everman.

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Solomon asked for approval of the February 3 and February 8 Special Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Miller moved to approve both sets of minutes. Commissioner Mefford seconded that motion. **Motion approved 5-0.**

Financial Reports

Commissioner Miller reported that the city earned \$1946.32 in interest and a total of \$17,873.78 for the year. There were no questions regarding any of the financial reports.

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

Citizen Comments

Mr. Steve Harper presented an update on the Boone County Planning Commission business of late. He noted there were no items in the Union city limits at the BCPC last month, but updated that two restaurants will be locating in the lot next to the new Starbucks location on US 42. One will be a Jimmy Johns, while the other will be determined. There was a petition for a new Cellular Tower on Turkeyfoot road. This application was rejected by the BCPC. There will be a new hotel building next to the Meijers in Florence and a Duluth Trading Center will begin construction in a lot located behind Meijers and near the Interstate. A new Mobility Apparatus store is also under construction in Florence.

Ms. Erin Kendric Peabody with the US Census Bureau gave a brief presentation on the Census 2020. The Census will go live on March 12, and invitations to participate will be delivered via US Mail to residents to participate in the 2020 Census by completing their information through the online interface. She gave a brief

overview of the entire 2020 Census schedule, including the dates when workers will go out to assist those residents who need assistance or who have not filled out the census form; efforts from the local Complete Count Committee to promote and raise awareness of the Census; information on the funding and other government services, including congressional representation, tied to the Census; and information on temporary employment as a Census worker that is available to all residents. She answered questions regarding the Census data and Census security as well.

Noreen Morgan of Royal Oak Lane requested an update on the request for the installation of a streetlight near Royal Oak Lane and Old Union Road. The Mayor informed her that the light would be included in the next budget request, but may be installed sooner if the weather remains good and there are surplus funds left in the snow and ice removal fund.

Josh Bass, a member of Boy Scout Troop 702, introduced himself and informed the commission he was working on his Citizen and the Community Badge.

Mayor Comments

Mayor Solomon updated that he would be participating in the Erpenbeck Elementary Read-A-Thon on March 3, and would be reading to the second grade class there. He also showed members the sample of a payment drop box for County Taxes. Boone County Clerk Justin Criegler has ask that the City consider installation of such a box to provide a location for local tax payments in Union. The commission indicated being in favor of the request and it should be incorporated into the renovation and addition of the City Building parking lot project.

Mayor Solomon updated the group on the KLC Visioning Retreat on Feb. 8, 2020. He noted that it was a very productive session and that the Commission is planning a second one in the near future to work on other goals and objectives for the City. He noted that the group had adopted a set of value statements (see below) and outlined those for the group. He went onto say that these Community Values and Value Statement will be posted onto the city's website for comment. The Commission will vote to finalize the City of Union Community Values and Value Statement at the next Commission meeting.

Community Values

- Family oriented
- Fiscally responsible
- Managed growth
- Citizen centric

We value a city that is clean and safe, a unique place for **families** to come together and opportunities for all who desire a great quality of life.

We believe in being **fiscally responsible** of tax dollars by allocating our resources efficiently and effectively for the citizens of Union.

We are committed to **managing growth** that balances development and quality of life, making it a desirable place to live, work and raise a family.

We strive to put the interests of our **citizens first**, providing consistent, quality service in a timely and efficient manner.

Values Statement

As elected leaders of the City of Union, we strive to be fiscally responsible as we manage growth of the city. We put the best interest of our citizens first with the aim of providing a unique place to come together and for a great quality of life.

Economic Development

Commissioner Ramage noted the Torres Mexican Steakhouse was going to open in the old Graeters/Henderson Piano's building on US 42, technically in the Florence city limits, but next to Union. He then went onto say the EDC Team would have a meeting on March 18 and had no other updates to share.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Dulaney noted that the work on Mt. Zion has continued, but has been limited by winter weather and rains. The intersection at US 42 and new Mt. Zion road has seen work, and the power has been moved to aid in the transition to the new traffic pattern. Once traffic is switched to the new pattern, the old Mt. Zion at US42 will move to a "right in-right out" turn pattern only, with median work to aid in that transition. KYTC District 6 has indicated they will switch traffic to the completed new portion of the road at Gunpowder, but that a firm date for that switch has not been given. With the asphalt plants closed for winter, paving work waits until weather improves and they open for the season.

There was a landslide on a portion of the new road at Hathaway, and this will require the construction of a retaining wall and other measures to shore up the landscape adjacent to the roadway there before further work on that portion can continue. There is also a leaning utility pole near the round about on Old Union Road that has hindered progress in that area. KYTC wants the pole repaired or replaced before work continues in the interest of worker and roadway safety.

The Capital Improvement Plan for the Union roads has been completed, with on-site review by the Public Works team. This program will be presented in full at the April Commission meeting.

Commissioner Delaney concluded by saying the initial reading of city's Traffic Calming policy will be read tonight. The second reading and Commission voter will be addressed in the legislation section of the next Commission meeting.

City Administrator Report

Administrator Plummer presented quotations for the improvement and expansion of the parking lot at the City Building. He recommended the acceptance of the quote of Palmer Paving in the amount of \$29,450 for paving work and for Seco Electric to light the lot in the amount of \$9,985. Commissioner Miller moved to accept the quote of Palmer paving in the amount of \$29,450 for paving work. Commissioner Mefford seconded. **Motion approved, 5-0.** Commissioner Mefford moved to accept the quote of Seco Electric in the amount of \$9,985 to install lighting for the new lot. Commissioner Miller seconded. **Motion approved, 5-0.**

Commissioner Ramage questioned about improving the drainage in the southwest portion of the lot to prevent erosion damage as has happened in the current lot. Administrator Plummer said that curbs could be installed to assist with this issue. Mayor Solomon asked Administrator Plummer to research the issue and provide information and quotes for this service at the next meeting.

Administrator Plummer also presented a quote of \$10,700 from Palmer Paving to remove the median and repave the cul-de-sac and a small portion of Whispering Trails. The median has been the subject of several vandalism attempts in the last few months, causing significant repair expenses. The affected residents were contacted by the city and had no objections to this removal of the median. Commissioner Mefford moved to accept the quote from Palmer Paving in the amount of \$10,700 to remove the median and repave the affected portions of Whispering Trails as recommended. Commissioner Miller seconded. **Motion approved, 5-0.**

Communications/Office Operations Report

Director Hinkle reminded the group that the Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for April 11 at Union Presbyterian Church and will run much like last year's hunt, weather permitting. She is hopeful the later date will allow for an outdoor hunt this year.

She also announced that the Union Food Truck Summer Food Truck Hot Spots have been set for this year at Union Park. Those dates will begin on May 27, and she will announce those to the public later this week.

She also noted that she is working on a location for Union Celebrates America and is hopeful that a new venue will be secured shortly, pending approval from the venue management.

City Attorney Report

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

Resolutions.

none

Municipal Orders

None

Ordinances

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-01—AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING TRAFFIC CALMING POLICIES FOR THE STREETS AND ROADWAYS LOCATED IN THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY. *First Reading*

Announcements

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

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Dulaney and seconded by Commissioner Ramage. **Motion carried 5-0.** Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Larry Solomon, Mayor

Christy Everman, City Clerk