



## REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 3, 2023 – 6:00 PM

1843 BRISTOW DRIVE

UNION, KY 41091

### CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Solomon called the Regular 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 Brian Garner, Commissioner Doug Bine and Mayor Larry Solomon. Commissioner Mefford and Commissioner Ramage were both absent.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Solomon asked for approval of March 6, 2023, Regular Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Garner motioned and Commissioner Bine seconded that motion.

**Motion approved 3-0.**

Mayor Solomon asked for approval of March 20, 2023 Caucus meeting minutes. Commissioner Bine motioned and Commissioner Garner seconded that motion. **Motion approved 3-0**

### VISITORS/GUESTS WISHING TO SPEAK

Tara Johnson-Noem Executive Director, Northern Kentucky Area Development District (NKADD) was in attendance to explain how the NKADD serves Northern Kentucky and specifically local governments. Created in the 1970's every county in the state of Kentucky is a part of an Area Development District, a total of fifteen. The NKADD services eight counties in Northern Kentucky. Some of the resources the NKADD provide include the following:

- Support for Aging and Disabled Residents.
- Council on Aging, allowing people to live independently as long as possible.
- Resources for being a Caregiver, giving assistance and knowing what resources are available.
- Funding Senior Centers and helping them operate.
- Work Force Development, connecting employers with employees.

The NKADD also provides assistance to local government which includes some of the following:

- Calculating Tax Rates
- Staff Professional Organizations
- Northern Kentucky Regional Ethics Committee
- Planning and Community Development (Grant Writing)

### **MAYOR/COMMISSIONER REPORT**

Mayor Solomon stated the budget is being prepared for the 2023-2024 fiscal year and more detailed discussion is planned for the Caucus meeting on April 17, 2023. Discussion will also include planning the Union Town Center and recommendations for a city building.

#### Fairness Ordinance Update

Commissioner Garner gave an update to the Fairness Ordinance, he expressed that he has received no input from his colleagues at this time as to how to make this ordinance passable. He stated that the majority feel that the current laws are good enough and that discrimination towards LGTBQ people do not exist and therefore an ordinance is not needed. Commissioner Garner also stated that as long as the Civil Rights Act is silent on sexual orientation it is objectively true that the law is not equal. Commissioner Garner stated two separate realtors told him they had two people who would not buy a house in Union because it was not a welcoming community. With both the Federal and State laws doing nothing to fix the issues Commissioner Garner stated he will continue to re-visit the Fairness Ordinance.

#### Firearms Outside City Limits

Commissioner Garner mentioned a call received from a resident just outside of the City of Union who had a neighbor who was shooting a firearm in his backyard. Commissioner Garner stated he made the resident aware she was not in the city but he would address the issue at the Commission meeting. The concerned resident did contact the Boone County Sheriff Department and was told that it was legal to shoot a firearm outside the city as long as you are not aiming the firearm towards anyone or any buildings. Commissioner Garner is not looking for action on gun control but would like to bring awareness if someone plans to shoot a firearm in their yard perhaps they could check with the neighbors first to see how they feel about it. He also stated if using firearms use caution, be courteous especially if children are in the area.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Treasurer Christy Everman provided an update to the Commission on March's financial report which included "the bills to be paid" and the balance sheet. Interest rates are at 4.41% resulting in earning of \$7,500 for March and just under \$50,000 for the year. There are only eight delinquent tax bills left to collect for the 2022 tax year and these bills will be turned over to Attorney Voss.

Mayor Solomon asked for a motion to approve the financial report, including paying the bills for the month of March. Commissioner Garner made a motion and Commissioner Bine seconded the motion. **Motion approved 3-0.**

## **COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Communications Coordinator Jaime Lyons stated the Easter Egg hunt took place on Saturday April 1, 2023 and was a great success. There were several business sponsors we would like to thank including:

- Drees Homes
- Union Presbyterian Church
- Biggby Coffee
- Union Card My Yard
- Dermalounge
- Ginny Trosper Coaching
- ASMI
- Masons Boone Union Lodge No. 304
- Niceley's Appliance

The next event will be Union Celebrates America on June 30, 2023, fireworks and parade will be returning this year among other features. The reduction in speed limit from fifty five miles per hour to forty five miles per hours along US Hwy 42 will be taking place in the near future and so far the feedback has been positive. The Adopt-A-Unit donations for 101st Airborne Division while they are deployed is taking place at the city building through December 2023. A list of items needed are posted on the city website and social media.

## **ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

### Occupational Tax

City Administrator Amy Safran mentioned the portal is currently open through GovOS for businesses to register and pay for their business license. Registration letters will be mailed to all businesses by end of day Wednesday April 5. There will be a page added to the city website for all of the forms to be added in the event a business would need a paper form.

### Extension Rumpke Contract

City Administrator Amy Safran explained the current contract with Rumpke Waste Collection is set to expire June 30, 2023 and a decision to extend will need to be made by May 31, 2023. The current rate is \$9.79 solid waste, \$3.75 recycling for a total of \$13.25 per unit per month. The city can stay with Rumpke at the two year extension rate of \$14.13 per unit per month or bid for a new solid waste collector. CAO Safran mentioned after reaching out to surrounding cities to receiving their rates they were close in comparison to the current Rumpke rate. The decision was made to continue the discussion at the next Commission meeting.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

Public Works Director Paul Kremer gave updates to ongoing projects; flowcharts show both Brilliance Avenue and Whispering Trail Projects construction phases. Costs of final drafts for both projects are expected in the next few weeks, updated figures will be given at the next Commission Meeting.

### Street Repair Program

Public Works Director Paul Kremer explained that after review of 2023-2024 Street Repair bid opening, he along with City Engineer Barry Burke recommended that Phase A section one through eight be fully re-bid. After reviewing the bids, the cost of micro surfacing came in higher than expected and it would seem to be more reasonable to mill pave over micro surfacing. The rest of the bid result recommendations are as follows:

- Phase B Part 1 - Concrete Curb and Gutter (various streets)
- Phase C - Part 1 and 2 Edge and Side Drains (Hempsteade Drive and Rainbow Terrace)
- Phase D - No Bid was given, contractors will be contacted to perform striping work on various city streets.
- Phase E - (Bridge Repair)

Bid results that are not being recommended at this time are as follows:

- Phase B Part 2 - Union School Road, bid came in at a much higher rate and will not be included in this year's street repair program.
- Phase C Part 3 – Replacing Catch Basins on Whispering Trail and Russwill Lane, more thought will go into the plan for replacement of these catch basins, the city does not have a cost share program with Sanitation District No. 1.

PWD Paul Kremer suggested using micro surfacing on Evensong Drive, this road was last resurfaced in 2009, and expected to last six to ten more years. PWD Kremer gave an opinion that trying this product on a road at this stage will give the city a better perspective of whether micro surfacing could be a part of the city's future street repair program. PWD Paul Kremer expects to have Phase A new bid ready by the end of the week and ready for the Commission to review by the May Commission Meeting.

Mayor Solomon asked for a motion to rebid Phase A of 2023-2024 Street Repair Program.

Commissioner Bine made a motion and Commissioner Garner seconded the motion. **3-0**

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

Graphic Designer Lynne Arnold presented the final draft of a new city logo to the Commission for their approval. Mayor Solomon asked for approval to officially use the new logo.

Commissioner Bine made a motion and Commissioner Garner seconded the motion. **Motion approved 3-0.**

## **LEGISLATION**

**MUNICIPAL ORDER 2023-16 A MUNICIPAL ORDER AUTHORIZING MAYOR LARRY K. SOLOMON TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH LITTLEST ANGELS' LEARNING CENTER FOR HILLSIDE RECLAMATION LOCATED IN THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY**

Commissioner Garner made a motion and Commissioner Bine seconded the motion. **Motion approved 3-0.**

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

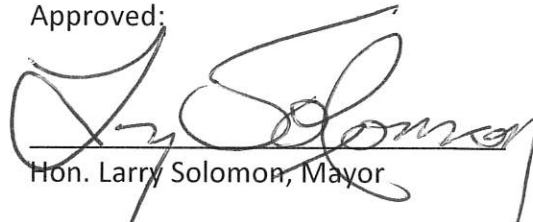
Mayor Solomon announced that the next Caucus Meeting will be on Monday April 17, 2023, at 6:00 PM. Mayor Solomon also stated that the next regular City Commission meeting will be held on May 1, 2023, 6:00 PM at the city building 1843 Bristow Drive Union, KY.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Solomon asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Garner made a motion and Commissioner Bine seconded that motion.

**Motion approved 3-0.** The meeting adjourned at 7:05PM.

Approved:

  
Hon. Larry Solomon, Mayor

Attest:

  
Tammy Wilhoite, City Clerk