

CITY OF UNION
Regular Business Meeting
November 2, 2020

Regular Business

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

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.

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Solomon asked for approval of the October 5 Regular Meeting Minutes. Engineer Burke asked for a minor change to indicate the deletion of the words “right-of-way and” in the transfer of assets from KYTC. Commissioner Mefford moved to approve the minutes with this change. Commissioner Ramage seconded that motion. **Motion approved 4-0**

Visitors and Guests Wishing to Speak

Mr. Brian Garner, a candidate for the Union City Commission, was in attendance. Mr. Joe Grimoldi of Grafton Court was in attendance. Mr. Grimoldi inquired about the status of the cemetery update and gate installation. Administrator Plummer informed the group that this update must wait until the release of the right-of-way to the city from KYTC, and that there are plans to install iron fencing, and additional landscaping at the cemetery, in addition to returning the cemetery concrete sign to the front of the cemetery.

Special Presentations

Mayor Solomon presented a proclamation to Ms. Phyllis Chorpenning to recognize her work in keeping the area around Fowlers Creek and Old Union Road clean. Ms. Chorpenning regularly walks the area and removes trash and debris during her walks to keep the area looking its best.

Mayor Solomon also presented a proclamation recognizing Saturday, November 28, 2020 as Small Business Saturday in Union. The proclamation recognizes the important economic contributions small business owners make to the local, state and national economy, and their efforts in providing services to local residents. Mr. John “Lefty” Bernard, owner of Lefty’s Barbershop on Old Union Road, accepted the proclamation on behalf of Union Business Owners. Commissioner Dulaney was also recognized for having presented and championing this idea to the commission to recognize our local Union Businesses.

Financial Reports

Mayor Solomon presented the financial report on Commissioner Miller's behalf. There were no unusual payments and no interest collected this month. City Clerk Everman noted that 81% of taxes had been collected, which is slightly lower than normal. The two-percent discount period has ended, but there are still bills coming in with postmarks prior to the discount period, which the city honors for discount.

Commissioner Ramage moved to accept the monthly profit and loss statement and the bills to be paid. Commissioner Dulaney seconded the motion. **Motion approved, 4-0.**

Mayor Comments

Mayor Solomon had no updates this month.

Economic Development

Commissioner Ramage updated that the Honor Banner program contract has been signed, and as soon as the Operation Honor group has the program ready on their website, ordering of banners for the city can begin. He also noted that renovations have begun to the old Sugarfire BBQ building, which will be a Boomtown Biscuits and Whiskey. The new venture is expected to open sometime in late December.

Administrator Plummer updated that there will be a public hearing for a zoning map amendment at the Boone County Planning Commission on November 18 at 7:30 p.m. One of the ownership groups in the Town Center development area, the Grammas Children Family Trust, is presenting a development request and zoning map amendment to BCPC via electronic meeting. The public can contact BCPC for a link to join the meeting.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Dulaney noted that work on Mt. Zion has been functionally completed, with the new roadway fully open to traffic. Minor work and cleanup on the right of way areas, driveways and other concrete work is still continuing. In addition, a full repave of US 42, from Brilliance Avenue to Hicks Pike, will be taking place in the next month to complete the final phase of the official Mt. Zion project.

Work is continuing on the Double Diamond Interchanges at Mt. Zion and Richwood and I71/75. This work is expected to be completed next fall.

Dulaney noted that the 2020 Union Street Repairs Program came in \$11,000 under budget this year, and that the entire scope of work for the program has been completed and all vendors paid.

Dulaney updated on the Landscaping bid for the city. There were two bidders on the project, with A&A Lawncare and Landscaping presenting the lowest bid. He expressed regret that more bidders did not choose to bid on the project, despite city staff sending out more than 30 letters to local companies to invite them to bid on the project. Bid acceptance information will be presented in the legislation section.

Dulaney also noted that City Staff had sent a survey to residents along Braxton Drive near the apartment complex located in Florence, where there is a problem with those residents parking along the city street and restricting resident access and parking. The Public Works Committee will review that feedback from residents and bring forward a recommendation next month as how to best address the issue.

City Administrator Report

Administrator Plummer updated on a development located at 10663 US 42. This development is outside of the Union City Limits, but is adjacent to the Lassing Green Subdivision. This is a 20-acre development, with a sub-plat design to turn that acreage into eight residential lots, ranging in size from 1.8 to 4.1 acres. As this development is in an A-2 Zone, this is allowed under the zoning code as developed.

Administrator Plummer also announced that the City was the recipient of a \$68,000 grant from OKI to construct a sidewalk in front of the Union Fire Protection District. This grant will allow the city and the Fire District to partner together on costs to complete the approximately 40-linear feet of sidewalk necessary to complete the pedestrian walkway in that area between US42 and Old Union Road.

Communications/Office Operations Report

Because of the increase in COVID-19 cases in Boone County, and the move to “red zone” status in the county, the planned Mt. Zion Dedication Ceremony set for November 12 has been cancelled. She will be working with city and local officials to create a virtual dedication video which will be shared on social media in lieu of a formal in-person dedication ceremony.

Director Hinkle also requested the waiver of the annual Alcohol Beverage License fee for Lassing Point Golf Course. The Course is owned by Boone County, and the waiver is a courtesy to the county government. This waiver was approved 4-0 by a voice vote of the commission.

City Attorney Report

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

Resolutions.

none

Ordinances

none

Municipal Orders

MUNICIPAL ORDER 2020-17 – A MUNICIPAL ORDER TO ACCEPT THE BID FROM A&A LAWN CARE & LANDSCAPING, INC. TO PROVIDE MOWING, TRIMMING, LANDSCAPING AND GENERAL MAINTENANCE FOR THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT. Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Dulaney and seconded by Commissioner Mefford. **Motion approved 4-0**

Announcements

The next Commission meeting will be Monday, December 7, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at the Union City Building. Mayor Solomon also reminded everyone that voting for the US General Election is tomorrow, November 3.

Executive Session

Motion to adjourn to executive session under KRS 61.810 section A and section G was made by Commissioner Mefford and seconded by Commissioner Dulaney. **Motion approved 4-0.** Meeting moved to executive session at 7:24 p.m. A motion to end executive session as made by Commissioner Mefford and seconded by Commissioner Dulaney. **Motion approved 4-0.** Meeting ended executive session at 8:09 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Dulaney and seconded by Commissioner Ramage. **Motion approved 4-0.** Meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Larry Solomon, Mayor

Christy Everman, City Clerk