

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bischoff opened the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

- 2. **“Sunshine Law” Announcement:** Adequate notice of this public meeting has been provided by annual notice published in the Hunterdon Democrat and Courier News; posted on Union Township website, public bulletin board and on file in the Municipal Clerk’s Office.

3. FLAG SALUTE

- 4. **ROLL CALL** Present: Mr. Severino, Mr. Mazza, Mr. Hirt, Ms. McBride, Mr. Bischoff
Others Present: J. Peter Jost, Esq., Ella Ruta, Clerk, Grace Brennan, CFO,
 Robert Clerico, PE

5. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

- a. Regular and Executive Session Meeting Minutes of March 7, 2012.

Mr. Bischoff made the following corrections:

- Page 3, Discussion: Union Township Budget, change “salary increase” to “salaries will be discussed.”
- Page 9, Resolution #2012-48 replace paragraph 2 with “WHEREAS, the maximum amount of the contract may exceed the threshold amount established pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-3(b); and.”
- Page 16, last motion replace “or” with “and.”

Voice Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino		X	X			
Mr. Mazza			X			
Mr. Hirt	X		X			
Ms. McBride			X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			

Motion carried as corrected.

6. VISITORS

- a. Trooper Agaccio, Badge 6486, introduced himself to the Committee as the replacement NJ State Police Liaison to the Township. Ms. McBride asked about the last two months Court numbers that show a significant increase in tickets. Trooper Agaccio responded that weather has been nicer, less time doing accident reports more time out on the road, especially Exit 11 on interstate 78. Mr. Severino mentioned “No Stopping/Standing” signs that have been posted throughout Route 173 in the Township recently from Louise’s Diner through Exit 11.
- b. Chuck La Tournas – 2012 ANJEC Grant

7. REPORTS RECEIVED

- a. Road Dept - Weeks Ending 3/02; 3/09/12.
- b. Engineer’s Report
 - Hoffman Park Building Demo Bid Document did extended bid opening date and a second site tour on March 28, 2012.

- Race St. I did have some communication today with Ms. McBride about property ownership and establish a process on how to proceed. We want to contact the property owner to explain the issue on site.
- Perryville Road. Memo to Committee on micro seal pricing. Discussed options. Mr. Clerico will work up some numbers with the DR&F Foreman to refine his memo and add additional other sections of road. Discussion of private roads and Township maintenance.

Motion: To authorize Attorney to write a letter for the DR&F Foreman to sign to the residents of Leicester Lane advising them that the Township will discontinue maintaining their private lane as the Township does not maintain other private lanes.

Voice Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino		X	X			
Mr. Mazza			X			
Mr. Hirt	X		X			
Ms. McBride			X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			

Motion carried.

7:30 Mr. Clerico left the meeting

8. CORRESPONDENCE/WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Mazza mentioned the following correspondence: None

Mr. Severino mentioned the following correspondence:

- Board of Chosen Freeholders, Re: Resolution Supporting Governor Christie’s Proposal to Create Veterans Haven North Facility in Hunterdon County. Brief discussion of using the Hagedorn Facility in Glen Gardner for Veterans services and shelter. The Mayor mentioned that he had been at the facility with the Governor earlier in the day. The Mayor requested that a motion be made to prepare a Resolution in support of the Veteran’s Haven and send copies to appropriate legislators and public officials.

Motion: Mr. Severino made a motion for the Attorney to prepare a Resolution in support of the proposed Veterans Haven North Facility in Hunterdon County.

Voice Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino	X		X			
Mr. Mazza			X			
Mr. Hirt			X			
Ms. McBride		X	X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			

Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #2012-56A
TOWNSHIP OF UNION, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**SUPPORTING GOVERNOR CHRISTIE’S PROPOSAL TO CREATE
VETERANS HAVEN NORTH FACILITY IN HUNTERDON COUNTY**

WHEREAS, the Township of Union, Hunterdon County supported keeping Hagedorn Psychiatric Hospital open in its prior use; and

WHEREAS, Governor Christie, in his February 21, 2012 budget address, proposed converting Hagedorn Psychiatric Hospital into a State operated vocational/transitional housing center for homeless veterans; and

WHEREAS, proposed facility would be known as Veterans Haven North and pattern itself after the highly successful Veterans Haven Program in Camden county; and

WHEREAS, there are an estimated 7,500 homeless veterans of the United States Armed Forces throughout the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Union Township is grateful to all veterans and recognizes the need to restore dignity and purpose to those who selflessly sacrificed their lives for our Country; and

WHEREAS, Veterans Haven North will be a State operated facility for homeless veterans offering a long term program focusing on treatment, self-reclamation and community reintegration, and tailored to individual treatment needs and vocational interests; and

WHEREAS, Veterans Haven North staff will be comprised of diverse professionals specializing in addictions counseling, vocational rehabilitation, mental health/social services counseling and nursing; and

WHEREAS, Veterans Haven North will be supported by numerous entities including the New Jersey Department of Military & Veterans Affairs, the United States Department of Housing & Urban Development as well as a wide variety of service organizations, community agencies, veterans groups and private citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township of Union of the County of Hunterdon does hereby whole heartedly support Governor Christie's proposal to convert the Hagedorn Psychiatric Hospital into a vocation/transitional housing program for homeless veterans to be known as Veterans Haven North; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Township of Union is hereby directed to forward copies of this resolution to Governor Chris Christie, Lt. Gov. Kin Guadagno, Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney, Assembly Speaker Sheila Y. Oliver, Attorney General Jeffrey S. Chlesa, DMAVA Adjutant Gen (Acting) Brig. Gen. Michael L. Cunniff and State Senate and Assembly members of the 15th, 16th and 23rd Districts.

- DONJON Recycling, Re: Certification of Recycling. Mr. Severino stated that on the invoice for electronic scrap the credit should have been higher. We have made some changes to increase the credit in the future.

Ms. McBride mentioned the following correspondence:

- Mayors Advisory, Re: Senate Energy Tax Restoration Follow-up Needed. Ms. McBride spoke briefly about the issue and suggested that the Township pass the Resolution provided by the League.

RESOLUTION #2012-57

**TOWNSHIP OF UNION, HUNTERDON COUNTY
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE RESTORATION OF ENERGY TAXES TO
MUNICIPALITIES**

WHEREAS, taxes on gas and electric utilities were originally collected by the host municipalities to be used for local purposes and to compensate the public for the use of their rights of way; and

WHEREAS, when the State made itself the collection agent for these taxes, it promised to dedicate the proceeds to municipal property tax relief; since, just as municipalities collect property taxes for the benefit of school districts, counties and other entities; the State is supposed to collect Energy Taxes for the benefit of municipal governments; and

WHEREAS, for years, though, State budget makers have diverted funding from Energy Taxes to fund State programs; and instead of being spent on local programs and services and used to offset property taxes, the money has been spent as successive Legislatures and Administrations have seen fit; and

WHEREAS, while the State may need to have the right to over-ride the statutory dedication of these revenues to local governments, in order to deal with emergencies and crises that may occur; current State policy makers should not exercise that right automatically; and

WHEREAS, while that right should be the exception, it has become the rule; and

WHEREAS, by using tactics such as reducing CMPTRA, which is also comprised of revenues that should be returned to municipalities, State Budget makers have been able to continue collecting Energy Taxes, while keeping additional revenue that should have been returned to provide property tax relief; and

WHEREAS, from \$72 million in State Fiscal Year 2005, to \$505 million in State Fiscal Year 2011, the State's diversion of Energy Taxes has continued to grow; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, 2009 and 2010 (SFY 2009, 2010 and 2011), funding for municipal revenue replacement was slashed by about \$26 million in 2008 and \$32 million in 2009, followed by losses of about \$271 million in 2010; and

WHEREAS, the cumulative impact of years of underfunding has left many municipalities with serious needs and burdensome property taxes; and

WHEREAS, local elected officials are in the best position to decide the best use for these resources, which were always intended to fund local programs and services;

NOW THEFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Governing Body of Township of Union in Hunterdon County, that we join with the League of Municipalities in calling for the immediate restoration of funding diverted from Energy Taxes intended for local use; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we, respectfully, call on State policy makers to end the diversion of our municipal resources to cover State spending and to provide us with this important tool to relieve the worst-in-the-nation property tax burden borne, for too long, by the people of New Jersey; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Governor of the State of New Jersey, our State Legislators, the Assembly Budget Committee and the League of Municipalities.

Voice Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino		X	X			
Mr. Mazza			X			
Mr. Hirt			X			

Ms. McBride	X		X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			

Motion carried.

Mr. Bischoff mentioned the following correspondence:

- Ecology and Environment, Inc., Formal request to withdraw the Transition Area Waiver (TAW) application for Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Corporation-Northeast Supply Link (NSL) project, etc. Asked Committee to take note.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Dan Van Fossen, Chief of the Pattenburg Fire Company. Thanked the Committee for the use of the Hoffman property for the smoke drills. The Chief gave an overview of the drill. The Attorney gave the Chief a draft ordinance for review regarding emergency clean up and compensation. The Chief will review the proposed ordinance and report his comments at the next meeting.
- Mike Cole, 10 Finn Road. The Attorney prepared a resolution and gave an overview of the history of the agricultural easement.

RESOLUTION #2012-58

**TOWNSHIP OF UNION, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
Allowing Installation of Natural Gas Line Across Agricultural Easement
Block 27, Lot 8**

WHEREAS, Michael J. Cole and Stephanie R. Cole are present owners of property known as Lot 8 in Block 27 on the Tax Map of Union Township, being approximately 11.522 acres; and

WHEREAS, said property was created by a 2 1/2 lot minor subdivision of land known as Block 27, Lot 8, formerly belonging to Anthony Em, which created new Lot 8.03 and remaining lands of Lot 8, Lot 8 being the subject matter of this resolution; and

WHEREAS, Lot 8 has frontage on Cooks Cross Road, but the single family residence located on Lot 8 has access to Finn Road via a joint driveway located partly on lands of adjoining Lot 8.03; and

WHEREAS, the original subdivision deed for remaining lands of Block 27, Lot 8, from Anthony Em to Pacesetter Clinton, Inc. dated December 19, 2000 and recorded on December 20, 2000 in Book 1254 of Deeds for Hunterdon County at Page 237 provides, in pertinent part, as follows:

5. This conveyance is subject to the following conditions:
 - A. 2.317 acres of the Property consisting of frontage along Cooks Cross Road, is hereby restricted for agricultural use only, being more fully described as the restricted area in Schedule A attached hereto.
* * *
 - C. Access to Cooks Cross Road from the Property shall be for the limited purposes of agricultural use only; and

WHEREAS, said Deed provides further for a "Joint Driveway and Utility Easement which will perpetually exist for the benefit of Lots 8 and 8.03 of said subdivision subject to the terms and conditions set forth therein"; and

WHEREAS, Condition No. 2 of the said Joint Driveway and Utility Easement provides as follows:

2. The purpose of said driveway easement is to provide vehicular and pedestrian access between Lots 8, 8.03 and Finn Road. The purpose of said utility easement is to provide a private easement within in which private utilities may be installed to service Lots 8 and 8.03; and

WHEREAS, the present owners of Lot 8, Michael J. Cole and Stephanie R. Cole, are desirous of obtaining natural gas service from Elizabethtown Gas for their residence and also for their barn structure; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the above Deed provisions and restrictions, it appears that natural gas service is not available from Elizabethtown Gas via Finn Road and the above mentioned Joint Driveway and Utility Easement servicing Lot 8, because there is no gas main in Finn Road; and

WHEREAS, it appears that the installation of a natural gas service line from Cooks Cross Road to the residence and barn structure located on Lot 8 will not in any way interfere with the above referenced 2.312 acre permit deed restriction for agricultural purposes along Cooks Cross Road, other than the temporary and incidental construction of a suitable trench for the placement of said natural gas service line; and good cause appearing,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey that this governing body does hereby grant permission for the installation of a natural gas service line for the purpose of serving the single family residence and barn structure located on Block 27, Lot 8 from Cooks Cross Road through the 2.312 acre deed restricted portion of said lot fronting on Cooks Cross Road, subject to and conditional upon the following:

1. Restoration of any disturbed areas in connection with said natural gas service line, in a manner suitable for continued agricultural purposes; and
2. Compliance with all municipal ordinances and other requirements of law with regard to said installation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign any documents necessary to allow such access, subject to review and approval of same by the Township Attorney; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately;

Voice Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino		X	X			
Mr. Mazza			X			
Mr. Hirt			X			
Ms. McBride	X		X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			

Motion carried

OUT OF AGENDA ORDER

- Mr. Chuck La Tournas of UTEC. Mr. La Tournas gave a brief overview of the ANJEC Grant.

Motion: Approval to submit the 2012 ANJEC Grant application at a cost to the Township not to exceed \$3,000.

RESOLUTION #2012 - 58A

TOWNSHIP OF UNION, HUNTERDON COUNTY
NEW JERSEY

MUNICIPAL RESOLUTION FOR 2012 ANJEC GRANT

WHEREAS, the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (ANJEC) sponsors annual ANJEC Sustainable Land Use Planning Grants, which is a program providing 1-to-1 matching reimbursement grants to NJ municipalities, to help cover the costs of developing land use plans, ordinances, studies or document reviews that will foster more sustainable use of natural resources; and,

WHEREAS, the Environmental Commission of Union Township has decided to apply to participate in the 2012 ANJEC Grant Program; and,

WHEREAS, the Union Township Environmental Commission shall apply for the grant to provide funding for a update to the township's Natural Resource Inventory (NRI); and,

WHEREAS, the Natural Resource Inventory Update project shall:

1. Identify natural resource features that have experienced significant change since the last inventory was completed in 2003;
2. Identify and secure sources of new and updated data for those features, including Aerial Photograph and Land Use/Land Cover data from 2007;
3. Identify and address additional features and areas of concern, which may include tributaries to C1 streams within the township;
4. Perform the work required to update those maps and incorporate current data into an updated NRI;
5. Publish the updated NRI in both physical and electronic formats, such that they may act as useful tools for municipal planning purposes;
6. Perform other additional tasks that benefit the project, as they may be identified, providing they can be completed within the established budget.

WHEREAS, Union Township may provide up to half of its 50% match through in-kind services, work performed on the grant project by municipal volunteers and staff; and,

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Township of Union is committed to provide the required municipal cash match for the project, if awarded, up to \$3,000.00; and,

WHEREAS, it is acknowledged that acceptance of the Project shall depend upon a written application, which is due to ANJEC by March 30, 2012; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Union, that it approves the submission of an Application for participation in the 2012 Sustainable Land Use Planning Grant Program of the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Voice Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino		X	X			
Mr. Mazza			X			
Mr. Hirt			X			

Ms. McBride	X		X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			

Motion carried.

Mayor requested info on Farmland Preservation be forwarded to Bruce Hirt.

The Mayor asked the Clerk to send Mr. La Tournas a copy of a letter from the NJDEP in the matter of Eastern Concrete Materials – Glen Gardner Quarry for your information and action if needed.

Mr. La Tournas talked briefly about the community well testing offered on Saturday, March 31.

RETURN TO AGENDA ORDER

The Clerk will post the Notice of Public Hearing of the Reconstruction of HC Culvert U-18 on Wednesday, April 24, 2012 from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. This is Race Street over the Grandin stream.

Voice Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino			X			
Mr. Mazza	X		X			
Mr. Hirt			X			
Ms. McBride		X	X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			

Motion carried

10. OLD BUSINESS

The Attorney has a draft Ordinance to distribute to Committee for their review. At last meeting we discussed an Ordinance dealing with clean up of environmental spills, etc. and attempting to recoup funds for the emergency units that respond on the township’s part. This is a draft which has been circulated and adopted by other Municipalities that I know of. The Attorney is asking the Committee to review the draft and give comments at the next Committee Meeting.

11. NEW ORDINANCE – 1st Reading

12. NEW BUSINESS

- a. The following resolution was introduced for adoption: **(NOT ON AGENDA)**

**RESOLUTION #2012-59
TOWNSHIP OF UNION, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

Objecting to Use of the 2001 State Plan Policy Map

WHEREAS, the New Jersey State Planning Commission (the “Commission”) is required to periodically prepare and adopt a State Development and Redevelopment Plan (the “State Plan”) under the State Planning Act (N.J.S.A. 52:18A-196 *et seq.*); and

WHEREAS, the last version of the State Plan was adopted by the Commission in 2001; and

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING March 21, 2012

WHEREAS, the 2001 State Plan included a State Plan Policy Map which served as the underlying land use-planning and management framework that directs funding, infrastructure improvements, and investment in land preservation programs throughout New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, on November 14, 2011 the Commission approved by Resolution No. 2011-08 a Draft Final Plan known as “The State Strategic Plan” as an amendment to the 2001 State Plan; and

WHEREAS, the primary purpose of the State Plan is to “*coordinate planning activities and establish Statewide planning objectives*” that reflects to the greatest degree the input and consensus reached at all levels of government; and

WHEREAS, in adopting an amendment to the State Plan the Commission is required to conduct a cross-acceptance process, as codified at N.J.S.A. 52:18A-202 and N.J.A.C. 5:85-2 through N.J.A.C. 5:85-4, for the purpose of soliciting and giving due consideration to the plans, comments and advice of relevant planning entities including municipal and county government agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Union in the County of Hunterdon, New Jersey actively participated in cross acceptance between 2004 through 2008 at considerable municipal expense and effort; and

WHEREAS, the 2001 State Plan Policy Map included substantial errors that were identified during cross acceptance, and changes to the 2001 Map were agreed to during cross acceptance which are more accurately reflected in the 2009 Draft Final State Plan Policy Map prepared by the NJ Office of Smart Growth; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 2011-08 the Commission *rejected changes previously agreed to during cross-acceptance* to the 2001 State Plan Policy Map, choosing instead to institute a criteria-based identification system for “Priority Growth Investment Areas” and “Priority Preservation Investment Areas”; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 2011-08 the Commission has decided to *revert to the 2001 State Plan Policy Map without making the changes agreed to during cross acceptance* on an interim basis until such time as the State Planning Rules are amended; and

WHEREAS, until such time as the State Planning Rules are amended the 2001 State Plan Policy Map will be used for the purpose of evaluating qualification for State aid and incentives;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, in the County of Hunterdon, New Jersey that this governing body commends the current administration’s efforts to simplify and streamline the State Plan, but objects to the reversion to the 2001 State Plan Policy Map on an interim basis *unless* the map reflects or incorporates by reference any and all changes previously agreed to through municipal and county cross acceptance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Clerk is hereby directed to submit these comments as formal comments to the State Plan prior to the close of public comment on April 2, 2012, to the attention of New Jersey Department of State, Office for Planning Advocacy, 225 West State Street, P.O. Box 820, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0820; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution to shall be forwarded to the Honorable Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno, to the Hunterdon County Planning Board, to the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders, to the Municipalities of Hunterdon County, to the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, and to State Senator Michael Doherty, Assemblyman John DiMaio and Assemblyman Erik Peterson; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately;

Voice Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino	X		X			
Mr. Mazza			X			
Mr. Hirt			X			
Ms. McBride			X			
Mr. Bischoff		X	X			

Motion carried.

b. The following resolution was introduced for adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-60

**TOWNSHIP OF UNION, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**Re: Renewal of Agreement For
Shared Municipal Courts With Clinton Township**

WHEREAS, the Union Township and Clinton Township desire to renew their agreement for the sharing of facilities, personnel and resources by their respective municipal courts, as authorized by N.J.S.A. 2B:12-1.c.; and

WHEREAS, Union Township and Clinton Township originally entered into an Interlocal Services Agreement in 2008 providing for shared courts to be located in the Clinton Township Public Safety Building, 1370 Route 31 North, Annandale, NJ 08801, and both Union Township and Clinton Township have realized significant cost savings through the operation of their shared municipal courts; and

WHEREAS, the operation of said shared municipal courts has been in all other respects satisfactory and acceptable; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Clinton has approved and signed a new Interlocal Services Agreement for the sharing of facilities, personnel and resources by the municipal courts of Union Township and Clinton Township, and good cause appearing and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The 2012 Interlocal Services Agreement for Shared Municipal Courts (pursuant to N.J.S.A. B:12-1.c.) between the Township of Clinton and the Township of Union, to provide for the Sharing of Facilities, Personnel and Resources By their Municipal Courts, is hereby approved, and the Mayor and

Township Clerk are hereby authorized to execute same, and to forward to the Assignment Judge and Municipal Division Manager of Vicinage 13 of the Superior Court an original fully signed copy of said Agreement, together with a certified copy of this resolution, who will thereafter, through the Municipal Division Manager, provide a copy to the Administrative Office of the Courts for processing;

2. Approval of said agreement shall be subject and contingent upon approval by the Assignment Judge of Vicinage 13 of the Superior Court of New Jersey, and such other approvals as may be required by law.
3. A copy of the Interlocal Services Contract shall be on file in the office of the Township Clerk for inspection by the public.
4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Voice Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino		X	X			
Mr. Mazza	X		X			
Mr. Hirt			X			
Ms. McBride			X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			

Motion carried.

- c. The following resolution was introduced for adoption:

RESOLUTION #2012-61

**TOWNSHIP OF UNION, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**Authorizing Release and Discharge of
Demolition Bond re: Block 12, Lot 4 (Wolschina)**

WHEREAS, a Demolition Bond dated June 26, 2009 was filed with Union Township by Elsa Wolschina as Owner, and WRS Company as Contractor, with United States Surety Company, as Surety, Bond No. 23780, covering property known as Block 12, Lot 4, 21 County Route 635/Charlestown Road in the Township of Union; and

WHEREAS, subsequent to the demolition of the structure on said property, it was determined that an abandoned hand-dug in the immediate vicinity of the demolished structure had a broken cover, was open and presented a potential safety hazard of drowning or injury, and had not been properly decommissioned in accordance with NJDEP regulations; and

WHEREAS, said well has now been properly decommissioned by being filled with ¾ inch stone and cement grouting, and a Well Decommissioning Report has been filed by D&L Water Drilling and Pump Company in accordance with NJDEP requirements, as of February 9, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Zoning Officer and the Construction Official have certified that the balance of the demolition has been properly completed, all debris has been removed, and the area of demolition has been suitably restored, and good cause appearing;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey that Demolition Performance Guarantee Bond No. 23780 covering the above property, issued by United States Surety Company as surety shall be, and is hereby, discharged, cancelled and released; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the original of said bond may be released to the surety company or principal if requested and available, or if not available, the Mayor and/or Clerk are authorized to sign any necessary documentation on behalf of Union Township attesting to the discharge and cancellation of said surety bond; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Voice Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino	X		X			
Mr. Mazza			X			
Mr. Hirt			X			
Ms. McBride		X	X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			

Motion carried

The following resolution was introduced for adoption:

RESOLUTION #2012-62

**ESCROW REFUND
Avraam N. Zambas
301 County Road 639
Bloomsbury, NJ 08804**

WHEREAS, Avraam Zambas did post an escrow account for inspections fees, and

WHEREAS, the work and inspections are complete and all invoices have been paid,

WHEREAS, there is a remaining balance of \$500.00 in the escrow account

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the balance of this escrow account, in the amount of \$500.00 be refunded to Avraam Zambas.

Voice Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino	X		X			
Mr. Mazza			X			
Mr. Hirt			X			
Ms. McBride		X	X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			

Motion carried

d. The following resolution was introduced for adoption:

**RESOLUTION #2012-63
TOWNSHIP OF UNION, HUNTERDON COUNTY
PROCLAMATION – MAY IS OLDER AMERICANS MONTH**

Approved at 3/7/2012 Committee Meeting.

e. **Motion:** Approval of 2012 License Renewal – Pattenburg Trailer Coach Park

Voice Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino	X		X			
Mr. Mazza			X			
Mr. Hirt			X			
Ms. McBride		X	X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			

Motion carried

f. **Motion:** Approval of Reach the Beach Relay 2012 Race Series-October 12 & 13, 2012
Approve permission for this event subject to receipt of the appropriate insurance certificate naming Union Township as additional insured before September 15, 2012.

Voice Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino		X	X			
Mr. Mazza	X		X			
Mr. Hirt			X			
Ms. McBride			X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			

Motion carried.

g. **Motion to Approve:** Request by Tim Strand for the Mayor to sign a letter to DOT; no objection for flying hot air balloons.

Voice Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino			X			
Mr. Mazza	X		X			
Mr. Hirt			X			
Ms. McBride		X	X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			

Motion carried

h. **2012 Budget** – Discussion

- Ms. McBride had additional information on trash and recycling expense. Recommended that there be more control over the mini-dumpster and use by Union Township residents only.
- Mr. Severino offered a reduction in costs for recycling by changing the vendor. Quotes provided to Committee.
- Salaries – Ms. McBride provided cost of living and area salary information. Discussion of salary increase percentage and agreement on final percentage. Mrs. Brennan will prepare the Resolution to introduce the budget at the April 4, 2012 Committee Meeting.

13. REPORTS**a. Attorney's Report**

- ISRA (Industrial Site Remediation Act) would apply to a Municipality. But I think there is a necessity to do some due diligence if we are going to consider divesting ourselves of that property. The Mayor said we own only one building (old Municipal Garage). Ms. McBride suggested some testing to see where we are.
- Discussion of using Parking Enforcement Officer as a designee for fire lane parking.
- The CFO reported that she was contacted by Prosecutor Kerns office and people have been charged with the theft of our diesel fuel and he asked me for gallons and the dollars I have put in that we are looking for restitution for the diesel fuel, around \$700.00 that we would be getting back if they are found guilty. Restitution for the Pavilion, I received only one payment from one of the people. The CFO will send a letter requesting payment.
- Ms. McBride needs assistance identifying street lights in the Township to determine if any can be turned off as a cost savings.

b. Mayor's Report

- Quote – “You can not have a proud and chivalrous spirit if your conduct is mean and paltry; for whatever a man's actions are, such must be his spirit.” Demosthenes –Circa 300 BC
- John DiMaio's office contacted me about a response letter from DOT. Mr. Bischoff responded no. DiMaio's office will continue to follow up and provide a copy of the response to me.
- Any suggestions on sign project? Committee will consider lower cost alternatives.
- State Master Plan
- COAH Trust Fund meeting set for next Tuesday at 7:00 in the Municipal Building to explore the options that are available to us. Grace Brennan will be in attendance because she has been helping with some of the money matters. Objective of meeting to come up with a plan that would examine the alternatives and recommend a plan that will be brought the Township Committee for their action.
- Bill A-1660 passed the Assembly that increases contribution limits by the Municipalities to volunteer first aid and rescue squads. The Senate companion bill S960 has not been voted on yet. Ms. McBride will follow up.

c. Committee ReportMr. Mazza reported the following:

- Diesel trucks were retrofitted with mandated non-polluting diesel exhausts. Mayor suggested that an exemption be requested because trucks do not meet the mileage/hours requirement for the testing.

Mr. Hirt reported the following:

- Were hanging branches on Baptist Church cleaned up?
- Praised the Clerk for cleaning up the old court room for voting machines.
- We have not received a check or heard from FEMA regarding storm damage.

Ms. McBride reported the following:

- On March 15th CitiNet people trained our Tax Collector on CitiNet software and we are ready to go. One glitch, date needs to be manually updated at 4:00 p.m. daily. Contacted them about the issue and will resolve.
- The watershed clean up this year, South Branch is now part of Raritan Headwaters Association and the clean up will be April 21st Earth Day. VJ DiRoberto will run it for Union Township again this year. Put together a list of property owners on Race Street on Sidney Brook to ask permission to enter their property if there is trash to be picked up.
- The conservation easements and ANJEC Grant about 100 mailed letters out to individual properties holding conservation easement. A property owner contacted me because he felt that adjoining

conservation easements had encroached on his easement with branches and clippings. Resolution would be a property survey to identify the line.

- Matter for Executive Session.

Mr. Severino reported the following:

- Mr. Pierce from Virtual Auctions apologized for the delay in setting up the auction. Will have date by next meeting, he is working on it.
- Letter requesting shared services with Franklin Township for recycling certification.
- Finn Park well. Input from County Board of Health, Stothoff Drilling & Water Testing and Matt Mulhall, hydrologist. First course of action is to reclassify the well from irrigation well to domestic non-community well. The timeframe is less than a week and can be done by Stothoff for \$300. The well will need to be chlorinated and circulated which also can be done by Stothoff for \$500. Purge out well and then take a sample for the initial test cost \$375. Results to County BOH who will certify and approve the well. Two quarterly tests per year at \$110. per test. Approximate cost \$1,500.

Motion: Authorize \$1,500. to proceed with bringing on line as a domestic non-community well, reclassification, chlorination and testing of the well at Finn Road Park.

Voice Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino			X			
Mr. Mazza	X					
Mr. Hirt		X	X			
Ms. McBride			X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			

Motion carried

d. **Clerk’s Report**

- A request from HC Roads, Bridges and Engineering Dept. to hold the Public Hearing with regard to Culvert U-18 (located in Union Twp.) on April 25, 2012 from 6 pm to 7:30 pm.

Voice Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino						
Mr. Mazza	X					
Mr. Hirt						
Ms. McBride		X				
Mr. Bischoff						

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote

- Raffle License #2012-10 Church of the Holy Spirit; Off Premise 50/50; 4/27/12.

Voice Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino	X		X			
Mr. Mazza			X			
Mr. Hirt			X			
Ms. McBride		X	X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			

Motion carried

14. PUBLIC COMMENTS - none

15. PAYMENTS OF BILLS

The approved list of bills and 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.

Voice Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino		X	X			
Mr. Mazza						X
Mr. Hirt	X		X			
Ms. McBride			X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			

Motion carried

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Personnel

RESOLUTION #2012-63

Providing for a Meeting Not Open to the Public in Accordance with the Provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Union is subject to certain requirements of the *Open Public Meetings Act*, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et. seq.; and

WHEREAS, the *Open Public Meetings Act*, N.J.S.A. 10-4-12, provides that an Executive Session, not open to the public, may be held for certain specified purposes when authorized by Resolution; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Township Committee of the Township of Union to discuss in a session not open to the public certain matters relating to the item or items authorized by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b and designated below:

1. *Matters Relating to the Employment Relationship*: Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance of promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all the individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, assembled in Executive session on March 21 2012, at 9:30 p.m. in the Union Township Municipal Building, 140 Perryville Road, Hampton, New Jersey, for the discussion of matters relating to the specific items designated above.

It is anticipated that the deliberations conducted in closed session may be disclosed to the public upon the determination of the Township Committee that the public interest will no longer be served by such confidentiality.

To go in 9:30 p.m.

Voice Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino		X	X			
Mr. Mazza			X			
Mr. Hirt			X			
Ms. McBride	X		X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			

Motion carried

To come out 9:49 p.m.

Voice Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino	X		X			
Mr. Mazza			X			
Mr. Hirt		X	X			
Ms. McBride			X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			

Motion carried

17. ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business to come before the Township Committee at this time, Ms. McBride made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Severino seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ella M. Ruta, Municipal Clerk

William F. Bischoff, Mayor

Prepared by: Pat Essig, Administrative Assistant