

WELCOME

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM on March 21, 2022 by Mayor 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 Eric Dulaney, Commissioner Jeremy Ramage, Commissioner John Mefford, Commissioner Brian Garner, and Mayor Larry Solomon.

VISITORS/GUEST WISHING TO SPEAK

Rick Wurth, CEO, Children's Home of Northern Kentucky (CHNK) Behavioral Health was present to address the Mayor, Commissioners, and audience as to what CHNK's role in the community is and their plans for growth and improvement to the programs they offer. CHNK currently has three campuses in the Northern Kentucky area. Mr. Wurth is in need of raising 4.5 million dollars to expand mental health services in NKY and if successful, these services would increase by 55%. The money is to be used in four main areas:

- 1) New and expanded treatment services,
- 2) Facility renovations,
- 3) Advanced technology and telehealth expansion,
- 4) Community education & awareness.

CHNK is currently asking the City of Union for funds due to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) providing three hundred and seventy-seven billion dollars to Kentucky, nine hundred and thirty-one million will be going to Kentucky cities. Mr. Wurth feels like this will provide a unique opportunity for private/public partnerships. CHNK took care of about 4,000 people last year and of those, about two percent were kids from Union.

Commissioner Mefford asked Mr. Wurth about the program and how well-known it would be to families at Ryle High School. Mr. Wurth explained that they have a direct contact person with Boone County School District who focuses on outpatient services. CHNK receives about one thousand referrals from Boone County schools every year.

Commissioner Garner mentioned that he talked to staff at Mann Elementary and was told there is a need for mental health care professionals for students, but they are typically unavailable. Mr. Wurth explained that there are shortages in this area and he is advocating to recruit and retain high quality mental health professionals through benefits and incentives. One of the things CHNK has implemented is hiring an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse.

Mr. Doug Bine, a Union resident, addressed the unsightly view at 8825 US HWY 42, Kroger Fuel. They have a blacked out sign, dumpster and port-o-lets which he feels should not be the first thing you see when entering

the City of Union. Mayor Solomon let him know that he would reach out to his contact at Kroger and address the issue.

Mayor Solomon mentioned that he had received a complaint from the County about a house on Bristow Rd., a neighbor had called to report that there was a lot of junk and toys around the yard. The City Code Enforcement Officer was notified to further investigate the complaint after the meeting.

LEGISLATION.

MUNICIPAL ORDER 2022-04 A MUNICIPAL ORDER OF THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY DECLARING PROPERTY OWNED BY THE CITY TO BE SURPLUS.

Commissioner Ramage made a motion and Commissioner Garner seconded the motion. **Motion approved 5-0**

ORDINANCE 2022-03 AN ORDINANCE PURSUANT TO K.R.S. 83A.050 PRESCRIBING THAT ELECTIONS FOR THE CITY OFFICES OF THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY SHALL BE NON-PARTISAN AS PROVIDED IN K.R.S. 83A.150 AND FURTHER PROVIDING THAT THE NON-PARTISAN PRIMARY ELECTION FOR THE NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES TO ELECTED CITY OFFICES BE ELIMINATED AS AUTHORIZED BY K.R.S. 83A.045(2)(b) AND AMENDING SECTION 31.20 OF THE CITY OF UNION CODE OF ORDINANCES (2nd Reading)

After Attorney Voss provided the second reading of stated Ordinance, Mayor Solomon asked for any discussion. Commissioner Mefford made a motion and Commissioner Ramage seconded the motion.

Motion approved 5-0

ORDINANCE 2022-04 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 91A.02 AND 91A.09 AND DELETING SECTION 91A.07 OF THE CITY OF UNION CODE OF ORDINANCES (2nd Reading)

After Attorney Voss provided the second reading of stated Ordinance, Mayor Solomon asked for any discussion. It was clarified that the enforcement would begin after the current sidewalk repairs were made. Commissioner Garner made a motion and Commissioner Mefford seconded the motion. **Motion approved 5-0**

ORDINANCE 2022-06 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING § 32.21 OF THE CITY OF UNION CODE OF ORDINANCES ESTABLISHING A MONTHLY CAUCUS MEETING AND SETTING THE DAY AND TIME FOR SAID CAUCUS MEETING FOR THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY (1st Reading)

Mayor Solomon asked whether or not Residents/Visitors should be provided the opportunity to speak at Caucus Meetings only, or be allowed to speak at both Caucus and Regular Meetings. Commissioner thought the procedure should be that they be allowed to speak just at Caucus meetings in the long term; however, for the foreseeable future they should be given the opportunity to speak at both the Caucus and Regular meetings.

CAUCUS DISCUSSION

City Administrator David Plummer moderated the discussion.

- **Surplus Property:** It was agreed that the surplus Sharp Copier/Scanner be given to the library at Ryle High School.
- **ARPA Funds Spending and Direction:** The most recent funding guidance from the Department of Treasury has been updated and it states that up to ten million dollars can be declared in lost revenue. This means that all of city ARPA funds can be spent on anything to which typical government would spend money. Discussion was made as to where the money should be spent. Some of the options are the completions of

Brilliance Ave., Whispering Trail water issues over road after we have a lot of rain, extension of Brilliance Ave. at Old 42, and CHNK. The funds will not be available until after April 1, 2022.

- Public Works Director. The Public Works Director position for the City of Union was discussed. A draft of a job description was given out to members of the Commission for review and comments. The vision is for this person to work in conjunction with the City Engineer and Cemetery Sexton to help gain knowledge of these positions. While it was initially considered that this position would be full-time, Commissioners thought that initially we should pair back the position to a part-time Public Works Supervisor and that person work in conjunction with the City Engineer as a team. The city should still pursue a Public Works Director when the city was ready for that position in several years.
- Urban Design and Planning Concept. The last item discussed was for a proposal and approval of the Urban Design and Planning Concept. The designing firm, MKSK, will provide initial visioning and concept design services for a twenty-three acre site that has been identified as potential future development. The project fee is not to exceed ten thousand dollars. Mayor Solomon gave a brief discussion about the project and concept before giving his full support. The Mayor asked for further discussion. Commissioner Mefford made a motion and Commissioner Ramage seconded the motion. **Motion approved 5-0**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Solomon announced that the City Commission will hold a Regular Meeting on April 4, 2022 at 6:30 PM at the Union City Building, 1843 Bristow Dr., Union, KY 41091.

ADJOURNMENT

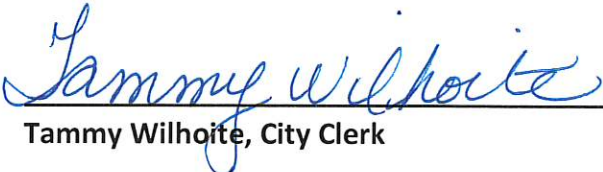
A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Mefford and seconded by Commissioner Garner at 8:07PM. **Motion approved 5-0.**

Approved:

Attest:



Larry Solomon, Mayor



Tammy Wilhoite, City Clerk