

UNION TOWNSHIP – TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING

FEBRUARY 21, 2007

MINUTES

Mayor Mazza opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

“Sunshine Law” Announcement: Adequate notice of this public meeting has been provided by the Annual Notice; faxed to the Hunterdon Democrat and Courier News; posted on the public bulletin board and on file in the Municipal Clerk’s Office.

Flag Salute

Roll Call - Present: Rob Haynes, Matt Severino, Lisa Nargi, Patricia Dziubek and Frank Mazza. J. Peter Jost, Esq., Township Attorney; John Reymann, P.E., Township Engineer and K. Judith Fabian, Township Clerk, were also present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Special Meeting/Budget Workshop Session 2/5/07; Regular Meeting and Executive Session 2/7/07; - Motion was made by Mr. Severino, seconded by Mrs. Nargi, to adopt said Minutes. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried.

REPORTS RECEIVED –

1. Building Dept.	1/07
2. Finance Officer; Claims Register	2/21/07
3. Municipal Court	1/07
4. Road Dept.	2/1-8/07 & 2/9-16/07
5. Environmental Commission Minutes	2/13/07

CORRESPONDENCE – Mr. Severino mentioned the Proposal from Viking Pest Control; squirrel and bat treatment; Historical Society Building; \$2,160. He will obtain additional information from Viking; tabled to the March 7th meeting.

Mrs. Dziubek mentioned the information from DEP regarding the Pittstown Historic District; the County will be making improvements in that area.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – Tom Ricker - various issues/Bob Nargi, Chair of the Environmental Commission - possibility of a matching grant and contamination of gas stations.

Mrs. Nargi suggested a letter to Mr. Flite, NJDEP, from the Mayor.

Mr. Nargi mentioned starting up an Open Space Advisory Committee consisting of a Planning Board member, Township Committeeperson and a person from the public. He will come to the Committee with a list of members. Mr. Ricker provided information on the purpose and reporting process of such an advisory committee. Mrs. Nargi expressed her opinion the Advisory Committee may be a way to maximize the property the Township already owns. Mr. Jost mentioned it is concurrent jurisdiction.

Rich Hughes, Recreation Committee: the Recreation Committee wants to open the 3 fields that were closed for maintenance last year; - they need a key for the gate and how does the Township want Recreation to handle field use applications? After a brief discussion, it was agreed the 3 fields can be opened and a key will be provided.

OLD BUSINESS – 1. Francis Gambony; Request to vacate master plan roadway easement; Bl. 19, Lot 5.01; - Mr. Gambony reiterated his request. Mr. Reymann mentioned he reviewed the file and sees no reason why the road (paper street) should not be vacated. The Planning Board had no issues with the road being vacated. Mr. Jost will confer with the Planning Board Attorney on how he would like to proceed.

Motion was made by Mrs. Nargi, seconded by Mrs. Dziubek, to vacate the property known as Block 19, Lot 5.01, pending an agreement between Mr. Jost and Mr. Sutphen, Planning Board Attorney, on how to proceed. Vote: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried.

2. 2007 Cozze Brothers LLC; Junkyard License Renewal Application – Mr. Jost and Mrs. Nargi were of the opinion it would be appropriate for a member of the Township Committee to visit the site to determine if the usage of the property conforms to the submitted map as it is a pre-existing non-conforming use. Mr. Severino provided additional information. Mr. Jost suggested the Zoning Officer also visit the site. It was determined Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi and Mr. Mills will make a site visit.

3. Former Scheuing Property; Bl. 1.08, Lot 16; Management Agreement with New Jersey Water Supply; to be discussed in Executive Session.

NEW BUSINESS – 1. Res. #2007-38; Hiring of Township Clerk. After a brief discussion, the following resolution was introduced for adoption:

RESOLUTION #2007-38

TOWNSHIP CLERK - Ella Malecki Ruta

WHEREAS, there is a need for a Registered Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, Ella Malecki Ruta is qualified and has expressed an interest in same;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union to hire Ella Malecki Ruta as a Registered Municipal Clerk effective March 5, 2007, at an annual salary of \$48,000 and two (2) weeks vacation within her first year.

Motion was made by Mrs. Nargi, seconded by Mr. Severino, to adopt the above resolution. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried.

2. Pattenburg Realty/Steven Heyman; 2007 Trailer Park License Application Renewal; -

Mr. Jost and Mr. Haynes recused themselves.

After a brief discussion, it was agreed the Zoning Officer would make a site visit and submit his findings in writing to the Township Committee; tabled to the next meeting.

3. 2007 Professional Services Contract; Carl E. Hintz, PP; Planning Services; tabled to the next meeting.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT – Mr. Jost mentioned the following: - resident from Hidden Meadow Lane has requested clarification of homeowners’ responsibilities pertaining to property maintenance (drainage); after a brief discussion, it was agreed the resident should contact Soil Conservation; - this Friday’s meeting with the County Planning Board is still scheduled (Milligan Farm subdivision); - he has a matter for Executive Session.

ENGINEER’S REPORT – Mr. Reymann mentioned the following: - he is following up with the County’s issues regarding Route 78, Exists 12/15; - he obtained some files from Maser. Mr. Jost mentioned there is a Maser Consulting Release Form along with a considerable fee for digital files; it was agreed a request for Township documents will be made; - the Stormwater report is due 7/07; a brochure and educational event are required; briefly discussed; - he has compiled a list of roads for the 2007 maintenance and road repair program that he will forward to the Township Committee; - he met with developer, Joe Caccavelli, Perryville Estates; landscaping/signage and paving are issues; he will put remaining incomplete issues in writing.

Mr. Jost referred to a small piece of property the developer was supposed to convey to a neighbor. Mr. Reymann mentioned that is being worked out.

MAYOR’S REPORT – Mr. Mazza mentioned the following: - appointment to the Recreation Committee: Mary Beth Kastrud to fill Scott Freeman’s unexpired term to expire December 31, 2007; motion was made by Mr. Severino, seconded by Mrs. Dziubek, to appoint Mary Beth Kastrud to said vacancy. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried. – appointments to the Cross Acceptance Committee: Frank Mazza/Matt Severino/William F. Bischoff, Jr./Bob Nargi/Brian Kirkpatrick/Page Stiger: motion was made by Mrs. Nargi, seconded by Mrs. Dziubek, to make noted appointments. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried.

- parking violations on State Highway 173; it is a State highway – no municipal jurisdiction.

The following resolution was introduced for adoption:

RESOLUTION #2007-39

**COORDINATOR AND ALTERNATE COORDINATOR
FOR THE AGING - 2007
AMENDMENT #1 TO RESOLUTION #2007-12**

WHEREAS, Fran LaLournous is hereby appointed to represent the Township of Union as the Coordinator for the Aging; and

WHEREAS, Jean Donato is hereby appointed to represent the Township of Union as the Alternate Coordinator for the Aging; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union to appoint Fran LaLournous, Coordinator and Jean Donato as Alternate Coordinator for the Aging to serve for the Township of Union, Hunterdon County, for year 2007.

Motion was made by Mrs. Dziubek, seconded by Mrs. Nargi, to adopt the above resolution. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried.

Mr. Mazza (cont'd.) - NFA letter from DEP regarding Milligan Farm should be obtained from K. Hovnanian; briefly discussed. Mrs. Dziubek will contact DEP to determine the status.

COMMITTEE REPORT – Mrs. Dziubek mentioned COAH regulations are being appealed by the League of Municipalities; - the RCAs will not be due until the Township’s plan is certified; the Township’s Planner is asking for the formation of a COAH Subcommittee.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – Sue Sharpe, reporter/Frank Goldberg, resident, in favor of Environmental Commission meetings being recorded/Bruce Rossi, resident, questioned – is there a good reason the meetings of the Environmental Commission are not being recorded. Briefly discussed.

Mr. Rossi noted it is Mrs. Fabian’s last meeting; he thanked her for her service to the Township.

CLERK’S REPORT – 1. Raffle License #2007-14; St. John Neumann Church; 5/4/07 and Raffle License #2007-15; NHHS PTSA; 4/26/07; motion was made by Mrs. Dziubek, seconded by Mr. Severino, to approve both license applications. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried.

2. CFO’s Request to attend 2 seminars; - motion was made by Mr. Haynes, seconded by Mr. Severino, to approve this request. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried.

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS – After a brief discussion, Mr. Severino moved that all claims against the Township of Union as appearing in the Claims Register of this date be paid and that all checks listed hereinafter be issued in payment thereof; seconded by Mrs. Nargi. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried.

Mr. Reymann mentioned he and Mr. Nargi met with Tom Borden, Highlands Council. He offered to meet to go over details of the Highland’s regulations as the regulations pertain to Union Township.

The following resolution was introduced for adoption:

**RESOLUTION
EXECUTIVE SESSION**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a public body to go into closed session during a public meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Union Township Committee has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the public;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Union will go into closed session for the following reason(s) as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12: Contract Negotiations and Litigation.

Motion was made by Mrs. Nargi, seconded by Mr. Severino, to adopt the above resolution. Vote – Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Mr. Severino, seconded by Mrs. Nargi, to return to the regular meeting. Vote – Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business to come before the Township Committee at this time, a motion was made by Mr. Severino, seconded by Mrs. Dziubek, to adjourn. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

K. Judith Fabian, RMC
Township Clerk