

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, Jonathan Drill, Attorney (7:40 p.m), Elizabeth McManus, Planner and Ella M. Ruta, Municipal Clerk

5. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

- a. Regular and Executive Session Meeting Minutes of December 3, 2014

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

6. VISITORS

7. REPORTS RECEIVED – acknowledged

- a. Road Dept. - Week Ending: 12/05/14
Mr. Hirt had a question about the inaccuracy of road signs on the Service Road. He will contact the County Road Department.
- b. Engineer's Report – Mr. Clerico not in attendance

8. CORRESPONDENCE / WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Messrs. Severino, Mazza and Hirt had no comments.

Mr. Bischoff mentioned the following correspondence:

- NJLM - Director Dressel retiring. Suggested the Township recognize his years of service.

– COAH Update - Discussion later in the meeting.

- 9. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None
- 10. PUBLIC HEARING: None
- 11. OLD BUSINESS

a. Motion to withdraw consideration for the following Ordinance:

**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**

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

12. NEW ORDINANCE – None

13. NEW BUSINESS

a. The following resolution was introduced for adoption:

RESOLUTION #2014-145

UNION TOWNSHIP, HUNTERDON COUNTY
APPROPRIATION TRANSFER(S)

Be it resolved by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that there are insufficient funds to meet the demands necessary for the 2014 Appropriations in the following accounts:

TO: Revenue Admin. Tax Col OE	10514520	\$ 500.00
Legal OE	10515520	5,000.00
Engineering	10516520	5,000.00
Solid Waste Collection OE Sewer	10530520	10,000.00
Maintenance of Parks OE	10537520	1,000.00
Electricity	10543020	1,000.00
	Total	\$22,500.00

WHEREAS, the following account(s) have sufficient excess funds to meet such demands:

FROM: Roads S & W	10529010	12,000.00
Roads OE	10529020	3,500.00

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING December 17, 2014

Planning Board S & W	10518010	3,000.00
Employee Group Insurance	10522090	1,500.00
Emergency Management S & W	10525210	1,000.00
Emergency Management OE	10525220	1,500.00
	Total	\$22,500.00

BE IT RESOLVED that in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 40A: 4-58 the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to make the transfer(s) required to meet the obligations of Union Township.

Date: December 17, 2014

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

14. REPORTS

a. Attorney’s Report

- Municipal Shared Court Agreement with Township of Clinton was finalized. Clerk sent the agreement to Township of Clinton for signature.
- Joint Prosecution Agreement was signed regarding sewer overcharges by the Town of Clinton
- Submitted an Open Space Trust Fund Application to Hunterdon County – Union Township will receive grant in the amount of \$24,634.21 in 2015.
- Letter sent to Ashley Furniture Store regarding Illegal Signs posted in the Township
- Talked about Animal Control/Sheltering Services for next year. Mr. Severino will seek quotes.
- Mentioned request to Zoning Official for a Wireless installation. Will refer the matter to Atty. Jonathan Drill.
- Items for Executive Session

b. Committee Reports

Mr. Mazza reported the following:

- Traffic congestion by Pilot Travel Centers, most specifically in the early morning hours. Noted there is inadequate signage. Will discuss with State Police Officer Walsh at Committee Meeting.

Mr. Bischoff reported the following:

- Quote: Benjamin Franklin “Common Sense is a most uncommon commodity.”
- Mentioned interim appointments for 2015
- Concerned about zoning revenues. Clerk provided a list of zoning fees for most of County Municipalities.
- Items for Executive Session

Mr. Severino reported the following:

- Spoke of the need for additional equipment and/or software for better identification of activity around recycling center. Mayor McBride will research costs for upgrades.

Atty. Jost asked that the following motion be approved:

Purchase of additional equipment and/or software for the surveillance system, subject to availability of funds being certified by the CFO.

CERTIFICATION AS TO AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

As required by N.J.S.A. 40A:4-57, N.J.A.C. 5:34-5.1 et seq., I, Grace M. Brennan, Chief Finance Officer of the Township of Union, have certified that there are available sufficient uncommitted appropriated funds in the 2014 Adopted Budget to purchase additional equipment for Surveillance System, as appropriated under the line item "_____".

Date: _____

Grace M. Brennan, CFO

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

- Mr. Severino asked if the recycling schedule distributed at a previous meeting was acceptable to the Committee. There were no negative comments.
- Items for Executive Session

Mr. Hirt reported the following:

- He and Zoning Official Graham had viewed the situation with junk cars on Perryville Road.
- Went to site on Route 579 property where the complaints were received about clearcutting of trees.
- Items for Executive Session

c. Mayor's Report

- Mentioned Appreciation Dinner and how well received and enjoyable it was. Thanked the Staff for their assistance in organizing the event.
- Items for Executive Session

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

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Action may be taken following Executive Session

- a. Discussion of COAH Matters with Special Counsel and Township Planner

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:

RESOLUTION #2014 – 146
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 or 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 17, 2014 at 7:53 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

Motion to return to regular meeting session at 9:01 p.m.

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

The following motion was introduced after the Committee came out of Executive Session:

To authorize Elizabeth McManus, P.P. and Jonathan E. Drill, Esquire, to take such legal action and file documents, as necessary, to protect the Township of Union’s interest in connection with COAH Third Round Rules Compliance, in accordance with discussions held in Executive Session

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

18. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Township Committee at this time Mr. Bischoff made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m. Mr. Hirt seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote.

Prepared by: Grace Kocher, Deputy Clerk

Michele McBride, Mayor