

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

- 2. "Sunshine Law" Announcement** - Adequate notice of this public meeting has been published in the Hunterdon Democrat and Courier News, posted on the municipal bulletin board and the Township website in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975. This notice has also been filed in the Municipal Clerk's office.

3. FLAG SALUTE

4. ROLL CALL

	Present	Absent
Mr. Mazza		x
Mr. Hirt	x	
Mr. Stiger	x	
Mr. Lordi	x	
Dr. DeGiralamo	x	

Also present Trishka Waterbury Cecil, Esq., Robert Clerico, Engineer, Grace Brennan, CFO and Ella M. Ruta, Municipal Clerk.

5. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

- a. Regular and Executive Session Meeting Minutes of November 9, 2022

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Mazza						x
Mr. Hirt			x			
Mr. Stiger	x		x			
Mr. Lordi			x			
Dr. DeGiralamo		x	x			

Motion Carried

- b. Special Meeting Minutes of November 30, 2022

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Mazza						x
Mr. Hirt			x			
Mr. Stiger	x		x			
Mr. Lordi			x			
Dr. DeGiralamo		x	x			

Motion Carried

VISITORS

- a. Amy Overmen, JCP&L Representative for Hunterdon County.

Ms. Overmen provided an update on the impending winter storm. She said to contact JCP&L at 1-888-544-4877 to report any outages or issues with power lines.

Ms. Overmen gave a brief overview of last year's improvements to substations in Union Township, tree trimming etc. She also answered questions from the public and Committee members.

b. Patrick Dymond – Professional Property Appraisers Representative

Mr. Dymond updated the Committee on the progress of ongoing real property revaluation in the Township. The Mayor asked specific questions with regard to assessment of commercial properties, condos, approximate percentage of homes assessed at the higher or lower value, timing of the revaluation and appeal of the assessment process. Mr. Dymond responded that each property was assessed using the same housing market period from October 2021 through October 2022. He stated that after visiting all properties was completed, letters were sent to all owners with the new assessment value and estimated taxes. Anyone disputing the new assessment had an option/opportunity to schedule a meeting with representatives from the firm to discuss and contest the assessment value. Mr. Dymond further explained that if no resolution was reached at the time of a meeting there is an option for homeowners to file a Tax Appeal with the Tax Assessor and the County Taxation Board.

Mr. Lordi asked the percentage of households that the company gained access to enter and, if independent appraisal would be considered in revising the new assessment value. Mr. Dymond said it was approximately 60% and that independent appraisals would be reviewed and considered.

Mike Jeffrey, Perryville Road, Richard Maliszewski, Main Street, Grace Brennan, Country Acres Drive and Tracy Strycky, Cooks Cross Road asked questions and voiced concerns/complaints pertaining to a particular property. Mr. Dymond answered all questions explaining tools and criteria that were used in estimating the value of each individual property.

6. REPORTS RECEIVED – acknowledged

- a. Road Dept.- Week Ending; 11/10/22; 11/18/22; 11/23/22; 12/02/22; 12/09/22
- b. Animal Control Officer – November 2022
- c. Zoning Officer – November 2022
- d. Municipal Court – November 2022
- e. Public Safety Director – Report #2022-12
- f. Pattenburg Volunteer Fire Company

Chief Narbonne updated the Committee on favorable results of PEOSHA inspection. He said PVFC is in compliance with State regulations and functioning as it should. He apprised the Committee that he was elected Fire Chief for the next term. He said that the Committee having a report of PVFC being in compliance from the highest office at the State, should leave the past behind and start anew. Chief Narbonne reported on revitalizing a relationship with mutual aid Fire Companies. He asked the Committee to approve the Fire Police Ordinance, keep the lines of communication open, eliminate the position of Public Safety Director and hire an appropriate candidate for the Office of Emergency Management Coordinator. Chief Narbonne spoke of traffic on I-78, billing for responding to accidents on I-78 and donations from Township residents. In conclusion, he reiterated his earlier statement of starting anew, rebuilding relationships with the Committee and the importance of communication.

g. Engineer's Report

- In the process of closing capital projects that were completed this year.
- Baptist Church Road – Section 3 Project was postponed until spring of 2023.
- Grant in the amount of \$163,700.00 was received from NJ DOT for Perryville Road Section 4B. This project has to be completed before November of 2024.
- Provided an update on NJ DEP Stormwater Permit for Union Twp. since this Township, as well as most in the County, were reclassified from Tier B to Tier A. Will be bringing up obligations that have to be met in 2023 and its effect on the municipal budget in the beginning of next year.
- Mayor asked if Mr. Clerico would check with the County as to when the reconstruction of the bridge project on Baptist Church Road be completed.

8. CORRESPONDENCE/WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS - none

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mike Sadusky, Deputy Fire Chief, inquired about the timeline when the Fire Police Ordinance would be considered for introduction and adoption.

Karen Wisnosky, Deerfield Lane, read a letter addressing 2023 appointment of professionals, Fire Police Ordinance and PVFC records keeping that might not always be perfect. She commended dedication and sacrifices of volunteers and their families serving on PVFC. Ms. Wisnosky expressed her disappointment in some members of the Committee who are disparagingly talking about their Fire Department.

Renee Gyuro, County Rt. 579, stated that her address is not found in 911 data base. 911 Coordinator Hirt will help Ms. Gyuro with this matter.

Cathy Whiteley asked if there is a Police report regarding a night incident at Mr. Lordi's house. Mr. Lordi responded in the negative.

Mike Jeffrey, Perryville Road, extended his thanks to PVFC and asked the number of volunteers currently serving. Deputy Chief Sadusky answered there are thirteen. Mr. Jeffrey also spoke in favor of approving the Fire Police Ordinance. Both the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor stated that the Committee is awaiting reports from the State before any action is taken with regard to PVFC.

10. PUBLIC HEARING

**TOWNSHIP OF UNION
ORDINANCE #2022-10**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION IN HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW
JERSEY CHANGING THE ZONE CLASSIFICATION OF THE HIGHLAND RIDGE
AND LAKE VIEW ESTATES DEVELOPMENTS FROM VR-VILLAGE RESIDENTIAL
TO CR-COUNTRY RESIDENTIAL AND AMENDING THE UNION TOWNSHIP
ZONING DISTRICTS MAP ACCORDINGLY**

Mayor DeGiralamo opened Public Hearing and asked if there were any comments from the Governing Body or the public.

THESE MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED

UNION TOWNSHIP

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING December 21, 2022

Atty. Waterbury Cecil asked to place in minutes that this Ordinance was sent to the Planning Board for Master Plan consistency review and the Planning Board determined that the Ordinance is not inconsistent with the Master Plan of the Township of Union.

Mayor DeGiralamo closed the Public Hearing
Mayor DeGiralamo asked for a motion to adopt

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Mazza						x
Mr. Hirt			x			
Mr. Stiger	x		x			
Mr. Lordi			x			
Dr. DeGiralamo		x	x			

Motion Carried

ORDINANCE #2022 - 11

AN ORDINANCE FIXING AND DETERMINING MUNICIPAL CLASS POSITION TITLES AND SALARY RANGES FOR CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NJ – 2022

Mayor DeGiralamo opened Public Hearing and asked if there were any comments from the Governing Body or the public.

There being no comments Mayor DeGiralamo closed the Public Hearing

To adopt

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Mazza						x
Mr. Hirt		x	x			
Mr. Stiger	x		x			
Mr. Lordi			x			
Dr. DeGiralamo			x			

Motion Carried

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

12. NEW ORDINANCES - 1st Reading

13. NEW BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA: All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Township Committee and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the consent Agenda and will be considered separate.

- a. **RESOLUTION #2022-115:** Approving Agreement for 2023 Payroll Services

RESOLUTION #2022-115

AGREEMENT BETWEEN R&L DATACENTERS, INC.

AND

UNION TOWNSHIP

THIS AGREEMENT, made as of the 1st day of January 2023, by and between

UNION TOWNSHIP, a municipal corporation of the State of New Jersey, with offices located at 140 Perryville Rd., in the Township of Hampton, in the County of Hunterdon, and State of New Jersey, hereinafter referred to as "the Local Unit" or the "Township",

and

R&L DATACENTERS, INC., a New Jersey Corporation, having as its principal place of business 44 Main Street, P.O. Box 548, Borough of Bloomsbury, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, hereinafter referred to as the "Disbursing Organization" or "R&L", and both Parties hereinafter collectively referred to as "the Parties".

RECITALS

- A. WHEREAS, the Township requires the provision of specific payroll-related services for the officers and employees of Union Township; and
- B. WHEREAS, the services previously provided by, or to be provided by, R&L on behalf of Union Township, and which are anticipated for the Term of this Agreement are set forth herein; and
- C. WHEREAS, the Township explicitly acknowledges that the Township's governing body has the authority to enter into this Agreement after the governing body's due deliberation, review and approval of this Agreement, and said acceptance was memorialized

by way of the Township's Resolution Number ;and

dated

D. WHEREAS, Union Township further understands that various services, including but not limited to: Automatic Tax Services and Quarterly Automatic Tax Services, eg., Periodic Tax Payments, Responding to tax agency inquiries, Quarterly Preparation of Fonn's 941, NJ927 (NJ SUI/SDI Report), and PA State Withholding; Direct Deposit Services, eg., the creation of NACHA files, the initiation and transmission of direct deposits, responding to direct deposit inquiries, and all direct deposit-related file maintenance issues; and, electronic check stub deliveries are not services provided by R&L and are not contemplated herein by this Agreement. As such, Union Township acknowledges and understands that Union Township is required to enter into a third-party contract for the provision of those services that are not explicitly provided by R&L and which are not specifically set forth within this Agreement. Union Township agrees that any such agreement between itself and any third-party provider are independent arms-length transactions that neither bind R&L nor alter any provision contained within this Agreement with R&L; and

"Third-party disbursement service organization or disbursing organization" means an organization engaged either directly or indirectly to perform any of the services indicated in these rules.

"Third-party disbursement service" means such service or services of the type described in these rules. Such service or services may include the processing and disbursing of payroll and payroll agency obligations.

"Transaction" means any activity that, in accordance with sound fiscal practices, affects the general books of entry, ledgers, records, or logs of a local unit.

III. AUTHORIZATION

Union Township, Hunterdon County, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-17.4, has enacted policies for contracting with a disbursing organization to process payroll disbursements on its behalf with such policies being formally authorized by ordinance or resolution of the Township's governing body, as appropriate for the Township's form of government, with said policies delineating the specific tasks that may be performed by a disbursing organization.

- b. **RESOLUTION #2022-116**: Approving Agreement for Municipal Advisor & Continuing Disclosure Services

RESOLUTION #2022-116

AGREEMENT

for

MUNICIPAL ADVISOR AND CONTINUING DISCLOSURE SERVICES

THIS AGREEMENT (the "Agreement"), made and entered into on January 01, 2023, by and between Union Township, 140 Perryville Road, Hampton, NJ 08827-9717 (the "Client"), and Phoenix Advisors, LLC, 625 Farnsworth Avenue, Bordentown, New Jersey 08505 ("Phoenix Advisors"),

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS Phoenix Advisors has expertise across a variety of disciplines, including but not limited to municipal advisor services, continuing disclosure, rating agency surveillance, project finance, debt management and financial consulting, and being duly registered as a Municipal Advisor with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") and the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (the "MSRB"), is qualified to perform such professional services;

WHEREAS the Client desires to engage Phoenix Advisors to perform the professional services set forth herein; and

WHEREAS the parties desire to set forth herein the terms and conditions under which Phoenix Advisors will provide such services to the Client;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE PARTIES HERETO, IN CONSIDERATION OF MUTUAL COVENANTS HEREIN CONTAINED AND OTHER GOOD AND VALUABLE CONSIDERATION, EACH INTENDING TO BE LEGALLY BOUND, HEREBY AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

General. Phoenix Advisors will perform the professional services set forth herein.

Term. This Agreement shall have a term of one (1) year from the effective date noted above. This Agreement is subject to annual renewal and may be terminated by either the Client or Phoenix Advisors upon thirty (30) days prior written notice.

General Compensation. The client agrees to the compensation schedule set forth herein. There shall be no additional charge for out-of-pocket expenses incurred by Phoenix Advisors unless specifically agreed. Should any modification of fees become appropriate, the client shall receive written notification. In the event of termination of the agreement, Phoenix Advisors reserves the right to receive payment of its fee, calculated on a pro rata basis, for all services rendered under this Agreement up to and including the date of termination.

Professional Qualifications. Under SEC and MSRB regulations, municipal advisor professionals owe a fiduciary duty to the Client. Any person that provides advice to municipal entities concerning the issuance of municipal securities must be registered with the SEC and the MSRB. Any Phoenix Advisors professional providing advice to our clients must hold a Series 50

Municipal Advisor Representative license. Phoenix Advisors professionals who supervise the provision of municipal securities advice must hold a Series 54 Municipal Advisor Principal license. All Phoenix Advisors municipal advisor professionals hold the appropriate licenses. All licensees are subject to continuing education protocols.

Neither Phoenix Advisors nor any individual representing Phoenix Advisors possesses any authority concerning any decision of the Client or any official of the Client beyond the rendition of information or advice. Phoenix Advisors does not provide legal or accounting advice. None of the services contemplated in this Agreement shall be construed as legal advice or a substitute for legal services. The Client hereby acknowledges its responsibilities concerning federal securities laws and represents its intention to comply in all respects with federal securities laws. Phoenix Advisors and the Client agree, at their own expense, to operate in full compliance with all governmental laws, regulations, and requirements applicable to the duties conducted hereunder. Phoenix Advisors and the Client will obtain and maintain in force, at its own expense, all licenses, permits, and approvals required for its performance under this Agreement and will obtain all required authorizations and approvals prior to commencement of the services.

Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest. The MSRB requires Phoenix Advisors to provide written disclosure to the Client about material conflicts of interest. Disclosures required by the MSRB are set forth herein.

Indemnification and Release. The Client agrees, to the full extent permitted by law, to indemnify and hold harmless Phoenix Advisors, its officers, directors, shareholders, members, employees and agents ("Phoenix Indemnitees") against all damages, liabilities or costs including reasonable attorneys' fees and defense costs, arising out of or in any way connected with this Agreement or the performance by any of the Phoenix Indemnitees of the services under this Agreement, excepting only those damages, liabilities or costs attributable to a material breach of any of the representations of Phoenix Advisors in this Agreement. In consideration of the substantial risks to Phoenix Advisors in rendering professional services in connection with this Agreement, the Client agrees to make no claim and hereby waives, to the fullest extent permitted by law, any claim or cause of action of any nature against Phoenix Indemnitees, which may arise out of or in connection with this Agreement or the performance by any of the parties above named of the services under this Agreement.

Entire Agreement. The Agreement and all exhibits thereto constitute the entire agreement of the parties hereto and supersede all prior or contemporaneous oral or written communications, proposals and representations with respect to its subject matter, and this Agreement, including all exhibits thereto, prevails over any conflicting or additional terms of any quote, order, acknowledgment, or similar communication between the parties during the term of this Agreement, including all exhibits thereto, unless such additional terms are consented to by both parties in writing.

Severability and Survival. If any provision of this Agreement is held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason whatsoever, the remaining provisions shall remain valid and unimpaired, and shall continue in full force and effect. The covenants set forth above shall survive and shall continue to be binding notwithstanding the termination of this Agreement for any reason whatsoever.

Applicable Law. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of New Jersey.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, The Client and Phoenix Advisors have caused this Agreement to be duly executed by their authorized representatives, as of the effective date noted above.

UNION TOWNSHIP

By:

Authorized Signatory

PHOENIX ADVISORS, LLC



By:

David B. Thompson, Chief Executive Officer

- c. **RESOLUTION #2022-117**: Authorizing the Tax Collector to Cancel Property Taxes for Block 1.09, Lot 8 Pursuant to 100% Disabled Veteran Exemption

RESOLUTION # 2022-117

TOWNSHIP OF UNION, HUNTERDON COUNTY

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL PROPERTY TAXES FOR BLOCK 1.09 LOT 8 PURSUANT TO 100% DISABLED VETERAN EXEMPTION

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.00(a) the dwelling house and cartilage owned by a citizen or resident of New Jersey who is a veteran and has a total or 100% permanent disability as defined therein may be exempt from property tax; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence Stiscia is a resident and citizen of New Jersey who served in active war time and was honorably discharged from the U.S. Armed Forces was declared by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to be totally and one hundred percent permanently disabled; and

THESE MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED

UNION TOWNSHIP

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING December 21, 2022

WHEREAS, Lawrence Stiscia owns legal title to the entire dwelling house and cartilage on the property identified as Block 1.09, Lot 8 (698 Deerfield Lane), which is his/her principal place of residence; and

WHERAS, Lawrence Stiscia filed an application and the Tax Assessor approved the exemption effective October 26, 2022 based on the application and information provided; and

WHEREAS, Colleen Dolan, Tax Collector advises that the prorated amount of 2022 taxes in the amount of \$1,768.80 need to be cancelled; and

WHEREAS, payments totaling \$9,783.73 have been received by the Tax Collector for 2022 taxes; and

WHEREAS, the disabled veteran should be refunded \$1,768.80 which represents an overpayment of property taxes paid in 2022; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey that taxes in tax year 2022 for Block 1.09 Lot 8 be cancelled and a refund be given in the amount of \$1,768.80 and the records of the Tax Collector be adjusted to reflect the exempt status of this property.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution is provided to the Tax Collector, Tax Assessor and Chief Financial Officer.

- d. **RESOLUTION #2022-118**: Authorizing the Tax Collector to Cancel Property Taxes for Block 24, Lot 2 Qualifier C1009 Pursuant to 100% Disabled Veteran Exemption

RESOLUTION # 2022-118

TOWNSHIP OF UNION, HUNTERDON COUNTY

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL PROPERTY TAXES FOR BLOCK 24 LOT 2 QUALIFIER C1009 PURSUANT TO 100% DISABLED VETERAN EXEMPTION

WHERAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.00(a) the dwelling house and cartilage owned by a citizen or resident of New Jersey who is a veteran and has a total or 100% permanent disability as defined therein may be exempt from property tax; and

WHEREAS, John Kokes is a resident and citizen of New Jersey who served in active war time and was honorably discharged from the U.S. Armed Forces was declared by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to be totally and one hundred percent permanently disabled; and

WHEREAS, John Kokes owns legal title to the entire dwelling house and cartilage on the property identified as Block 24, Lot 2, Qualifier C1009 (39 Hillside Court), which is his/her principal place of residence; and

WHERAS, John Kokes filed an application and the Tax Assessor approved the exemption effective October 3, 2022 based on the application and information provided; and

WHEREAS, Colleen Dolan, Tax Collector advises that the prorated amount of 2022 taxes in the amount of \$804.60 need to be cancelled; and

WHEREAS, payments totaling \$3,263.29 have been received by the Tax Collector for 2022 taxes; and

WHEREAS, the disabled veteran should be refunded \$804.60 which represents an overpayment of property taxes paid in 2022; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey that taxes in tax year 2022 for Block 24 Lot 2 Qualifier C1009 be cancelled and a refund be given in the amount of \$804.60 and the records of the Tax Collector be adjusted to reflect the exempt status of this property.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution is provided to the Tax Collector, Tax Assessor and Chief Financial Officer.

- e. **RESOLUTION #2022-119**: Amended Green Acres Project Agreement #1025-02-075; Union Twp. Open Space Acquisition

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
GREEN ACRES PROGRAM**

**ENABLING RESOLUTION #2022-119
PROJECT NO. 1025-02-075**

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Green Acres Program (“State”), provides loans and/or grants to municipal and county governments and grants to nonprofit organizations for assistance in the acquisition and development of lands for outdoor recreation and conservation purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Union has previously obtained a loan of \$0 and/or a grant of \$2,957,527 from the State to fund the following project(s):

#1025-02-075 – Union Township Open Space Plan; and

WHEREAS, the State and the Township of Union intend to increase Green Acres funding by \$500,000; and

WHEREAS, the applicant is willing to use the State’s funds in accordance with its rules, regulations and applicable statutes, and is willing to enter into an Amendment of the Agreement with the State for the above-named project;

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

1. The Mayor of the above named body or board is hereby authorized to execute an agreement and any amendment thereto with the State known as Union Township Open Space Plan; and
2. The applicant has its matching share of the project, if a match is required, in the amount of \$3,457,527.00; and
3. In the event the State’s funds are less than the total project cost specified above, the applicant has the balance of funding necessary to complete the project; and

THESE MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED

UNION TOWNSHIP

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING December 21, 2022

- 4. The applicant agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations in its performance of the project.
- 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.
- f. **RESOLUTION #2022-120:** Appropriation Transfer Resolution

Resolution #2022-120

UNION TOWNSHIP, HUNTERDON COUNTY
APPROPRATION 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 2022 Appropriations in the following accounts:

TO:	Legal Service OE	10515520	\$ 5,000	
	Electricity OE	10543020		2,500
	Gasoline OE	10546020		5,000
	Recreation OE	10537020		2,500
	Solid Waste OE	10530570	3,000	
	Total			\$18,000

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

FROM:				
	Environmental Health	10533520		2,000
	Engineering OE	10516520		7,500
	Public Safety: OE	10526120		2,000
	Buildings & Grounds	10531020		5,000
	Animal Control OE	10534020		1,000
	Computerized Data	10514020		500
	Total			\$18,000

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.

g. Payment of Bills

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Mazza						x
Mr. Hirt			x			
Mr. Stiger	x		x			
Mr. Lordi			x			
Dr. DeGiralamo		x	x			

Motion Carried

End of Consent Agenda

- j. Discussion – Quakertown Fire Company request for additional funding

Deputy Mayor Stiger stated that the letter requesting additional contribution, due to increase in calls received, will be discussed at the 2023 budget meetings. Mr. Stiger added that there are no funds available for 2022.

- k. Discussion – Notice of 2023 Meeting Dates of the Township Committee for approval at the 2023 Reorganization meeting. Briefly discussed budget meeting dates.

14. REPORTS

- a. **Attorney's Report** – none at this time.

b. **Mayor's Report**

- Holiday Tree Lighting Celebration – an awesome 2nd annual tree lighting. Many more contributions this year. Expressed appreciation for helping and participation to UT Recreation Committee lead by Chairman McCormack, Daniel Dix who provided the tree last year and helped with logistics this year, Kara Cherney, incredible volunteer, who is also a member on the School Board. Overall, Mayor said it was a very successful event. Acknowledged every business and individual who provided food or donations. Also, acknowledged and thanked every volunteer and all local emergency services organizations for helping. The Mayor also mentioned a new addition to the Holiday celebration that is a display and lighting of the Menorah that was donated by Rabbi Elie Kornfeld from Chabad in Hunterdon County. The first candle will be lit tomorrow night at 8 pm.
- Mr. Lordi acknowledged and thanked Daniel Ingram who went above and beyond to create the very first 2023 Township of Union tree ornament.
- On behalf of Mr. Mazza, gave an oral report regarding Recreation Committee. Corey McCormack will be stepping down as Chairman. Eric Meisner will become chairman in 2023.

c. **Committee Report**

Mr. Stiger reported the following:

- Will be discussing in Executive Session candidates that were interviewed for the OEM position.
- Second negotiation session was held with Teamsters Union.
- Starting January 2023 mandatory payroll direct deposit will be enforced. The Township will save \$10.00 per delivery service for a total of \$240 per year.
- Alan Ford and I spoke with Corey Piasecki from NJ Highlands Council about their support and financial help with matters affecting the Township with regard to the Highlands Planning and Preservation Zones.
- Mayor DeGiralamo reported that Municipal Court Shared Services Contract with Clinton Township was renegotiated for the next three years.

Mr. Lordi reported the following:

- Provided an update regarding NJ State Police ancillary patrols contract. Cost and enforcement of patrols as well as additional signage at Exit 12 were briefly discussed.

THESE MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED

UNION TOWNSHIP

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING December 21, 2022

As the current contract expires at the end of this year, Mr. Lordi asked that the following motion be approved:

To extend the contract for the next three months until March 31, 2023 on the same terms and conditions as the current contract expiring on December 31, 2022.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Mazza						x
Mr. Hirt			x			
Mr. Stiger			x			
Mr. Lordi	x		x			
Dr. DeGiralamo		x	x			

Motion Carried

- Reported that there is a leak in the municipal building roof. Explained the problem in details and said it has to be addressed soon.
- Mr. Hirt mentioned the need for a generator for the municipal building.
- Recycling Center – will be proposing to the Committee to reduce the number of weekends recycling is open. He said that two weekends, when the dumpster for large items is open should be sufficient. Checking ID for residency should also be enforced.
- Pet Licensing – said that currently only about half of the dogs in the Township are registered and licensed. Mr. Lordi ask that the Committee look into a mechanism to ensure that the majority are licensed. Also, mentioned that fee to license a dog should be revisited.
- Thanked Mayor DeGiralamo for preparing a letter and a resolution to be submitted with an application for redesigning of the Township website grant.

d. **Finance Officer’s Report** – nothing to report at this time

15. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Matt Wunder, Gano Road, spoke with regard to Quakertown Fire Dept. asking for additional funds for next year. He advised that PVFC is serving as the primary company in Union Township and is heavily relying on funds from the Township.

Mr. Wunder said that as stated by Committee members/Township officials at prior meetings “they have a tail of money” the Quakertown Fire Co. is not in desperate need of additional money. He asked the Committee keep that in mind at 2023 budget discussions. He also asked if meeting with Quakertown will be public or executive session. Mayor responded that there was no request from Quakertown to schedule a meeting.

Karen Wisnosky, Deerfield Lane, commented on Mr. Stiger’s statement regarding \$240 that the Township will save by mandating direct deposit for payroll. She said the amount is so small compare to money wasted on unnecessary upgrades to the municipal building. Briefly argued.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION – 9:46 pm

Resolution #2022-124

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;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Union will convene in an Executive Session that will be limited only to consideration of items with respect to which the public may be excluded pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b. The general nature of the subject or subjects to be discussed in this session is as follows:

- a. Matters falling within the attorney-client privilege [N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b(7)]: Personnel-OEM Coordinator and Salaries

The matters discussed in this session will be disclosed to the public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

Formal action may be taken following the conclusion of the Executive Session.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union assembled in public session on December 21, 2022 at 9:46 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.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Mazza						x
Mr. Hirt			x			
Mr. Stiger	x		x			
Mr. Lordi			x			
Dr. DeGiralamo		x	x			

Motion Carried

The Committee reconvened the regular meeting at 10:31 p.m.

17. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Township Committee at this time Mr. Hirt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:31 p.m. Mr. Stiger seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote.

Transcribed by: Ella M. Ruta, Municipal Clerk

David DeGiralamo, Mayor