



SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

JULY 5, 2023 – 6:00 PM

1843 BRISTOW DRIVE

UNION, KY 41091

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Solomon called the Special Commission Meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

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 John Mefford, Commissioner Jeremy Ramage, Commissioner Brian Garner, Commissioner Doug Bine, and Mayor Larry Solomon.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Solomon asked for approval of June 5, 2023, Regular Commission meeting minutes.

Commissioner Garner asked for a sentence referencing where the Pride banner would be placed be removed under the Pride Communications Message section. It was noted the sentence would be removed.

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

Motion approved 5-0

Mayor Solomon asked for approval of June 19, 2023, Caucus Meeting minutes. Commissioner Garner made a motion and Commissioner Mefford seconded that motion.

Motion approved 5-0

FINANCIAL REPORT

Commissioner Ramage provided an update to the Commission on June's financial report which included "the bills to be paid" and the balance sheet. The interest year end was approximately \$107,000. He stated everything looked to be on track concerning the budget for year-end 2022. Mayor Solomon asked for a motion to approve the financial report, including paying the bills for the month of May. Commissioner Garner made a motion and Mayor Solomon seconded that motion. **Motion approved 5-0**

MAYOR/COMMISSIONER REPORT

Grammas Project

Mayor Solomon gave a presentation of the Grammas property located at the corner of Brilliance Avenue and US Highway 42. Grammas Investments is planning a mixed-use development on the property consisting of 31,000 square feet of commercial, retail, restaurant space, ninety-three luxury apartment units with lower-level parking and twelve residential townhomes. The development is designed to be a mixed-use destination which will offer living, shopping, and working opportunities. Nick Grammas explained why Brilliance Avenue Extension is a vital necessity in building this project. He stated the road will benefit not only this project but also current businesses, future businesses, and residents in the area. Mayor Solomon commented this development will generate an additional income for the city through property and occupational taxes.

Brilliance Avenue Extension

Public Works Director Paul Kremer mentioned the Brilliance Avenue Extension bid was complete and a total of five companies submitted a sealed bid for the project. Viox and Viox gave a recommendation for Lonkard Construction with a bid amount of \$985,824.05.

ARPA Funds

Mayor Solomon outlined proposed projects American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money will be used to fund including Brilliance Avenue Extension project if approved by the Commission. Grammas Investments agreed to contribute \$164,263.00 to the extension project filling the gap between ARPA money and the project bid amount of \$985,824.05. The city would contribute \$821,561.05 of ARPA funds. Mayor Solomon asked for a motion to award the amount of \$985,824.05 to Lonkard Construction for the project of Brilliance Avenue Extension. Commissioner Mefford made a motion and Commissioner Bine seconded that motion. Commissioner Bine voted aye, Commissioner Ramage voted nay, Commissioner Garner voted aye, Commissioner Mefford voted aye, Mayor Solomon voted aye. **Motion approved 4-1.**

Whispering Trail Update

Public Works Director (PWD) Paul Kremer gave an update to the Whispering Trail drainage issue. He explained two meetings have been held with the homeowners informing of the design of the project and why easements are required. The second meeting included two Geotech engineers who explained soil conditions and project design to alleviate concerns of ground movement during and after construction. As of June 30, 2023, five of the six homeowners have signed the required easements. The homeowner who has not signed has requested edits to the easement. City Attorney Greg Voss drafted and sent a letter to the homeowner explaining the cost share project between the city and Sanitation District No. 1 is to cover design and construction costs only.

If all six homeowners do not sign the easement agreements, then the project will not move forward. The initial deadline for the homeowners to sign easement agreements was June 27,

2023. The Commission agreed they will discuss a new deadline at the July 17, caucus meeting with a clear stipulation that no other offers will be made.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Bine mentioned there were a couple of businesses showing interest in locating to the city, but no commitment has been made. Donnie Warner Attorney with Frost Brown and Todd PLLC will be giving a presentation at the Economic Development meeting to discuss the Union Promenade development with the developers on July 11, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Communications Coordinator Jaime Lyons gave updates to Union Celebrates America that took place on June 30. The parade, fireworks and event were a remarkable success. The community response to the event has been extremely positive. Current planning is underway for Bourbon in the Bluegrass on October 7, three bands are confirmed, and a combination of nine confirmed vendors for bourbon, wine, and beer.

Commissioner Garner relayed an email from Pastor Lisa Stenner of Union Presbyterian Church. The church was open to the public during the Union Celebrates America parade for the use of restrooms and the offering of water and popsicles. Reportedly, several acts of disrespect toward people and church property occurred. Commissioner Garner voiced his disappointment.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

City Administrator Amy Safran updated on payroll tax and business license registration, there are currently 129 businesses registered.

The city has recently received questions on the Parking Violations Board with Boone County. An application process is needed for anyone who is willing to serve. The City of Union does not have a current representative serving on the board, there are currently no vacancies to serve on the board.

The city has received calls from residents complaining of solicitors in their neighborhoods. The city has a no-knock list residents can be placed on, when solicitors come into the office to obtain a permit, they are given a copy of the list. The current process of issuing a peddlers/solicitor's license is currently under review with changes being made to the application in accordance with the current ordinance. There is a need to simplify the process especially when a large group comes into the city building.

Commissioner Ramage mentioned it was suggested in the past the city could have signs made for residents to purchase and place in their yards to serve as a visual indicator they do not want solicitors at their home. City Administrator Amy Safran will research the cost of signs.

City Administrator Amy Safran thanked Communications Coordinator Jaime Lyons for a job well done organizing the Union Celebrates America parade and event.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Director Paul Kremer mentioned work has begun on two safety related projects- a catch basin on Double Eagle Drive near Ryle High School and curb repair near the library on US 42 and the corner of Braxton Drive. Work should be completed on both projects by the end of the week. There will be edge/side drain work on Rainbow Terrace and Hempstead Drive starting the week of June 10. Street repaving should begin late July or early August.

LEGISLATION/ATTORNEY'S REPORT

There was no legislation to be read.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Solomon announced that the next Caucus Meeting will be on Monday July 17, 2023, at 6:00 PM. Mayor Solomon also stated that the next regular City Commission meeting will be held on Monday August 7, 2023, 6:00 PM at the city building 1843 Bristow Drive Union, KY.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Solomon asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Garner made a motion and Commissioner Ramage seconded that motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:12PM.

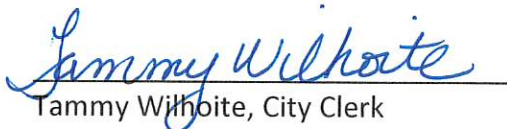
Motion approved 5-0

Approved:



Hon. Larry Solomon, Mayor

Attest:



Tammy Wilhoite, City Clerk