

CITY OF UNION
Special Business Meeting
September 21, 2020

Regular Business

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM on September 21, 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 Bryan Miller, Commissioner Eric Dulaney and Mayor Larry Solomon.

Also present:

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

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Solomon asked for approval of the September 1 Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Miller moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Mefford seconded that motion. **Motion approved 5-0.**

Visitors and Guests Wishing to Speak

Mr. Brian Garner, a candidate for the Union City Commission, introduced himself to the commission. He is a candidate for a commission position on the ballot in November.

Financial Reports

No financial reports were presented, due to the short time between this meeting and the September 1 meeting. Financials will be presented at the October 5 meeting.

Mt. Zion Landscape Study Presentation

Mr. Bob Jonas, with Boone County Planning, presented the Mt. Zion Landscape Study as part of his role as a member of the Urban Forestry Commission. He presented each member of the commission with a copy of the completed and adopted study. He emphasized that the plan is a concept plan, and is not at a micro detail. He noted that it is a flexible and living document. He reviewed the plan, page-by-page, answering questions about the different recommendations regarding plantings and plant life selections. He noted that the best time to begin plantings is late October/early November, with the city to make plans for that time frame in 2021, following the transfer of the right-of-way assets from KYTC. He also noted that the UFC does have some monies that can assist with portions of the project, pending approval of the commission and the UFC board.

A discussion of how the Landscape Study Plan fits in with the Union Vision and Values and branding followed. Mayor Solomon emphasized that any plan should keep vision and branding in mind. Commissioner Ramage

noted that a final vision branding plan had not been developed with KLC, and recommended further work toward a unified branding program that has been adopted by the commission which includes renderings and drawings of presentation areas and overview of an updated town center. The group agreed to another visioning session with Kentucky League of Cities to move the vision documents forward further. City staff will try to arrange a session, either in-person or virtually, to happen within the next 90 days.

Economic Development

Commissioner Ramage presented the Honor Banner program to the commission, along with the contract to sign to finalize the agreement. The standard banner was selected, and following discussion, only members of the military branches with some connection to Union, either having lived in the city or having a family member living in the city, or a first responder, to include fire, police and EMS can be included. No other public service members will be included in the program beyond those groups. The program will be voted on in the legislative session below.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Dulaney noted that asphalt work is underway on Mt. Zion, and hopefully will be done by the end of the month.

City Administrator Plummer brought forth concerns from the Boone County Sheriff's Office regarding US42. He received a call from Bill Mark with Boone County, addressing three accidents-one of which was severe and required a Life Flight response, over the weekend. He would like the city and the Union Fire Protection District to combine with Boone County to request an Engineer Safety Study for US42, with emphasis on the area between Harmony and the new Kroger. The Commission agreed to join in this effort to send a letter to KYTC in conjunction with the Boone County groups.

City Administrator Report

Administrator Plummer presented a series of citizen complaints regarding the Kroger Pickup location, with operations after the 11 p.m. curfew. These complaints include loud banging on doors, trucks idling past hours of delivery, and other noise and trash related complaints. The commission advised Administrator Plummer and Attorney Voss to work to address the issue, with a letter to be sent to Kroger management to address the issue promptly. Administrator Plummer will keep the group advised on developments on this issue.

Communications/Office Operations Report

Director Hinkle asked commission members to please regularly check their mailboxes and remove trash and unwanted items to reduce clutter in the small meeting room.

City Attorney Report

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

Resolutions.

none

Ordinances

ORDINANCE 2020-03—AN ORDINANCE LEVYING AND FIXING THE TAX RATES OF THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY, FOR THE 2020 CALENDAR YEAR; LEVYING SAID TAX UPON REAL AND TANGIBLE PROPERTY; FIXING THE DATE OF PAYMENT; DISCOUNT PAYMENT, DELIQUENCY AND INTEREST CHARGES; FIXING THE PURPOSE THEREFORE; AND SETTING FORTH THE PROCEDURE FOR COLLECTION OF TAXES. Mayor Solomon noted that the tax rates remained the same for the new fiscal year and have been the same for at least the last ten years. Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Dulaney and seconded by Commissioner Mefford. **Motion approved 5-0**

Municipal Orders

MUNICIPAL ORDER 2020-21 – A MUNICIPAL ORDER ACCEPTING THE CONTRACT OF OPERATION HONOR CORP.: A KENTUCKY NON-PROFIT CORPORATION AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT. (see note above) Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Dulaney. **Motion approved 5-0**

Announcements

The October regular meeting will be held on October 5 at 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Mefford and seconded by Commissioner Ramage. **Motion approved 5-0.** Meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Larry Solomon, Mayor

Christy Everman, City Clerk