



WELCOME/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM on July 7, 2021 by Mayor Larry Solomon.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Solomon led all attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

A quorum was present and a roll call was taken: Commissioner Jeremy Ramage, Commissioner John Mefford, Commissioner Eric Dulaney, Commissioner Brian Garner, and Mayor Larry Solomon.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Solomon asked for approval of the June 7, 2021 meetings. No discussion. Commissioner Ramage made a motion with no changes. Commissioner Mefford seconded the motion. **Motion Approved 5-0.**

VISITORS/GUESTS WISHING TO SPEAK

Matt Webster and Laura Pleiman provided the Homelessness Taskforce Update: Initiative in Boone County started in 2019 to better understand the homeless population in Boone County and how to help. Actions included emergency sheltering for homeless individuals during the winter which will continue moving forward. The plan is to continue to invite guest speakers to the Commission Meetings. Next month, Matt Turner, Superintendent of Boone County Schools, will be presenting. Lee Crume, President and CEO of Northern Kentucky Tri-ED, is also interested in being a future speaker.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Solomon confirmed with all that they received the Fairness prevention email. Commissioner Garner, Commissioner Mefford, Administrator David Plummer, and Communications Director Amy Safran have a meeting scheduled for July 14, 2021 to discuss prevention communications. Additionally, Commissioner Garner was asked to take on a project about bus routing to address new businesses coming into the city to accommodate the increase of people specifically from the corner of 42 and where the Walgreens and coming down to the end of Route 42. He has accepted the challenge and agreed to move forward on it.

Mayor Solomon has talked to Senator Schickel to send a letter to Chief District Engineer Bob Yaeger to request a reduction in the speed limit on Rt. 42 in the City of Union between Braxton Drive to Ryle High School. The request comes from a personal observation and numerous citizen requests. This area has become congested and is slated for additional development resulting in increased congestion.

The city was contacted by a contractor called Woda Cooper Companies and they are interested in developing the Collet property. The Executive Committee will meet with them and determine what their intentions are. Looking to develop Town Center and determine the plans to move forward.

FY 2020-21 FINANCIAL REPORT

Commissioner Ramage updated the Commission on June's financial report which included "the bills to be paid" and "profit and loss" ledger. He noted some of the offsets resulting from City building staff changes, but the end result is that we came out fine with no concerns. He also mentioned the CERS Retirement, but we are close to having that finely tuned. Section 500, Public Works, roughly \$1,000 overdue extra requests, but within range. At the end of the fiscal year, the city will be financially under budget, i.e., in the black, for \$125,000 plus.

Mayor Solomon asked for a motion to approve the financials for June 2021. Commission Dulaney made a motion, Commissioner Mefford seconded the motion. **Motion approved 5-0.**

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Dulaney recapped some pre COVID ideas such as Business Mixers, focus on business retention in the City of Union. He has invited Angela Mulberry, Director to Retention from NKADD to the next EDC meeting and present some retentions strategies that she utilizes. We are still waiting to hear back from the Urban Forestry Division, but he suspects that they will be focused on work in or near the round-a-bouts. Lastly, we are still in negotiations with some of the developers on upcoming projects.

Mayor Solomon commented the importance of filling the vacancies on the EDC Committee and gave direction to work with the Communications Committee on recruiting new members willing to participate and regularly attend meetings. Commissioner Ramage suggested focusing on residents of City neighborhoods that are not currently represented.

Approval of Memorandum of Understanding concerning Farmview Drive was presented later in the meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Mefford stated that Union Celebrates America 2021 went off in a very positive fashion, the band was fantastic, we had a large amount of people in attendance and it was overall a success. Commissioner Mefford has already confirmed Ryle High School for the 2022 event location with Principal Schaffer. DV8 band is also confirmed to play again next year.

In the post wrap up meeting, a few items which could be executed better were discussed. For instance, more food trucks, higher shooting fireworks and post event clean up. All that said, he is looking forward to growing the event in 2022. The event will remain to be scheduled on the last Friday in June to prevent local competing events as it gets closer to July 4.

Commissioner Mefford will be meeting with Communications Director Amy Safran and Administrator David Plummer to discuss plans for the Communications Committee and events in the City of Union moving forward.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Plummer posed the question of recognizing the new Federal Holiday of Juneteenth in the City of Union for 2022 and beyond. The City currently gives 14 Holidays including a floating holiday for staff...two more than other surrounding cities. Several options were presented for consideration. Discussion followed and further review will take place.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Garner noted that discussions continue concerning Burleigh Lane and the speed issue. The Speed Study did not qualify for speed humps as the intersection distance is less than 500 feet, the minimum distance recommended to install a speed hump. Alternate measures will be taken specifically adding Stop Bars at the intersections on Burleigh and also paint a SLOW symbol on the ascending slope. The goal is to provide a visual to help slow traffic down.

City Engineer Barry Burke provided further explanation of the plan. The cost of the Stop Bars and painted SLOW will cost \$700 by True Line Striping. Additional work such as the lane dividers along Richmond which has been waiting for about a year can be completed at the same time. All the work will cost less than \$1,500. If approved, the work can be finished in a couple weeks. Commissioner Dulaney inquired about the maintenance. Engineer Burke replied that the work will last about 4-5 years and then they need to be repainted. Discussion followed. Reassessment will take place at a later date.

Mayor Solomon asked for a motion to approve the expenditure (not to exceed \$1,500) for Speed Bars on Burleigh Lane. Commissioner Ramage made a motion, Commissioner Garner seconded the motion. **Motion approved 5-0.**

CITY ENGINEERS REPORT

Resident letters to notify them of drains and side drains have been sent out. In addition, curb and gutter extra work on Russwill will be tied into the current curb and gutter bid award. Public bid opening was done. City Engineer Burke met with contractor, Riegler and made some adjustments to the overall plan.

Additional work is needed to address the sidewalk formation of a “teepee” on Rt. 42 opposite Arbor Springs resulting from the high heat and freezing which causes compressions. In addition to the 2 sidewalk slabs, there is a problem in the street, on the curb and gutter next to the catch basins on both sides of the highway. The responsibility is put to KYTC, but beyond curbs and gutters, the responsibility is on the residents and community or city. Each curb repair is roughly \$1,500 and the sidewalks are \$500. Reimbursement may be possible for the curb repairs. Waiting to hear back from the Highway Department. Mayor Solomon stated that the Public Works Committee can proceed to repair the “teepee” damage on stated sidewalk opposite Arbor Springs, because each committee is authorized to spend up to \$1,000 at the committee level.

Engineer Burke continues discussions with Viox and Viox. Some No Parking signs have been remedied and Lassing Green traffic signs has been upgraded. In addition, conversation about street sweeping based on need in future years has taken place. Updated maps from the Middle Ohio Water Shed have been received and an account with DemandStar confirmed.

LEGISLATION/ATTORNEY'S REPORT

RESOLUTION 2021-09 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR FOR THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY TRANSPORTATION CABINET AND THE CITY OF UNION SWEET HARMONY SIDEWALKS/ITEM NO. 06.03029.00. Commissioner Ramage made a motion and Commissioner Garner seconded the motion. **Motion approved 5-0.**

ORDINANCE 2021-14 – AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE COMPENSATION FOR THE CEMETERY SEXTON FOR THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY. (2nd Reading, Motion Needed) Commissioner Dulaney made a motion and Commissioner Ramage seconded the motion. **Motion approved 5-0.**

ORDINANCE 2021-15 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY APPROVING, WITH CONDITIONS, A REQUEST OF FARMVIEW COMMONS, LLC FOR ERPS, INC. FOR A CHANGE IN AN APPROVED CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR AN APPROXIMATE +11.82 ACRE SITE LOCATED ON THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE U.S. 42/FARMVIEW DRIVE INTERSECTION AND THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE OLD U.S. 42/FARMVIEW DRIVE INTERSECTION, FLORENCE AND UNION, KENTUCKY TO PERMIT EATING AND DRINKING ESTABLISHMENTS AND COMMERCIAL USES, INCLUDING DRIVE-THROUGH FACILITIES, ELDERLY HOUSING FACILITY, MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING AND MEDICAL OFFICES AND TO MODIFY PREVIOUS CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL CONCERNING ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN AND TO PERMIT A 50 FOOT MAXIMUM BUILDING HEIGHT ON THE ENTIRE SITE IN A COMMERCIAL TWO/PLANNED DEVELOPMENT (C-2/PD) ZONE. (2nd Reading, Motion Needed) Commissioner Mefford made a motion and Commissioner Garner seconded the motion. **Motion approved 5-0.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Solomon announced that the next Regular City Commission Meeting will take place on August 2nd, 2021 at 6:30 PM at the City Building.

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Mefford and seconded by Commissioner Ramage at 8:12PM. **Motion approved 5-0.**