

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 Ed Schmierer, 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 Special Emergency Meeting on March 4, 2022
- b. Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes of March 16, 2022
- c. Regular and Executive Session Meeting Minutes of March 16, 2022

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

Motion carried

6. VISITORS

7. REPORTS RECEIVED – acknowledged

- a. Road Dept.- Week Ending; 3/11/22; 3/18/22; 3/25/22; 4/01/22; 4/08/22
- b. Zoning Officer – March 2022
- c. Animal Control Officer – March 2022
- d. Municipal Court – March 2022
- e. Public Safety Director – gave a brief overview of distributed at the meeting written report.
- f. Pattenburg Volunteer Fire Company – Chief Narbonne gave an oral report to the Committee. In response to Mr. Lordi's inquiry regarding PVFC membership the Chief said the number has not changed since he joined the Department. He said that unfortunately volunteerism is on the decline.

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING April 20, 2022

Chief Narbonne also mentioned the newly installed water tank at Rolling Hills Development. He will be contacting Zoning Officer regarding the matter.

Mr. Narbonne said that fire hydrants at the new Mountain Top Estates Development do not have adequate water pressure for a proper response in case of fire.

Changes to Fire Boxes were briefly discussed. Chief Narbonne asked that information about fundraising events be posted on the Township's website.

Trooper Walsh advised that there is nothing to report, but would answer questions from Committee members. The Committee thanked Trooper Walsh for his participation and contribution to the FinnFest event held on April 10th at Finn Road Park.

g. Engineer's Report

- Received four bids for the Baptist Church Rd. Section 2A Project. South State, Inc. was the lowest bidder. Mr. Clerico said the resolution to award the bid is on tonight's agenda for approval.
- Provided an update on Baptist Church Rd. Section 2B Project. The work began today.
- Started working on the Annual Stormwater Permit Report. Engineer Clerico said that proposed changes by the State to the Permit will not affect the Township at this time.
- Punch list of outstanding items at Perryville Estates will be discussed at a future meeting.

8. CORRESPONDENCE/WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Stiger mentioned the following correspondence:

- Apprised the Committee of a complaint submitted to the County Health Department regarding litter left by truck drivers at the Pilot Travel Center. Mr. Stiger said Debbie Hirt offered to contact NJ DOT to schedule a meeting to discuss the issue. Briefly discussed.
- There will not be swimming or fishing allowed again this year at Spruce Run Reservoir due to high concentration of blue algae.

Mayor DeGiralamo mentioned the following correspondence:

- Said that he was approached by a resident on a number of occasions who is interested in having a ceremony in front of the Municipal Building on Thursday, May 5th, the National Day of Prayer. Atty. Schmierer advised that a gathering of residents and other interested parties outside of the building to hold a non-denominational prayer should not be a problem. Atty. Schmierer advised that it would not be an issue if the gathering is held outside and it is the Committee's desire to approve it. After consideration the Committee agreed to allow the community gathering on National Day of Prayer.

The vote granting the permission will be held after the Public has a chance to comment.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Karen Wisnosky, 10 Deerfield Road, commented on the amount of the Bond Ordinance, stating that the amount discussed at Budget Meetings was higher. CFO Brennan explained the reason for the difference and bonding procedures.

Mrs. Wisnosky also asked if the Committee discussed raising the current \$600.00 contribution to the LOSAP (Length of Service Award Program) for volunteer Firefighters. She said that amount has remained the same since

the program was first implemented in Union Township. The Committee responded that it will stay the same for this year’s budget.

Debbie Hirt, 40 Springhouse Lane, Asbury, addressed a complaint Mr. Stiger reported on earlier and said that NJ DOT will be making improvements around Pilot Travel Center to address litter left at the site. She also asked permission to reach out to the NJ DOT Engineer to suggest and change, if possible current egress to become an ingress to the site as it was in the past.

Mrs. Hirt also spoke in support of the Pattenburg Fire Co. She asked Messrs. Mazza and Strauss about questioning certifications of PVFC’s Firefighters and possible closing of the Company. The Committee collectively answered that there was never a discussion about closing the Company. Mr. Strauss offered an explanation on members keeping up with certifications and compliance with State regulations. He said the State Fire and Safety Division has been enforcing compliance with its guidelines and regulations. Mrs. Hirt mentioned a letter from NJ DOT regarding resurfacing of Route 173 in 2023. She expressed her concern about trucks parking on the side of the road during reconstruction. Brief conversation ensued.

Mr. Stiger mentioned that the Union Township Environmental Commission is planning to approach Pilot, both locally and nationally, asking if they would consider sponsoring a two mile stretch of “Adopt a Highway” program.

Mr. Lordi, with regard to PVFC clarified that it is the Committee’s responsibility to ensure that all members of PVFC responding to fire calls have proper and updated certifications. He also reiterated that there were no discussions regarding the consideration of closing the Company.

John Strailey, 31 Baptist Church Road, reported that JCP&L representative Amy Overman responded to his questions. Mr. Strailey also suggested relocating different signs on Baptist Church Road. In detail, he explained the location signs should be placed. Briefly discussed. Mayor DeGiralamo will be contacting DR&F Forman Fleming regarding signage on Baptist Church Road.

Debbie Hirt, 40 Springhouse Lane commented on discussion regarding relocation of signs.

At this time, Mayor DeGiralamo asked for a motion to allow a prayer ceremony at the Flag in front of the Municipal Building, held by no specific denominational entity on National Day of Prayer, Thursday, May 5, 2022 at noon.

Voice 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

10. PUBLIC HEARING

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

12. NEW ORDINANCES - 1st Reading

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

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2022-1

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS TO SECTION THREE OF BAPTIST CHURCH ROAD, BY AND IN THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$450,000 THEREFOR (INCLUDING A GRANT RECEIVED OR EXPECTED TO BE RECEIVED FROM THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$163,500) AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$286,500 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) **AS FOLLOWS:**

SECTION 1. The improvements or purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are hereby authorized as general improvements or purposes to be undertaken by the Township of Union, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey (the "Township"). For the said improvements or purposes stated in Section 3 hereof, there is hereby appropriated the amount of \$450,000, which amount includes a grant in the amount of \$163,500 received or expected to be received from the New Jersey Department of Transportation (the "Grant"). No down payment for said improvements or purposes is required pursuant to Section 40A:2-11(c) of the Local Bond Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:2-1 *et seq.*, as amended and supplemented (the "Local Bond Law"), as said improvements or purposes involve a project funded by a grant provided by the State of New Jersey.

SECTION 2. For the financing of said improvements or purposes described in Section 3 hereof and to meet the part of said \$450,000 appropriation not provided for by application hereunder of said Grant, negotiable bonds of the Township are hereby authorized to be issued in a principal amount not exceeding \$286,500 pursuant to, and within the limitations prescribed by, the Local Bond Law. In anticipation of the issuance of said bonds and to temporarily finance said improvements or purposes, negotiable notes of the Township in a principal amount not exceeding \$286,500 are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to, and within the limitations prescribed by, the Local Bond Law.

SECTION 3. (a) The improvements hereby authorized and the purposes for which said bonds or notes are to be issued are for roadway improvements and repairs to Section Three of Baptist Church Road located in the Township. Such improvements or purposes are to include, but are not limited to, as applicable, demolition and excavation, milling, paving, resurfacing and reconstruction of the roadway, roadway painting and striping, the repairing and/or removal and installation of sidewalks, driveway aprons, curbing, retaining walls and curb ramps, guardrails, road shoulders, gutters, storm drains, and concrete improvements, and all other related improvements, design work, preparation of plans and specifications, permits, bid documents, contract administration, work, materials, equipment, accessories, labor and appurtenances necessary therefor or incidental thereto.

(b) The estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued for said improvements or purposes is \$286,500.

(c) The estimated cost of said improvements or purposes is \$450,000, the excess thereof over the said estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued therefor is the Grant in the amount of \$163,500 available for such improvements or purposes.

SECTION 4. Other than the Grant, in the event the United States of America, the State of New Jersey, and/or the County of Hunterdon make a contribution or grant in aid to the Township, for the improvements and purposes

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING April 20, 2022

authorized hereby and the same shall be received by the Township prior to the issuance of the bonds or notes authorized in Section 2 hereof, then the amount of such bonds or notes to be issued shall be reduced by the amount so received from the United States of America, the State of New Jersey and/or the County of Hunterdon. Other than the Grant, in the event, however, that any amount so contributed or granted by the United States of America, the State of New Jersey and/or the County of Hunterdon, shall be received by the Township after the issuance of the bonds or notes authorized in Section 2 hereof, then such funds shall be applied to the payment of the bonds or notes so issued and shall be used for no other purpose. This Section 4 shall not apply, however, with respect to any contribution or grant in aid received by the Township as a result of using funds from this bond ordinance as "matching local funds" to receive such contribution or grant in aid.

SECTION 5. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township, provided that no note shall mature later than one (1) year from its date or otherwise authorized by the Local Bond Law. The notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as may be determined by the Chief Financial Officer. The Chief Financial Officer shall determine all matters in connection with the notes issued pursuant to this bond ordinance, and the signature of the Chief Financial Officer upon the notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time in accordance with the provisions of the Local Bond Law or other applicable law. The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the notes from time to time at public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchaser thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price and accrued interest thereon from their dates to the date of delivery thereof. The Chief Financial Officer is directed to report in writing to the governing body at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the notes pursuant to this bond ordinance is made. Such report must include the principal amount, the description, the interest rate, and the maturity schedule of the notes so sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

SECTION 6. The Township hereby certifies that it has adopted a capital budget or a temporary capital budget, as applicable. The capital or temporary capital budget of the Township is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this bond ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. To the extent that the purposes authorized herein are inconsistent with the adopted capital or temporary capital budget, a revised capital or temporary capital budget has been filed with the Division of Local Government Services.

SECTION 7. The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, recited and stated:

(a) The improvements or purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are not current expenses and are improvements or purposes which the Township may lawfully undertake as general improvements or purposes, and no part of the cost thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on property specially benefited thereby.

(b) The period of usefulness of said improvements or purposes, computed on the basis of the reasonable life thereof within the limitations of the Local Bond Law, is ten (10) years.

(c) The Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly made and filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Township and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the Office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey, and such statement shows that the gross debt of the Township as defined in the Local Bond Law is increased by the authorization of the bonds or notes provided for in this bond ordinance by \$286,500. The bonds or notes authorized by this bond ordinance will be within all debt limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

(d) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$45,000 for items of expense listed in and permitted under §40A:2-20 of the Local Bond Law is included in the estimated cost indicated herein for the purposes or improvements hereinbefore described.

SECTION 8. The full faith and credit of the Township are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and the interest on the bonds or notes authorized by this bond ordinance. The bonds or notes shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Township, and the Township shall be obligated to levy *ad valorem* taxes upon all the taxable property within the Township for the payment of the principal of the bonds or notes and the interest thereon without limitation as to rate or amount.

SECTION 9. The Township reasonably expects to reimburse any expenditures toward the costs of the improvements or purposes described in Section 3 hereof and paid prior to the issuance of any bonds or notes authorized by this bond ordinance with the proceeds of such bonds or notes. This Section 9 is intended to be and hereby is a declaration of the Township's official intent to reimburse any expenditures toward the costs of the improvements or purposes described in Section 3 hereof to be incurred and paid prior to the issuance of bonds or notes authorized herein in accordance with Treasury Regulations §1.150-2. All reimbursement allocations will occur not later than eighteen (18) months after the later of (i) the date the expenditure from a source other than any bonds or notes authorized herein is paid, or (ii) the date the improvements or purposes described in Section 3 hereof is “placed in service” (within the meaning of Treasury Regulations §1.150-2) or abandoned, but in no event more than three (3) years after the expenditure is paid.

SECTION 10. The Township covenants to maintain the exclusion from gross income under section 103(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, of the interest on all bonds and notes issued on a tax-exempt basis under this bond ordinance.

SECTION 11. The Chief Financial Officer of the Township is hereby authorized to prepare and to update from time to time as necessary a financial disclosure document to be distributed in connection with the sale of obligations of the Township, which are authorized herein, and to execute such disclosure document on behalf of the Township. The Chief Financial Officer is further authorized to enter into the appropriate undertaking to provide secondary market disclosure on behalf of the Township pursuant to Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Rule") for the benefit of holders and beneficial owners of obligations of the Township, which are authorized herein, and to amend such undertaking from time to time in connection with any change in law, or interpretation thereof, provided such undertaking is and continues to be, in the opinion of a nationally recognized bond counsel, consistent with the requirements of the Rule. In the event that the Township fails to comply with its undertaking, the Township shall not be liable for any monetary damages, and the remedy shall be limited to specific performance of the undertaking.

SECTION 12. This bond ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days after the first publication hereof after final adoption and approval by the Mayor, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

ADOPTED ON FIRST READING

DATED: April 20, 2022

ELLA M. RUTA, RMC,
Township Clerk

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

Motion carried

TOWNSHIP OF UNION
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON

NOTICE OF INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the following Ordinance was adopted on first reading by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, at a meeting held on the 20th day of April, 2022. The Ordinance was then ordered to be published according to law. Notice is hereby given that said Ordinance will be considered for final passage at a public hearing to be held on May 18th, 2022, at 7:00 pm or as soon thereafter as the matter may be reached, at the Union Township Municipal Building, 140 Perryville Road, Hampton, N.J. at which time all interested parties will be heard.

Ella M. Ruta, Municipal Clerk

ORDINANCE #2022-2

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$27,500.00 CURRENTLY LOCATED WITHIN THE GENERAL CAPITAL FUND, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT ACCOUNT, OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION, HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, FOR CARPETING AND PAINTING OF THE UPPER LEVEL OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING

WHEREAS, there is \$27,500.00 in the Capital Improvement Fund, and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Union has deemed there is a need to paint and carpet the 1st level of the municipal building,

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

SECTION 1. There is hereby appropriated from the Capital Improvement Fund \$27,500.00, for the purposes of carpeting and painting of the municipal building,

SECTION 2. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances which are inconsistent with the terms of the Ordinance be and the same are hereby repealed to the extent of their inconsistency;

SECTION 3. There is no debt incurred by this ordinance.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance shall take effect after proper passage and publication in accordance with law.

BY: _____
David DeGiralamo, Mayor

First Reading: April 20, 2022
Publication/in Full: April 28, 2022
Second Reading: May 18, 2022
Publication/Title Only: May 26, 2022

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

Motion Carried

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the following Ordinance was adopted on first reading by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, at a meeting held on the 20th day of April 2022. The Ordinance was then ordered to be published according to law. Notice is hereby given that said Ordinance will be considered for final passage at a public hearing to be held on May 18th, 2022 at 7:00 pm or as soon thereafter as the matter may be reached, at the Union Township Municipal Building, 140 Perryville Road, Hampton, N.J. at which time all interested parties will be heard.

 Ella M. Ruta, Municipal Clerk

ORDINANCE 2022 - 3

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$285,797.49 FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT AND \$114,202.51 LOCATED WITHIN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND OF THE GENERAL CAPITAL FUND OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION, HUNTERDON COUNTY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO STONEBRIDGE AND WOLFS FARM ROADS

WHEREAS, there is currently within the 2022 Capital Fund of the Township of Union, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, an item entitled Capital Improvement Fund; and

WHEREAS, there is in this fund at least \$114,202.51 and

WHEREAS, the Township of Union has received the sum of \$285,797.49 from the Federal American Rescue Plan Act, and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Union has deemed it necessary for improvement to Stonebridge and Wolfs Farm Roads;

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

SECTION 1. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances, which are inconsistent with the terms of the Ordinance, be and the same are hereby repealed to the extent of their inconsistency.

SECTION 2. There is no debt incurred by this ordinance.

SECTION 5. This Ordinance shall take effect after proper passage and publication in accordance with law.

BY: _____
 David DeGiralamo, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
 Ella M. Ruta, RMC, Municipal Clerk

First Reading: April 20, 2022
Publication/in Full: April 28, 2022
Second Reading: May 18, 2022
Publication/Title Only: May 26, 2022

Table with 7 columns: Roll Call Vote, Moved, Seconded, Ayes, Nays, Abstain, Absent. Rows include Mr. Mazza, Mr. Hirt, Mr. Stiger, Mr. Lordi, and Dr. DeGiralamo.

Motion Carried

NOTICE OF INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the following Ordinance was adopted on first reading by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, at a meeting held on the 20th day of April, 2022.

Ella M. Ruta, Municipal Clerk

ORDINANCE #2022-4

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$220,000.00 CURRENTLY LOCATED WITHIN THE GENERAL CAPITAL FUND, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT ACCOUNT, OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION, HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, FOR VARIOUS ROAD IMPROVEMENTS AND FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 550 MASON DUMP TRUCK

WHEREAS, there is \$220,000.00 in the Capital Improvement Fund, and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Union has deemed there is a need to improve various roads and purchase a Mason Dump Truck for the Department of Roads and Facilities,

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

SECTION 1. There is hereby appropriated from the Capital Improvement Fund \$220,000.00, for the following purposes:

- a. Road improvements, the sum of \$100,000.00
b. Purchase of Mason Dump Truck, the sum of \$120,000.00

SECTION 2. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances which are inconsistent with the terms of the Ordinance be and the same are hereby repealed to the extent of their inconsistency;

SECTION 3. There is no debt incurred by this ordinance.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance shall take effect after proper passage and publication in accordance with law.

BY: _____
David DeGiralamo, Mayor

First Reading: April 20, 2022
Publication/in Full: April 28, 2022
Second Reading: May 18, 2022
Publication/Title Only: May 26, 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

NOTICE OF INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the following Ordinance was adopted on first reading by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, at a meeting held on the 20th day of April, 2022. The Ordinance was then ordered to be published according to law. Notice is hereby given that said Ordinance will be considered for final passage at a public hearing to be held on May 18th, 2022, at 7:00 pm or as soon thereafter as the matter may be reached, at the Union Township Municipal Building, 140 Perryville Road, Hampton, N.J. at which time all interested parties will be heard.

Ella M. Ruta, Municipal Clerk

ORDINANCE #2022-5

CALENDAR YEAR 2022

ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK

(N.J.SA 40A:4-45.14)

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.1 et.seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said final budget appropriations to 1.0% or the cost-of-living adjustment of 3.5% over the previous years final appropriations; subject to certain exceptions and,

WHEREAS, N.J.SA 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Union, County of Hunterdon, hereby determines that this difference in the amount of \$71,008.35 that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to the final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years.

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING April 20, 2022

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction: and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

BY: _____
David DeGiralamo, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Ella M. Ruta, RMC, Municipal Clerk

First Reading: April 20, 2022
Publication/in Full: April 28, 2022
Second Reading: May 18, 2022
Publication/Title Only: May 26, 2022

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

Motion Carried

13. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **RESOLUTION #2022-49:** Allowing for Conducting Annual Budget Examination

RESOLUTION #2022-49

RESOLUTION FOR CONDUCTING ANNUAL BUDGET EXAMINATION

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-78b has authorized the Local Finance Board to adopt rules that permit municipalities in sound fiscal condition to assume the responsibility, normally granted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, of conducting the annual budget examination, and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:30-7 was adopted by the Local Finance Board on February 11, 1997, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.2 thru 7.5 the Township of Union has been declared eligible to participate in the program by the Division of Local Government Services, and the Chief Financial Officer has

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING April 20, 2022

determined that the Township meets the necessary conditions to participate in the program for the 2022 budget year, so now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Union that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.6a & band based upon the Chief Financial Officers certification. The governing body has found the budget has met the following requirements:

1. That with reference to the following items, the amounts have been calculated pursuant to law and appropriated as such in the budget:
 - a. Payment of interest and debt redemption charges
 - b. Deferred charges and statutory expenditures
 - c. Cash deficit of preceding year
 - d. Reserve for uncollected taxes
 - e. Other reserves and non-disbursement items
 - f. Any inclusions of amounts required for school purposes

2. That the provisions relating to limitation on increases of appropriations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.2 and appropriations for exceptions to limits on appropriations found at 40A:4-45.3 et seq. are fully met. (Complies with the "CAP" law.)

3. That the budget is in such form arrangement, and content as required by the Local Budget Law and N.J.A.C. 5:30-4 and 5:30-5.

4. That pursuant to the Local Budget Law:
 - a. All estimates of revenue are reasonable, accurate, and correctly stated
 - b. Items of appropriation are properly set forth
 - c. In itemization, form, arrangement, and content the budget will permit the exercise of the comptroller function within the municipality.

5. The budget and associated amendments have been introduced, publicly advertised, and adopted in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Budget Law, except that failure to meet the deadlines of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 shall not prevent such certification.

6. That all other applicable statutory requirements have been fulfilled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

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

Motion Carried

b. **RESOLUTION #2022-50:** Introduction by Title/Approval of the 2022 Municipal Budget

RESOLUTION #2022-50

**UNION TOWNSHIP, HUNTERDON COUNTY
Resolution Introducing by Title/Approving the 2022 Municipal Budget**

WHEREAS, the Township of Union is holding a meeting on April 20, 2022 for the purpose of introducing the 2022 Municipal Budget and conducting other matters

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, that the Township of Union hereby petitions the Director of the Division of Local Government Services that the 2022 Local Municipal Budget be introduced and approved on the April 20, 2022.

2022 UNION TOWNSHIP BUDGET

Surplus Anticipated General Revenues	\$ 560,000.00
Total Miscellaneous Revenue	789,399.16
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	100,000.00
Amount to be Raised by Taxes	<u>2,312,272.70</u>
Total General Revenues	<u>\$3,761,671.86</u>
Operation Including Contingent	\$ 1,922,411.00
Deferred Charges & Statutory Expenditures - Municipal	123,688.00
Operations – Total Excluded from “CAPS”	68,465.10
Capital Improvements	550,000.00
Debt Service	472,127.76
Deffered Charges – Municipal	50,000.00
Judgments	0.00
Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	<u>575,000.00</u>
Total Municipal Budget	<u>\$3,761,671.86</u>

Motion: Stiger
Second: DeGiralamo

Committee Polled – Ayes: Mazza, Stiger, Lordi, DeGiralamo
Nays:
Abstentions:
Absent: Hirt

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

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 #2022-51:** Refund Redemption to Lienholder – Certificate #2021-002

**RESOLUTION #2022-51
TOWNSHIP OF UNION, HUNTERDON COUNTY
RESOLUTION TO REFUND REDEMPTION TO LIENHOLDER**

WHEREAS, Tax Sale Certificate #2021-002 was issued to Fedigan LLC, in the amount of \$2,265.98 on October 20, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the lien was redeemed on March 30, 2022, in the amount of \$7,889.05 in accordance with provisions of NJSA 54:5-60 et seq.; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 20th day of April, 2022, 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 \$7,889.05 and a premium of \$28,100.00 for a total of \$35,989.05 payable to Fedigan LLC, 474 Mary Allen Way, Mountainside, NJ 07092
2. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

- b. **RESOLUTION #2022-52:** Amending Terms of the Municipal Court Judge’s Appointment

RESOLUTION #2022-52

Appointing Judge of Union Township Municipal Court

WHEREAS, the term of the present Judge of the Union Township Municipal Court expires on April 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the “Shared Services Agreement For A Shared Municipal Court Among the Township of Clinton and the Township of Union,” dated January 1, 2018, provides that the parties Shared Courts shall continue to share all personnel, as authorized by Statute including Judge(s), Prosecutor(s), Public Defender(s), Court Administrator, Deputy Court Administrator(s) and clerical personnel, and that the staffing of these positions shall be from among the personnel currently employed or appointed and serving Clinton Township, and that Union Township’s portion of the compensation of such personnel shall be included in the payment of Union Township to Clinton Township pursuant to Paragraph X of said Interlocal Services Agreement; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding that Clinton Township and Union Township appoint the same persons as Judge, Court Administrator, Prosecutor, and Public Defender, the jurisdiction of the Municipal Court of each municipality shall be separate and each municipality retains its right of appointment as provided in N.J.S.A. 2B:12-4 (Judge) 2B:24-3 (Public Defender) and 2B:25-4 (Prosecutor) and in applicable case law;

WHEREAS, the above Shared Services Agreement For A Shared Municipal Court expires on December 31, 2022, and the parties have not yet had the opportunity to negotiate and agree to the terms of a renewal of said Shared Services Agreement;

WHEREAS, officials responsible for administration of the municipal courts have advised that the reappointment of the judge of the Union Township Municipal Court must be for a full three-year term notwithstanding the fact that the renewal of the said Shared Services Agreement For A Shared Municipal Court has not yet been accomplished.; and

WHEREAS, the Judge of the Union Township Municipal Court, Eric M. Perkins, has indicated in a writing dated 3/30/22 that if Union Township decides not to renew the inter-local court agreement with Clinton Township, he will resign from his position as the Municipal Court Judge for Union Township; and

WHEREAS, the judicial performance of Judge Perkins has been satisfactory to this Committee, and the Township Committee is satisfied with his assurance that he will voluntarily resign if Union Township and Clinton Township are unable to reach agreement on a renewal of said Shared Services Agreement For A Shared Municipal Court, 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 Eric M. Perkins, the current Judge of the Clinton Township and Union Township Municipal Courts be, and is hereby, reappointed as the Judge of the Union Township Municipal Court effective as of April 1, 2022, for a three-year term ending March 31, 2025 in accordance with N.J.S.A. 2B;12-4; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the salary and benefits, including FICA, PERS contributions, workers compensation insurance and group health insurance of the said re-appointed Judge of the Union Township Municipal Court Eric M. Perkins shall continue to be paid by Clinton Township in accordance with Paragraph X of the above referred to Interlocal Services Agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of the within resolution shall be forwarded to the Municipal Clerk and the Administrator of Clinton Township, to the Judge and Court Administrator of the Clinton Township Municipal Court and to the Assignment Judge and the Municipal Division Manager of Vicinage 13 of the Superior Court, who will thereafter, through the Municipal Division Manager, provide a copy to the Administrative Office of the Courts.

c. **RESOLUTION #2022-53**: Payroll Changes for Marc Strauss, Public Safety Director

**RESOLUTION #2022 – 53
PAYROLL CHANGE FOR MARC STRAUSS
PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2022**

WHEREAS, the Public Safety Director, Marc Strauss was previously compensated hourly with a not to exceed amount of \$5,000, and

WHEREAS, Marc Strauss has requested that his pay be based on a \$5,000.00 salary paid out quarterly, and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Administrator and the TC Personnel Liaison recommend that this is be the way to compensate the Public Safety Director,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- 1. Marc Strauss, Public Safety Director is to be compensated \$5,000 annually, paid in equal quarterly amounts.
- 2. The salary for this position is \$5,000.00 and shall be retroactive to January 1, 2022.

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

- f. **RESOLUTION #2022-54:** Cancelling Funded Appropriation Balances Under Various Ordinances

TOWNSHIP OF UNION

RESOLUTION 2022-54

RESOLUTION CANCELLING FUNDED APPROPRIATION BALANCES UNDER VARIOUS ORDINANCES IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$23,666.89

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Union, in the County of Hunterdon, New Jersey previously adopted Capital Ordinance 2019-8 for the purpose of funding the purchase of a Dump Truck, 2020-5 for the purpose of funding Road Improvements and the purchase of a Dump Truck, 2021-7 for the purpose of funding Road Improvements and the purchase of an F250, and

WHEREAS, as of the date hereof, the project has been completed and/or funded balances remain open and unexpended; and

WHEREAS, the Township now desires to cancel such appropriations and transfer the funded balances in the respect to the Capital Improvement Fund.

Ordinance No.	Amount to be Cancelled
2019 - 8	\$ 195.93
2020 - 5	13,751.28
2021 - 7	9,719.68
Total to be Cancelled	\$ 23,666.89

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the balance amount associated with these Ordinances listed above are hereby cancelled to The Capital Improvement Fund.

- g. **RESOLUTION #2022-55:** Authorizing Release of Performance Guarantees – V.A. Spatz & Sons Construction, Inc.

RESOLUTION No. 2022 – 55

**Authorizing Release of Performance Guarantees
Re: 35 Route 173 East (Frontage Road)
To V.A. Spatz & Sons Construction, Inc.**

Whereas, Township Engineer Robert C. Clerico has certified that V.A. Spatz & Sons Construction, Inc. has completed all perimeter landscaping, for the project known as 35 Route 173 East (Frontage Road), Block 22, Lot 5 in accordance with its Developer's Agreement dated July 1, 2019; and

Whereas, the Township Engineer has also certified that the developer has completed all onsite improvements covered by a supplemental performance guarantee posted at the time of issuance of a TCO for the above project, and has provided a recorded copy of the O&M manual for the onsite SWM facilities; and good cause appearing,

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, Hunterdon County, New Jersey that:

The developer's performance guarantee of \$28,700.00, consisting of surety bond No. 1001090049 of United States Surety Company in the amount of \$26,000.00 and cash in the amount of \$2,874.00 is hereby authorized to be released: and

The developer's supplemental performance guarantee posted at the time of issuance of the TCO in the amount of \$62,000.00, consisting of a surety bond in the amount of 57,780.00 and cash in the amount of 6,420.00 is also hereby authorized to be released;

Be It Further Resolved that the maintenance guarantee posted by the developer in the amount of \$43,822.35, representing 15% of the cost of the landscaping and the SWM facilities on the property, shall remain in force for a two (2) year period after issuance of the final CO; and

Be It Further Resolved that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

h. **RESOLUTION #2022-56**: Awarding Agreement to Liturgical Publications for Publication of Township Newsletter

RESOLUTION #2022-56

AWARDING AGREEMENT TO LITURGICAL PUBLICATIONS FOR PUBLICATION OF TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

WHEREAS, the Township of Union seeks to hire a qualified firm to publish a municipal newsletter on the Township's behalf four times per year; and

WHEREAS, Liturgical Publications, from Cromwell Connecticut, has submitted a proposal to print the Township's newsletter on its behalf four times per year for a term of two years; and

WHEREAS, there shall be no direct cost to the Township for these services; and

WHEREAS, in consideration for providing the services to the Township, Liturgical Publications shall be permitted to sell space in each publication of the newsletter for advertisements, and shall be permitted to retain one hundred percent (100%) of the first \$8,500 in revenue it receives from the sales of advertising in the newsletter during each 12-month period; and thereafter, the Township shall receive thirty percent (30%) of all revenue that Liturgical Publications receives from the sale of advertising over \$8,500 during said 12-month period; and

WHEREAS, the Township Attorney's Office has opined that these services may be procured, awarded and executed as a concession pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 5:34-9.4; and

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING April 20, 2022

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the aggregate value of the agreement with Liturgical Publications for a two-year term will not likely exceed the bid threshold of \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, the only estimated costs to the Township as part of this Agreement include the administrative cost of preparing the materials to be published in the newsletter, as well as general oversight of the Agreement, which shall be considered de minimis; and

WHEREAS, because the aggregate value of the Agreement, including the cost of advertising, will not likely exceed \$17,500, the applicable rules allow the Township to procure the Agreement through informal quotations.

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

1. The foregoing “Whereas Clauses” are incorporated herein as if set forth at length.
 2. The Township of Union hereby accepts Liturgical Publications’ proposal to print on the Township’s behalf a municipal newsletter four times per year for a term of two years, as more fully set forth in Liturgical Publications’ proposal and proposed agreement between the parties.
 3. The Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute an Agreement with Liturgical Publications, on the form presented herewith. The Clerk and Township Attorney shall be permitted to make minor, non-substantial changes to the Agreement prior to its execution, such as clarifying the schedule of publication dates.
 4. A copy of this Resolution and the final Agreement shall be placed on file in the Office of the Township Clerk.
- i. **RESOLUTION #2022-57**: Awarding a Contract to South State, Inc. for Baptist Church Road Section 2A Project

RESOLUTION #2022-57

WHEREAS, the Township of Union advertised, and subsequently received bids, for the Baptist Church Road Section 2A on March 31, 2022, as shown on the attached bid summary and;

WHEREAS, four (4) bids were received for the Contract items as follows:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Base Bid</u>	<u>Base with Alternate Bid</u>
South State, Inc., Bridgeton, NJ	\$163,000.00	\$197,000.00
Crossroads Paving, Newark, NJ	\$194,776.00	\$224,346.00
Top Line Construction, Somerville, NJ	\$210,970.88	\$243,374.98
Capital Paving, Lebanon, NJ	\$207,422.20	\$264,989.95

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer and Township Attorney have reviewed the bids submitted and determined that South State, Inc., of Bridgeton, New Jersey has submitted the lowest responsive bid for contract work for both the Base Bid in the amount of \$163,000 and the Base with Alternate Bid in the amount of \$197,000.00, and;

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING April 20, 2022

WHEREAS, the Township of Union has appropriated sufficient funding to cover the Base with Alternate Bid

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Union that the bid for the Baptist Church Road Section 2A be awarded to South State, Inc., of Bridgeton, New Jersey for their Base with Alternate Bid in the amount of \$197,000.00 subject to the following conditions:

1. The Contract is awarded as a unit price bid Contract and final payment will be based upon the actual quantities installed at the unit prices bid, as outlined in the Plans and Specifications prepared by Robert J. Clerico, P.E., Township Engineer.
- j. **RESOLUTION #2022-58**: Approving 2022 Professional Services Contract – Tax Appeal Atty.; Martin Allen, Esq.

**RESOLUTION #2022-58
UNION TOWNSHIP; HUNTERDON COUNTY**

**AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR LEGAL SERVICES 2022
Martin Allen, Esq. Special Outside Legal Counsel – Tax Appeal**

WHEREAS, the Township of Union has a need to acquire legal services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A.19:44-A-20.5; and

WHEREAS, the maximum amount of the contract may exceed the threshold amount established pursuant to N.J.S.A.40A:11-3(b); and

WHEREAS, funds are available in an appropriation entitled Legal Services and Costs, Other Expenses and have been certified by the local finance officer; and

WHEREAS, the Attorney is hereby retained by the Contracting Unit to represent the Contracting Unit in relation to defense of the tax appeals in the Tax Court of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Attorney shall keep the Contracting Unit advised of all developments in the above matters; and

WHEREAS, the Attorney shall report to the Township Tax Assessor; and

WHEREAS, this contract shall cover the period from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022.

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A.40A:11-1, et seq.) required that the resolution authorizing the award of contracts for “Professional Services” without competitive bids and the contract itself must be available for public inspection;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, Hunterdon County, NJ, as follows:

- a. The Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the attached agreement with MARTIN ALLEN, ESQ. of DiFRANCESCO, BATEMAN, KUNZMAN, DAVIS, LEHRER & FLAUM, P.C. Attorneys at Law of the State of New Jersey

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING April 20, 2022

1. For the services, set forth in paragraph 1 above, the consideration shall be at the following hourly rates: \$200.00 per hour for services of any Partner Attorney of the Attorney; and \$185.00 per hour for any Associate Attorney of the Attorney. The agreement is for a not to exceed amount of \$10,000. Any exceedance of that limit will require the issuance of a change order.
 2. The consideration for services shall be paid as vouchers as submitted and approved by the Contracting Unit. The Attorney will be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses as incurred.
- b. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a “Professional Service” in accordance with 40A:11-5(1)(a) of the Local Public Contracts Law because Martin Allen, Esq. is an attorney at Law of the State of NJ in good standing and is a person authorized to practice a recognized profession.
 - c. Approval of the attached contract is subject to availability and appropriation of sufficient funds as may be required in the **2022** temporary and permanent adopted municipal budgets.
4. A Notice of this action shall be printed once in the official newspaper of this municipality.

k. **Payment of Bills**

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

Motion Carried

End of Consent Agenda

1. **Motion to Approve** - Request by Tracy Leaver for the Mayor to sign a letter to DOT; no objection for flying hot air balloons

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

Motion Carried

- m. **Discussion/Motion to Approve** – Ground Rules/Group Norms for Meetings of the Township Committee

Mr. Stiger stated that the following rules and norms is a good practice for keeping meetings on topics and on task:

Follow the agenda; Ask for public comments only during public sessions; Put a time limit on an individual’s comments (3,4,5 minutes?).

Remember, this is not a conversation with the public in general. It is an opportunity for ONE person to come to the microphone, state their name and address, and then, address the Township Committee.

From the perspective of the TC: One speaker at a time; Respect for others’ ideas and opinions; Discuss ideas-not personalities; Start on time; Build on each other’s thoughts; Listen to others; Electronic devices off or only on the agenda and documents; No texting; No surfing.

Following an extensive discussion, the Committee agreed with the rules except for limiting time during a Public Comments Section of the meeting.

Mayor DeGiralamo asked for a motion to approve the above stated rules and norms.

Voice 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

n. **Discussion** – Updating Duties and Responsibilities of the Public Safety Director Position

Mr. Lordi explained why the Public Safety Director should have the full authority to act on behalf of the Township Committee. He said, the Director should not require Committee’s permission to oversee activities of agencies providing emergency services in the Township.

Discussion ensued regarding the current Ordinance indicating duties and responsibilities of the Public Safety Director.

Mayor DeGiralamo asked for Atty. Schmierer’s advice. Mr. Schmierer suggested that the Legal Counsel talk with Marc and develop language to clarify the authority of the position, which would be used to amend the Ordinance.

Mayor DeGiralamo concluded that he does not disagree with extending additional authority to Mr. Strauss, but at the same time he said Marc Strauss might not always be the Public Safety Director and the Committee will not always consist of its current members. Changes made by this Committee have to be specific and appropriate.

At this time Mr. Mazza left the meeting.

14. REPORTS

- a. **Attorney’s Report** – no report
- b. **Committee Report**

Mr. Stiger reported the following:

- Attended a meeting along with PB Chairman Ford with I-78/22 Corridor Coalition Consultant pertaining to home based businesses. Each community along the 78/22 corridor in Hunterdon County discussed their existing ordinance with the Consultant. The Consultant will draft a model ordinance for use by those communities. The purpose in doing so is to have an ordinance which would help attract and retain home based businesses.

- Projected the cost (about 1.2 million per year) of the Township’s Road Maintenance & Repairs Plan in the next four years.

Mr. Lordi reported the following:

- Thanked all volunteers who worked tirelessly behind the scenes at the FinnFest event to make a very special and fun filled day for the community.
- Provided an update regarding the Township website.
- Communicated that the Recycling Center is in need of at least one additional employee.
- Brought up the position of seasonal grass cutting employee. Option of hiring an employee or a professional company was discussed.

c. Finance Officer’s Report

- Thanked all Committee members for their input with the 2022 Municipal Budget scheduled for Public Hearing at the May 18, 2022 meeting.
- Tomorrow will be submitting American Rescue plan report with the State.

d. Mayor’s Report

- Reemphasized the success of the 2022 FinnFest event. Mayor acknowledged all volunteers, sponsors, food donors and incredible attendance. He said a few improvements realized this year will be made next year, but overall it was a great event especially for children who are still talking about it.
- Township Newsletter – the feature in the upcoming issue will be a profile of Grace Brennan, Township’s CFO, an interview with the owner of Bonnell Tavern, and a valedictorian from North Hunterdon High School Emma Munro. Mayor said he is hoping that this issue will be ready and posted on the Township website at the beginning of May.
- The Mayor said it is disappointing at this time that we only have about 180 residents/people who signed up for blast emails.
- Summer Olympics event planned for this summer at Spruce Run had been cancelled due to blue algae in the water.

15. PUBLIC COMMENTS –

Debbie Hirt, 40 Springhouse Lane suggested Hoffman Park as an alternate location for Summer Olympics event.

Karen Wisnosky, 710 Deerfield Road, commented on time limit for speaking under Public Comments Section of the meeting, stating that there might be times when that limit is necessary. After a brief discussion, Attorney Schmierer suggested that a rule to limit speaking time could be adopted at an individual meeting, if necessary.

Mayor DeGiralamo announced that there is no need for the Committee to hold/convene in an Executive Session tonight.

17. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Township Committee at this time Mr. Stiger made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m. Dr. DeGiralamo seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote.

Transcribed by: Ella M. Ruta, Municipal Clerk

David DeGiralamo, Mayor