



**CAUCUS/COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 17, 2023 – 6:00 PM
1843 BRISTOW DRIVE
UNION, KY 41091**

WELCOME

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM, 2023 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 Doug Bine, Commissioner John Mefford, Commissioner Brian Garner, Commissioner Jeremy Ramage and Mayor Larry Solomon.

VISITORS/GUESTS WISHING TO SPEAK

Mayor Solomon asked if there was anyone wishing to speak. No one had any issues to be addressed.

CAUCUS DISCUSSION

Economic Development Member

Commissioner Bine issued the Oath of Office to Teresa Robinson, she will be serving as a Member on the Economic Development Committee for the City of Union.

Extension of Rumpke Contract

City Administrator Amy Safran gave an update on the extension of Rumpke of Kentucky. CAO Safran explained the current contract rate for solid waste and curbside recycling collection is \$13.25 per month per household, the two-year extension would increase by 3.5% to \$14.13 a month per household. The current number of houses has increased in the city from 2427 to 2810 since the last contract was approved. CAO Safran reached out to surrounding cities to compare rates and found they were close in comparison to the City of Union current Rumpke rate. If a decision is not reached to extend the current contract the city will need to bid for a new waste collection provider. The full Commission agreed to continue with the two-year extension to continue with solid waste collection and curbside recycling and disposal services with Rumpke of Kentucky.

Pothole Repair Discussion

Public Works Director Paul Kremer explained the need to repair approximately twelve potholes on city streets, he is recommending GroundSystems to make the repairs. The work is expected to be completed within thirty days once the agreement is signed at the cost of \$3,426.96. The cost to repair the potholes will be paid from the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year budget. Mayor Solomon asked for a motion to approve \$3,426.96 to pay GroundSystems for repair of potholes on city streets.

Commissioner Mefford made a motion and Commissioner Ramage seconded that motion.

Motion approved 5-0

Commissioner Ramage asked what the protocol is for getting a sign replaced that has faded, such as a stop sign. Public Works Director Paul Kremer explained signs are replaced by Boone County Public Works; they are very responsive when the calls are made with a sign request.

Farmview Commons

Public Works Director Paul Kremer discussed a piece of property located on US 42 that is currently an open field located across from Skyline Chili. The city was recently notified of a traffic study to be conducted for potential future development. Only a small portion of one of the proposed retail spaces is within the City of Union and the remaining property is within the City of Florence. The city of Union has not been made aware of the development being proposed on the property.

Mayor Solomon mentioned one of the City of Union city limit signs on US 42 is not at the city border and should be relocated to the correct boundary line. The importance of moving this sign to the correct location is that once the property is developed it will convey to people a portion of Farmview Development is in the City of Union. The Commission agreed to move the sign, PWD Paul Kremer will work with Boone County Public Works to have the sign moved to the correct location.

Fiscal Year Budget 2023-24 Budget Discussion

Mayor Solomon presented Fiscal Year 2023-24 Annual budget and explained each line item and asked for discussion.

- Staff Salaries
- Administration
- Professional Services
- City Growth
- Public Works

Mayor Solomon highlighted items in the budget that have increased such as community events to go along with community growth, snow/ice removal, solid waste collection and street repairs. The city has always made a commitment to investing in the street repairs program which has been and will continue to be a priority. Mayor Solomon explained the city continues to grow, and expenses exceed income, the city needs to either reduce expenses or find additional revenue streams.

The revenue streams presented and discussed to Commissioners included a Duke Energy franchise fee, Insurance Premium tax and raising property taxes. After discussion, the decision was made by the Commission to adopt the Duke Energy Franchise Fee. Attorney Voss will prepare legislation to be read at the next Regular Commission Meeting.

Ad Hoc Committees

Mayor Solomon requested two Ad Hoc committees one will be for the purpose of designing the new Town Center with Commissioner Jeremy Ramage leading the committee. Mayor Solomon will lead a committee to design a new city building. All the Commissioners agreed with both committee proposals. The two percent payroll tax and business license will fund the New Town Center design and development.

LEGISLATION

Municipal Orders

MUNICIPAL ORDER NO. 2023-17 A MUNICIPAL ORDER ACCEPTING THE CONTRACT OF TMS CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR PHASE C PARTS 1 AND 2 – STORM DRAINAGE INCLUDING EDGE & SIDE DRAINS ALONG TWO STREETS INCLUDING HEMPSTEAD DRIVE, AND RAINBOW TERRACE FOR LOCATIONS WITHIN THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT

Commissioner Garner made a motion and Commissioner Mefford seconded that motion. **Motion approved 5-0.**

MUNICIPAL ORDER NO. 2023- 18 A MUNICIPAL ORDER ACCEPTING THE CONTRACT OF STRAIGHT EDGE CONSTRUCTION, LLC FOR PHASE B PART 1 – CONCRETE CURB & GUTTER REPAIRS WITHIN THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT

Commissioner Ramage made a motion and Commissioner Mefford seconded that motion. **Motion approved 5-0.**

MUNICIPAL ORDER NO. 2023-19 A MUNICIPAL ORDER ACCEPTING THE CONTRACT OF RECTOR EXCAVATING, INC. FOR PHASE E – INCIDENTAL BRIDGE WINGWALL CENTER PIER AND RAILING MAINTENANCE WITHIN THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT

Commissioner Bine made a motion and Commissioner Ramage seconded that motion. **Motion approved 5-0.**

MUNICIPAL ORDER NO. 2023-20 A MUNICIPAL ORDER APPOINTING TERESA ROBINSON TO SERVE ON THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ON BEHALF OF THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY

Commissioner Bine made a motion and Commissioner Garner seconded that motion. **Motion approved 5-0.**

MUNICIPAL ORDER NO. 2023- 21 A MUNICIPAL ORDER ACCEPTING THE CONTRACT EXTENSION OF RUMPKE OF KENTUCKY, INC.

Commissioner Ramage made a motion and Commissioner Bine seconded that motion. **Motion approved 5-0.**

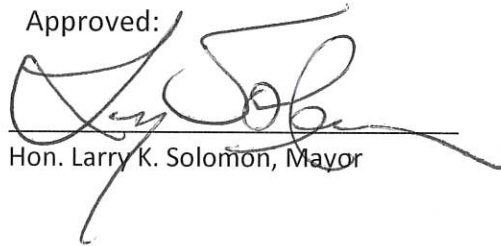
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Solomon announced that the City Commission will hold the next Regular Commission Meeting on Monday May 1, at 6:00 PM. He also stated that the next Caucus/Commission Meeting will be on Monday May 15, at 6:00 PM both meetings will be held at the city building located 1843 Bristow Drive Union, KY 41091.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Solomon asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Mefford made a motion and Commissioner Bine seconded that motion. **Motion approved 5-0.**
The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Approved:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Larry K. Solomon', written over a horizontal line.

Hon. Larry K. Solomon, Mayor

Attest:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tammy Wilhoite', written over a horizontal line.

Tammy Wilhoite, City Clerk