

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor McBride called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

- 2. **"Sunshine Law" Announcement**-Adequate notice of this public meeting has been provided by the Annual Notice; posted on Union Township website, published in the Hunterdon County Democrat and Courier News; posted on the public bulletin board and on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

3. FLAG SALUTE

4. ROLL CALL

	Present	Absent
Mr. Severino	x	
Mr. Mazza	x	
Mr. Hirt	x	
Ms. McBride	x	
Mr. Bischoff	x	

Others present: J.P. Jost, Attorney, Robert Clerico, P.E. and Ella M. Ruta, Municipal Clerk

5. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

- a. Regular and Executive Session Meeting Minutes of November 5, 2014

Mr. Severino asked that the Executive Minutes be approved separately.

Approval of Regular Meeting minutes.

Roll Call 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

6. VISITORS

- a. Brian Plushanski – Green Rock Recycling LLC. Matter tabled until future meeting.

7. REPORTS RECEIVED – acknowledged

- a. Road Dept.- Week Ending: 10/31/14; 11/07/14; 11/14/14; 11/21/14; 11/28/14
- b. Municipal Court – October 2014 Mayor McBride presented comparative data with previous years.
- c. Zoning Officer – October/November 2014
- d. Animal Control Officer – November 2014 Will discuss under Executive Session
- e. Engineer’s Report

- Exit 11 Bridge - Mr. Clerico had a response from NJDOT regarding the deteriorating bridge abutment. Permanent improvements proposed within a year or two.
- Pilot Travel Centers – Request for final inspection of improvements. Voucher filed with DOT for reimbursement for off-site work.

8. CORRESPONDENCE / WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Severino mentioned the following correspondence:

- FCC Rules and the Wireless Industry. Clerk was asked to provide a copy to UT Planning Board.

Mr. Bischoff mentioned the following correspondence:

- COAH Update
- Pension Cost and the Municipal Budget Cap.
- Annual Watershed Cleanup and youth participation
- Lebanon Borough Proposed Water Ordinance.

Mr. Mazza mentioned the following correspondence:

- Asked about Clean Communities Grant. Mayor McBride said the Township received \$14,000.

Ms. McBride mentioned the following correspondence:

- Asked the Clerk to forward Pioneer Environmental Group and NJDEP correspondence to UTEC.
- Contract Award to Brown Truck Group for heavy equipment for 2015. The Township 5-year Capital Budget has listed a 10-ton dump truck to be purchased in 2016.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- David Fischer, owner of the former Pattenburg Post Office/General Store, asked about obtaining the old P.O. Boxes from that building. The Boxes would be displayed in their original location of the building. They are currently in the custody of the Union Township Historical Society. Mr. Fischer said they would return the Boxes in the event they sold the building. Mr. Fischer will collaborate with Mr. Bischoff in an attempt to acquire the Boxes. Mr. Bischoff is a member of the Union Township Historical Society.
- Stu Hutchison, President and Deputy Chief of the Quakertown Volunteer EMS updated the Committee on CPR Training for members, as well as their new equipment.
- Mark Mason, Pattenburg Rescue Squad Chief, apprised the Committee of changes in CPR Training. Mr. Hirt asked Mr. Mason if defibrillators were required, i.e., in the Municipal Building. Mr. Mason said they are recommended.

10. PUBLIC HEARING - None

11. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Discussion - Security Cameras-Using and Handling DVR System

Mr. Severino said he understands how to operate the System. He would be willing to share his knowledge of the equipment.

- b. Public Hearing on the following Ordinance postponed until a later date.

**ORDINANCE 2014 - 13
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-14
OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION,
HUNTERDON COUNTY NEW JERSEY
REGARDING THE UNION TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT**

12. NEW ORDINANCE – None

13. NEW BUSINESS

- a. The following resolution was introduced for adoption:

RESOLUTION #2014-139

UNION TOWNSHIP, HUNTERDON COUNTY

**RESOLUTION URGING TRANSPORTATION TRUST FUND REAUTHORIZATION AND
INCREASED FUNDING FOR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION**

WHEREAS, local officials know that investments in our rapidly deteriorating transportation infrastructure must be made, since failure to do so can compromise the safety of the public, the economic vitality of our communities and the security of our neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation (DOT) reports that New Jersey's municipalities are responsible for 64 percent (28,539 center line road miles) of our roads, county governments are responsible for another 22 percent (6,649 center line road miles), and together, local governments are responsible for 39 percent of our bridges; and

WHEREAS, local roadways and bridges carry about 55 percent of all of New Jersey's traffic; and

WHEREAS, just last year, the American Society of Civil Engineers reported that 651 of the 6,554 bridges in New Jersey (9.9%) are considered structurally deficient and 1,717 (26.2%) are considered functionally obsolete, and that driving on roads in need of repair costs New Jersey motorists \$3.476 billion a year in extra vehicle repairs and operating costs – \$601 per motorist, and that 66% of New Jersey's roads are in poor or mediocre condition; and

WHEREAS, in the first year of the Transportation Trust Fund (FY 1985), Local Aid funding represented almost 22 % of total Transportation Capital funding, but over the years, the Local Aid portion was reduced to 16% in FY 1997, 12% in FY 2004, and 15% in FY 2013, so that the average Local Aid funding over the first 29 years of the Transportation Trust Fund was just under 15%, and

WHEREAS, the need for investments in local roads and bridges has not decreased since 1985, and no one has suggested that it will decrease in the future; and

WHEREAS, On May 1, New Jersey DOT then-Commissioner Jim Simpson announced that the State's Transportation Trust Fund is just 14 months away from a \$620 million deficit; now, therefore, be it

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING December 3, 2014

RESOLVED, that the governing body of the Township of Union joins with the New Jersey League of Municipalities in supporting the “Forward New Jersey” coalition, and we call on State policy-makers to:

1. Reauthorize the Transportation Trust Fund to ensure adequate and reliable funding to meet State and local transportation infrastructure funding needs for the next 10 years;
2. Increase Local Aid funding to ensure adequate and reliable funding to meet all local transportation infrastructure needs; and
3. Increase the municipal share of Local Aid funding and ensure fair funding for all municipalities; and be it, further,

RESOLVED, that given the extent of the local infrastructure, and given the need for strong and steady investment in that infrastructure, we will call for assurances that Local Aid will represent, at a minimum, 25% of annual Transportation Capital spending, and for adjustments in funding, to account for the effects of inflation; and be it, finally,

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to Governor Chris Christie, Commissioner of the Department of Transportation Jamie Fox, our State Senator Michael Doherty, our two representatives in the General Assembly Erik Peterson and John DiMaio and to the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

Roll Call 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

b. The following resolution was introduced for adoption:

**RESOLUTION #2014-140
TOWNSHIP OF UNION, HUNTERDON COUNTY
RESOLUTION TO REFUND OVER PAYMENT OF 2014 TAXES**

WHEREAS, the tax collector received an over-payment for the 2014 property taxes on Block 24.02 Lot 2.01 Qualifier C0101 (1 Sam Bonnell Drive); and

WHEREAS, due to a fire the assessed value was reduced creating a significant reduction in the property taxes. The original billed amount continued to be paid which resulted in an overpayment of 2014 taxes in the amount of \$990.15; and

WHEREAS, Christopher S Danik the property owner, has requested a refund of \$990.15.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on the 13th day of August, 2014 by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, Hunterdon County, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Tax Collector should refund the amount of \$990.15
2. The CFO shall refund \$990.15 to Christopher S. Danik, 84 Main St., Califon, NJ 07830
3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino			x			
Mr. Mazza			x			
Mr. Hirt		x	x			
Ms. McBride			x			
Mr. Bischoff	x		x			

Motion carried

c. The following resolution was introduced for adoption:

RESOLUTION #2014-141

**TOWNSHIP OF UNION, HUNTERDON COUNTY
RESOLUTION TO REFUND REDEMPTION TO LIENHOLDER**

WHEREAS, Tax Sale Certificate #2013-005 was issued to Ridgeback Ventures, LLC, in the amount of \$317.03; and

WHEREAS, Ridgeback Ventures, LLC has paid subsequent taxes on the delinquency; and

WHEREAS, the lien was redeemed on November 21, 2014, in the amount of \$9,759.34 in accordance with provisions of NJSA54:5-60 et seq.; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 3rd day of December, 2014, by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, Hunterdon County, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Treasurer issue a check in the amount of \$9,759.34 and a premium of \$4,000.00 for a total of \$13,759.34 payable to Ridgeback Ventures, LLC, P.O. Box 503, Mount Freedom, NJ 07970
2. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino			x			
Mr. Mazza		x	x			
Mr. Hirt			x			
Ms. McBride			x			
Mr. Bischoff	x		x			

Motion carried

d. The following resolution was introduced for adoption:

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

RESOLUTION 2014- 142

APPROVING AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES WITH CAPTUREPOINT.COM

WHEREAS, Union Township is in need of software and services to provide on-line registration and payment for the various programs provided by the Union Township Recreation Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Township has investigated and reviewed various vendors of such services, and has

determined that the CommunityPass service provided by Capturepoint .com appears to fulfill the needs of Union Township for its recreation program; and

WHEREAS, the amount of the Capturepoint.com proposal is within the limit provided by law for municipalities having a Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA), which is applicable to Union Township;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that the price quote and agreement for CommunityPass services submitted by Capturepoint.com dated November 10, 2014, with one-time implementation fees of \$3,000, payable in 2014, and annual subscription fees of \$1,499, payable commencing 2015 and annually subsequent thereto, is hereby approved, and the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute same on behalf of Union Township, subject to attorney review and satisfaction of all requirements of law; and

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

Roll Call 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

e. The following resolution was introduced for adoption:

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

RESOLUTION 2014-143

**RE: OBTAINING OF OPEN SPACE TRUST FUNDS
 FROM THE HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS**

WHEREAS, the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders has approved an Open Space Trust Fund and established a Municipal Grants Program to provide Program Funds in connection with municipal acquisition of lands for recreation, conservation and general open space purposes, farmland preservation, preparation of plan elements of a municipal Master Plan and/or restoration of county-owned historic facilities; and

WHEREAS, The Governing Body of the Township of Union, County of Hunterdon, desires to obtain Open Space Trust Funds in the amount of \$24,634.21, to fund the following project(s):

Milligan Farm – Union Township Open Space Plan – Green Acres Project No. 1025-02-075 – acquisition in fee simple of 83.913 acres to be permanently preserved as open space.

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

1. Union Township Mayor Michele A. McBride is authorized to: (a) make an application to the County of Hunterdon for Open Space Trust Funds, (b) provide additional application information and furnish such documents as may be required for the Municipal Grants Program and (c) act as the principal contact person and correspondent of the above-named municipality;

2. If the County of Hunterdon determines that the application is complete and in conformance with the Hunterdon County Open Space, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund Plan, and the Policies and Procedures Manual for the Municipal Grants Program adopted thereto, the municipality is willing to use the approved Open Space Trust Funds in accordance with such adopted policies and procedures, and applicable state and local government rules, regulations and statutes thereto;

3. Mayor Michele A. McBride is hereby authorized to sign and execute any required documents and agreements with the County of Hunterdon for the approved Open Space Trust Funds.

Ella M. Ruta, Municipal Clerk

Michele A. McBride, Mayor

Roll Call 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

14. REPORTS

a. Attorney’s Report

- Atty. Jost asked for a Certified Copy of the Open Space Trust Resolution as soon as possible to expedite the release of County Funds toward the Milligan Farm Open Space project.
- Mr. Jost asked for a motion to discharge COAH Mortgage that was satisfied for 447 County Road 614, Asbury.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino			x			
Mr. Mazza			x			
Mr. Hirt		x	x			
Ms. McBride			x			
Mr. Bischoff	x		x			

Motion carried

- Wrote a Memo regarding Animal Control and Sheltering Services – Three bids should be requested
- Items for Executive Session

b. Committee Reports

Mr. Mazza reported the following:

- Asked the Clerk to contact the DR&F about replacement of all non-working lights in the meeting room.
- Asked for an update about the sign naming the Soccer Field in honor of Joseph Martin. Atty. Jost said he had prepared language for the sign. Mrs. Brennan told Mr. Jost she was working on the project.
- **Mentioned the possibility of budgeting more for paving and roads this year since the price of is low now. We would be able to pave more roads for less.**
- Asked the Committee approval to purchase a winter coat, gloves and hat to be used when working with the Road Crew during snowstorms and/or other traffic-related duties.

After a brief discussion, the following motion was introduced:

To approve Mr. Mazza’s request to purchase winter gear, in an amount not exceeding \$200.00.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino			x			
Mr. Mazza			x			
Mr. Hirt	x		x			
Ms. McBride			x			
Mr. Bischoff		x	x			

Mr. Bischoff reported the following:

- Quote: John Adams “Facts are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passion, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence.”
- Items for Executive Session

ITEM ADDED TO AGENDA ORDER: State Trooper Brian Walsh reported a GPS stolen from a nearby property owner’s vehicle. Mr. Severino mentioned the proliferation of advertising signs, especially around the holidays. They can be a distraction to motorists.

Mr. Severino reported the following:

- Dumping of construction material, furniture, etc. in the recycling container. Incident captured on surveillance camera. Will be discussed in Executive Session.
- Backhoe window broken during recycling. Mr. Hermann replaced window at the cost of \$542.00.
- Asked Atty. Jost about letter to Ashley Furniture about bandit signs. Mr. Jost said it hasn’t been written. He will follow up.
- Said there was confusion about recycling around holidays. Provided Committee 2015 calendar with dates. If Committee agreed with dates, he asked they will be posted on the Website.

Mr. Hirt reported the following:

- DOT on Route 173 not progressing due to weather conditions and some problems with the electrical contractor.
- Gave status report on anti-idling. Said that some older vehicles cannot comply.

c. Mayor’s Report

- Said that the Proclamation for Richard Schulman to be presented at the Appreciation Dinner. Asked for Committee approval.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino			x			
Mr. Mazza		x	x			
Mr. Hirt			x			
Ms. McBride			x			
Mr. Bischoff	x		x			

Motion carried

- Reported on a meeting she attended on November 17, 2014 with Mr. Mazza, Atty. Jost, Fire Chiefs and other Officers from all Fire Companies serving the Township. Senator Doherty and Assemblyman Peterson were at the meeting and were apprised of the Township’s concerns regarding the high volume of emergency calls to State Institutions located in the Township.
- Reported on various seminars she attended at the annual NJLM Conference.
- Officiated at a wedding on November 28, 2014
- Items for Executive Session: Personnel and Potential Litigation

Mr. Mazza had a question about Woodland Management properties as a follow up to his concern brought up at the November 5, 2014 meeting. He was advised to speak with the Tax Assessor.

15. PUBLIC COMMENTS – none at this time

16. 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 paid and that all checks listed hereinafter issued in payment thereof.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino			x			
Mr. Mazza	x		x			
Mr. Hirt		x	x			
Ms. McBride			x			
Mr. Bischoff			x			

Motion carried

Mayor McBride asked that the Board of Health Meeting be held prior to Executive Session.

Atty. Jost asked that the following motion be introduced:

To temporarily adjourn the regular Committee meeting and open the UT Board of Health meeting.

Voice Call 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

The following motion was introduced for adoption:

To return to regular Committee meeting at 8:41 p.m.

Roll Call 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

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION –

The following Resolution introduced for adoption:

**RESOLUTION #2014 – 144
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 Required by Law to be Confidential: Any matter which, by express provision of Federal law or State statute or rule of court shall be rendered confidential or excluded from the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.
2. _____Matters Where the Release of Information Would Impair the Right to Receive Funds: Any matter in which the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from the Government of the United States.
3. _____Matters Involving Individual Privacy: Any material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy such as any records, data, reports, recommendations, or other personal material of any educational, training, social service, medical, health, custodial, child protection, rehabilitation, legal defense, welfare, housing, relocation, insurance and similar program or institution operated by a public body pertaining to any specific individual admitted to or served by such institution or program , including but not limited to information relative to the individual’s personal and family circumstances, and any material pertaining to admission, discharge, treatment, progress or condition of any individual, unless the individual concerned (or, in the case of a minor or incompetent, his guardian) shall request in writing that the same be disclosed publicly.
4. _____Matters Relating to Collective Bargaining Agreements: Any collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions which are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of the terms and conditions thereof with employees or representatives of employees of the public body.
5. _____Matters Relating to the Purchase, Lease of Acquisition of Real Property or the Investment of Public Funds: Any matter involving the purchase, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of banking rates or investment of public funds, where it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of such matters were disclosed.
6. _____Matters Relating to Public Safety and Property: Any tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public, provided that their disclosure could impair such protection. Any investigations of violations of possible violations of the law.

7. X Matters Relating to Litigation, Negotiations and the Attorney-Client Privilege: Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is, or may become a party. Any matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is require in order for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer.

8 X 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.

9. _____Matters Relating to the Potential Imposition of a Penalty: Any deliberations of a public body occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty upon the responding party or the suspension or loss of a license or permit belonging to the responding party bears responsibility.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, assembled in public session on December 3, 2014 at 8:42 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.

Roll Call 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

The Committee returned to regular meeting session at 9:47 p.m.

The following motions were introduced after the Committee came out of Executive Session:

a. To approve the November 5, 2014 Executive Minutes, as amended.

Roll Call 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

b. To authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the Shared Municipal Court Services Agreement followed by the Court Liaison as to form.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING December 3, 2014

Mr. Severino	x		x			
Mr. Mazza			x			
Mr. Hirt		x	x			
Ms. McBride						x
Mr. Bischoff			x			

Motion carried

18. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Township Committee at this time Mr. Mazza made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:47 p.m. Mr. Hirt seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote.

Prepared by: Grace Kocher, Deputy Clerk

Michele McBride, Mayor