

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Severino called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 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. Hirt		X
Mr. Sroka	X	
Mr. Neary	X	
Mr. Mazza		X

Also present J.P. Jost, Attorney, Robert C. Clerico, P.E., Grace Brennan, CFO and Municipal Clerk Ella M. Ruta.

5. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

- a. Regular and Executive Session Meeting Minutes of August 15, 2018 **TO BE APPROVED AT NEXT MEETING,**

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino						
Mr. Hirt						
Mr. Sroka						
Mr. Neary						
Mr. Mazza						

Motion carried

6. VISITORS

7. REPORTS RECEIVED - Acknowledged

- a. Road Dept.- Week Ending; 8/10/18; 8/17/18; 8/24/18
- b. Public Safety Coordinator – Marc Strauss distributed copies of his written report. Gave a brief overview of the report contents.
- c. Engineer’s Report
 - NJDOT Municipal Aid Grants – Said applications for 2019 are available. Deadline for filing is October 8, 2019. Lengthy discussion regarding Roads to be considered for potential Grant Monies. Mr. Clerico will prepare a report for the September 19th 2018 meeting.
 - Perryville Road/Railroad Crossing – Gave a brief update on the proposed construction.
 - Frontage Road Grant – Continuing to work with the State regarding the improvements.
 - Country Acres Drive– Resolution on tonight’s agenda regarding paving of Country Acres Drive and Rose Hill Court.

8. CORRESPONDENCE/WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS - NONE

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bryna Elder, 582 Main Street Pattenburg – Voiced a concern about trucks using Baptist Church to avoid the Weigh Station in Greenwich Township. Ms. Elder also had a concern about the derelict dwelling on Main Street Pattenburg.

10. PUBLIC HEARING – 2nd Reading

ORDINANCE 2018 – 9

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53 FOR PREPARATION OF AN APPORVED TAX MAP

To open Public Hearing

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

Motion Carried

To close Public Hearing

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

Motion Carried

To adopt

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino			X			
Mr. Hirt						X
Mr. Sroka	X		X			
Mr. Neary		X	X			
Mr. Mazza						X

Motion Carried

ORDINANCE 2018-10

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION, HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY REGARDING DRIVEWAYS

To open Public Hearing

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

Motion Carried

To close Public Hearing

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

Motion Carried

To adopt

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino			X			
Mr. Hirt						X
Mr. Sroka	X		X			
Mr. Neary		X	X			
Mr. Mazza						X

Motion Carried

11. OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE #2018

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE REGULATION AND LICENSING OF FESTIVALS AND LARGE ASSEMBLIES IN THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION, HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Atty. Jost asked that the proposed Ordinance be taken off the agenda. It will not be considered at the present time.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino						
Mr. Hirt						
Mr. Sroka						
Mr. Neary						
Mr. Mazza						

Motion Carried

12. NEW ORDINANCE – 1st Reading

ORDINANCE #2018-11

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING SECTION 30-27, “DEVELOPMENT FEES FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING”, OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, 2001

The above Ordinance was not introduced at the request of Atty. Drill. It will be addressed at the next meeting.

13. NEW BUSINESS

a. The following Resolution was introduced for approval:

Union Township, Hunterdon County, New Jersey
RESOLUTION #2018-81
NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, suicide continues to be a serious but preventable public health problem that can have lasting harmful effects on individuals, families, and communities; and

WHEREAS, nationally, suicide is the ninth leading cause of death overall and the third leading cause of death among Americans aged 5 to 14 and the second leading cause of death among Americans aged 15 to 24; and

WHEREAS, most recent data shows that in New Jersey suicide has decreased to 9.7 self-inflicted deaths per 100,000 people demonstrating that through education and public awareness, suicide rates can improve; and

WHEREAS, the best way to minimize risk of suicide is to learn about risk factors, recognize warning signs and take them seriously, and know how to respond to possibly save a life; and

WHEREAS, National Alliance on Mental Illness – Hunterdon Chapter (NAMI Hunterdon) is proud to partner with Hunterdon County Stigma Free Task Force to end the bigotry against people afflicted with mental illness; and

WHEREAS, local suicide prevention efforts including Hunterdon’s Stigma Free Task Force work to raise awareness, eliminate stigma, promote suicide prevention as a public health issue and increase help-seeking behavior; and

WHEREAS, effective prevention strategies are needed to promote awareness of suicide while also promoting prevention, resilience, and a commitment to social change; and

WHEREAS, NAMI Hunterdon invites all residents of Hunterdon County to become educated about suicide and participate in National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Township of Union, Hunterdon County, do hereby recognize September 2018 as NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH throughout the Township of Union in Hunterdon County.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Union in Hunterdon County call upon our citizens to take the CureStigma test today to see if they are affected by stigma at CureStigma.org and pledge to be stigma free.

Matt Severino, Mayor

Attest:

Ella M. Ruta, Municipal Clerk

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
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Mr. Severino			X			
Mr. Hirt						X
Mr. Sroka		X	X			
Mr. Neary	X		X			
Mr. Mazza						X

Motion carried

b. The following Resolution was introduced for approval:

**RESOLUTION #2018-82
TOWNSHIP OF UNION, HUNTERDON COUNTY**

AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE ELECTRONIC TAX SALES PURSUANT TO THE RULES AND REGULATIONS PROMULGATED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

WHEREAS, NJSA 54:5-19.1 authorizes electronic tax sales pursuant to rules and regulations to be promulgated by the Director of the Division of Government Services, and

WHEREAS, the Director of the Division of Local Government Services has promulgated rules and regulations for the electronic tax sale program, and

WHEREAS, an electronic tax sale is innovative and provides a greater pool of potential lien buyers, thus creating the environment for a more complete tax sale process, and

WHEREAS, the municipality of Union Township wishes to participate in the Program for an electronic tax sale,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, Hunterdon County, State of New Jersey, that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to participate in the electronic tax sale program.

Matt Severino, Mayor

Attest:

Ella M. Ruta, Municipal Clerk

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino			X			
Mr. Hirt						X
Mr. Sroka		X	X			
Mr. Neary	X		X			
Mr. Mazza						X

Motion carried

c. The following Resolution was introduced for approval:

**TOWNSHIP OF UNION
IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON**

RESOLUTION 2018 –83

PAVING OF COUNTRY ACRES DRIVE AND ROSE HILL COURT

TILCON NEW YORK, INC.

MORRIS COUNTY COOPERATIVE PRICING COUNCIL CONTRACT #6 CATEGORIES A & B

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Union along with the Foreman of the Department of Roads and Facilities and the Township Engineer, have determined that there is the need to resurface Country Acres Drive and Rose Hill Court, and

WHEREAS, this item will be purchased through the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council Contract Number 6 Items A301, A302, B302 and B303 so no bidding is required; and

WHEREAS, there is appropriated in ordinance 2018-8, sufficient funds for this purchase; and

WHEREAS, this contract shall not exceed \$350,000.00,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Union hereby authorizes the CFO to issue the purchase order for the resurfacing of Country Acres Drive and Rose Hill Court to Tilcon New York, Inc.

Matthew Severino, Mayor

Attest:

Ella M. Ruta, Municipal Clerk

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino			X			
Mr. Hirt						X
Mr. Sroka		X	X			
Mr. Neary	X		X			
Mr. Mazza						X

Motion carried

d. **Motion to Approve** – Updated Township Personnel Manual as per MEL Insurance Requirements

Atty. Jost said he prepared the following resolution amending UT Personnel Manual. Mr. Jost noted the change in clothing/work boots allowance for the DR&F employees up to \$250.00 annually. Mr. Sroka asked that reimbursement for meals for those employees working overtime snowplowing and/or emergencies be limited to \$10.00 for breakfast and \$15.00 for lunch/dinner. He also asked that the DR&F Dept. have flexibility of working hours during the summer months. The Committee agreed the decision should be determined by the Foreman in consultation with the Committee Liaison.

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

RESOLUTION #2018-84

**Adopting Changes to Township of Union
Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual and
Union Township Employee Handbook**

WHEREAS, there is a need to amend the Township of Union Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual and the Union Township Employee Handbook, to reflect changes recommended by the Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund (MEL) for the 2019/2020 MEL Employment Practices Liability Program; and good cause appearing

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the changes as set forth in the Township of Union Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual and the Union Township Employee Handbook, as revised through September 5, 2018, are hereby adopted, and the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual and the Employee Handbook are hereby amended accordingly; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of the revised Employee Handbook with changes through September 5, 2018 shall be provided by the Personnel Administrator to all employees of the Township of Union.

Ella M. Ruta, Municipal Clerk

Matt Severino, Mayor

e. **Discussion** – Green Rock Quarry License

Atty. Jost asked that the following motion be approved:

To extend the License until October 17, 2018.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino			X			
Mr. Hirt						X
Mr. Sroka	X		X			
Mr. Neary		X	X			
Mr. Mazza						X

Motion carried

f. **Discussion** - Blasting at Liberty Quarry – Atty. Jost asked Mr. Neary to report on his observation of blasting at the site. Mr. Neary compared the sound to a thunderstorm and noise was noticeable. He said the sound of a window shattering was observed. Atty. Jost said noise from the trucks tailgates was excessive. Mayor Severino asked a resident about blasting notification. Eva Gallea, 18 Carhart Court, expressed her appreciation to the Committee for their assistance in resolving communication issues. Noise at the site was briefly discussed. Atty. Jost said the State has regulations pertaining to noise. Ms. Gallea understood that Mr. Feld would be requesting a change in hours of operation from 6:00 a.m. until 5:00 or 6:00 p.m. and not working on Saturdays. Mayor Severino said the Local Ordinance would not allow that change.

14. REPORTS

a. **Attorney’s Report**

– Mentioned that MEL requested adoption of a Civil Rights Resolution. He asked that it is placed on the next meeting agenda.

- Code Enforcement Officer – Atty. Jost said the Property Maintenance Ordinance is to be enforced by a Property Maintenance Inspector appointed by the Mayor. He said the Abandoned Buildings Ordinance has similar provisions. Mayor Severino did not see the need to create another position, since there are not that many issues/violations.

b. Committee Report -

Mr. Sroka reported the following:

- As Personnel Liaison he received a complaint about the Tax Collector not being in the Office during stated hours. After a brief discussion, Mr. Sroka said the Office hours will not change; adjusted hours will be posted on the Website.

c. Mayor’s Report

- Mentioned eliminating the requirement to obtain zoning approval for most interior improvements and replacements. Atty. Jost said he will consult with Zoning Officer Jim Graham and State Construction Official Jack Templeton regarding changes.

15. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

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. Hirt						X
Mr. Sroka		X	X			
Mr. Neary	X		X			
Mr. Mazza						X

Motion Carried

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

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption:

**RESOLUTION #2018-85
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

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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 investigation 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 required in order for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer.
8. ___ 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 September 5, 2018, at 8:26 p.m. in the Union Township Municipal Building, 140

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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			
Mr. Hirt						X
Mr. Sroka	X		X			
Mr. Neary		X	X			
Mr. Mazza						X

Motion Carried

The Committee returned to regular meeting session at 8:49 p.m.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino			X			
Mr. Hirt						X
Mr. Sroka	X		X			
Mr. Neary			X			
Mr. Mazza						X

Motion Carried

18. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Township Committee at this time Mr. Sroka made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Mr. Neary seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote.

Transcribed by: Grace A. Kocher, Deputy Clerk

Matt Severino, Mayor