



**REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 6, 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 John Mefford, Commissioner Jeremy Ramage, Commissioner Brian Garner, Commissioner Doug Bine, and Mayor Larry Solomon.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Solomon asked for approval of October 2, 2023, Regular Meeting minutes. Commissioner Mefford made a motion and Commissioner Garner seconded that motion.

**Motion approved 5-0**

Mayor Solomon asked for approval of October 16, 2023, Caucus Meeting minutes. Commissioner Ramage made a motion and Commissioner Bine seconded that motion.

**Motion approved 5-0**

**MAYOR/COMMISSIONER REPORT**

Mayor Solomon mentioned Graeter's Ice Cream will be opening on November 29, 2023. United Dairy Farmers (UDF) will be opening on December 7, 2023. Children's Hospital will have a groundbreaking on November 17, 2023, at 9:00 AM.

**VISITORS/GUESTS WISHING TO SPEAK**

A homeowner from Sweet Harmony Lane addressed the Commission to discuss an issue with the street curb at his residence. Shortly after moving into the home, it was realized any regular size sedan would scrape when entering or exiting the driveway. He has investigated two different options to correct this issue. One option is a temporary rubber curb, another option would be for the curb to be cut down to decrease the angle.

The decision was made by the Commission to have the city engineering firm review the curb and give a recommendation.

The Commission acknowledged two Union residents by presenting them with certificates for their volunteer work to the city. Jacob Kremer, an eighth-grade student at Gray Middle School, completed thirty service hours on city projects including clearing the fence line at Union Rice Cemetery, picking up signs along city intersections and other maintenance tasks. Peyton Schroer, a junior at Randall K. Cooper High School, volunteered with city events and assisted with cleaning up Union Rice Cemetery.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Commissioner Ramage provided an update to the Commission on the month of October financial report which included “the bills to be paid” and the balance sheet. Interest rates remain the same at 5%. Both the bills to be paid and profit and loss look to be on track. Income from the payroll tax has started to come in, a reassessment will be made at the end of the year to see where the city is with the expected revenue.

Mayor Solomon asked for a motion to approve the financial report, including paying the bills for the month of September.

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

**Motion approved 5-0**

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

Commissioner Bine mentioned Union Pointe Center has two businesses opening in November, Bombshell Hair Salon and Union Wine and Bourbon House.

### **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Commissioner Garner mentioned the 2023 street repair project is nearing completion. He also mentioned Union Rice Cemetery is continuing to progress with improvements. Commissioner Garner suggested the full commission walk the future site of Union Town Center with Public Works Director Paul Kremer to get a better perspective on how the property can be developed.

Public Works Director (PWD) Kremer discussed the process that was taken in considering a new city engineering firm. The city received four letters of interest from different engineering firms. After review and discussion, the Public Works Committee is recommending Prime AE Engineering Service to be hired as the new city engineering firm.

PWD Kremer mentioned there is a need to use Municipal Road Aid (MRA) funds on two unexpected projects. He stated Tudor Lane, and Soaring Breezes need full resurfacing. PWD Kremer mentioned in accordance with Kentucky State Statue the floor was open for anyone who wanted to provide input on the spending of MRA funds. No public comments were made.

## **COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Commissioner Mefford mentioned there is current discussion on how to reach more City of Union residents, one suggestion is to utilize Mailchimp. Breakfast with Santa will be on Saturday December 9. Boone County Animal Shelter will be in attendance collecting donations for the shelter. Drees Homes, and Kroger will be making donations to the event.

Commissioner Mefford mentioned Boone County is currently working on a year long celebration to commemorate the 225<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the county.

Communications Coordinator Jaime Lyons mentioned discussion is underway for a panel to be placed at the Scheben Branch Library showing the City of Union through the years. She mentioned feedback from the commission is being sought for what should be placed on the panel.

## **ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

City Administrator (CAO) Amy Safran updated the commission on the revenue that was generated from business license registrations. She mentioned funds from the revenue of both payroll tax and business licenses will be used for city growth including a new city building, and Union Town Center. Progress is being made on both projects. The city is forming a park advisory committee which consists of residents who represent neighborhoods throughout the city.

CAO Safran gave an update to parcel twenty-nine, the triangle piece of property on US Highway 42 adjacent to Union Town Center property. At the last Caucus meeting it was discussed how the city could acquire this parcel of property. CAO Safran reached out to Kentucky Transportation District (KYTC) on how to proceed with this process. An application would need to be submitted to KYTC followed by an eighteen-month process. If approved by KYTC the city would need to purchase the property at the current market value. The Commission agreed to move forward with the process.

CAO Safran gave an update regarding the Duke Energy franchise. Residents will begin to see the franchise fee charge on their bills in December and the city will begin to receive payments in January.

CAO Safran mentioned Boone County has decided to make the Mt. Zion Beautification project part of a larger project including North Bend and Richwood. The application of all three projects combined will be more cost effective. Once approved the anticipation for planting will begin the spring of 2024.

CAO Safran mentioned there is a resident on Whispering Trail that has reached out with concerns of erosion in his yard. This issue was reviewed by both CAO Safran and PWD Kremer and presented to the Commission. After discussion, the Commission agreed the erosion is on private property and they were not interested in moving forward with funding to make repairs.

CAO Safran mentioned there was a request by Boone County Fiscal Court to wave the Alcohol Beverage Control fees for Lassing Pointe Golf Course. Mayor Solomon voted aye, Commissioner Mefford voted aye, Commissioner Garner voted aye, Commissioner Ramage voted aye, and Commissioner Bine voted aye.

#### **LEGISLATION/ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

##### **MUNICIPAL ORDER 2023-38 A MUNICIPAL ORDER HIRING AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR FOR CITY ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY**

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

**Motion approved 5-0**

##### **ORDINANCE NO. 2023- 15 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING § 32.21 OF THE CITY OF UNION CODE OF ORDINANCES ESTABLISHING A CHANGE IN THE MONTHLY CITY COMMISSION AND CAUCUS MEETINGS FOR THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY (First Reading)**

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Solomon announced that the next Caucus Meeting will be on Monday November 20, 2023, at 6:00 PM. Mayor Solomon also stated that the next Regular City Commission meeting will be held on Monday December 4, 2023, 6:00 PM at the city building 1843 Bristow Drive Union, KY.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Solomon called an executive session to be held in accordance with KRS 61.810(1) (b). Deliberations on the future acquisition or sale of real property by a public agency, but only when publicity would be likely to affect the value of a specific piece of property to be acquired for public use or sold by a public agency. Mayor Solomon made a motion and Commissioner Bine seconded the motion at 6:55PM. **Motion approved 5-0.**

Commissioner Bine motioned to exit executive session and Commissioner Garner seconded the motion at 7:55 PM. **Motion approved 5-0.**

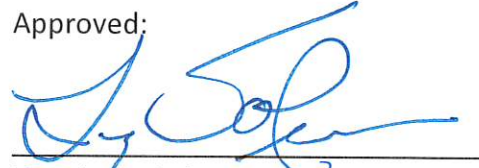
Mayor Solomon announced that no decisions were made during the executive session.

## ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Solomon asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Mefford made a motion and Commissioner Ramage seconded that motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM.

**Motion approved 5-0**


Approved:



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Hon. Larry Solomon, Mayor

Attest:



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Tammy Wilhoite, City Clerk