

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING July 20, 2022

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor DeGiralamo called the meeting to order at 7:13 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 May 18, 2022

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			

b. Special and Executive Session Meeting Minutes of June 15, 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			

6. VISITORS

State Trooper comments:

- Visiting schools for layout in an emergency
- Trucks at Pilot are being moved, however, will come back after short period.

7. REPORTS RECEIVED – acknowledged

- a. Road Dept.- Week Ending; 6/10/22; 6/24/22; 7/01/22; 7/08/22; 7/15/22
- b. Animal Control Officer – June 2022
- c. Zoning Officer – June 2022
- d. Municipal Court – May 2022
- e. Public Safety Director – distributed a written report and gave a brief overview to the committee.
- f. Pattenburg Volunteer Fire Company
 - Reported on accident
 - Advised of fundraiser
 - Audit coming mid September
 - July 4th parade in Lebanon
- g. Engineer’s Report
 - Work started on Baptist Church Rd section 2A, Section 3 notice from DOT contract by November 16
 - Road Maintenance Program preparing roads
 - Design for Stonebridge Woolf farm development
 - Inspection at Perryville Estates
 - 2023 DOT Application
 - Gravel Hill update – report will be issued

8. CORRESPONDENCE/WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Ss Peter & Paul R. C. Church – Walking Pilgrimage through the Township on Friday, August 5, 2022
- b. Bike Multiple Sclerosis; Country Challenge – request to pass through the Township on Saturday, September 17, 2022 between 9 AM and 4 PM

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Schneider, 1 Woods Edge Ct., comment about Gravel Hill intersection
 Karen Wisnoski, 710 Deerfield Ln, responsibility of grass cutting on Deerfield Road.
 Michael Veneziano, 159 Perryville Rd, reported stranger walking around property while away.
 John Straly, 31, Baptist Church Rd, comment regarding the bridge not being passable since last September. Mr. Stiger commented that the County has delayed repair due to the paving project. The Mayor will reach out to the County for an update.

10. PUBLIC HEARING - None

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

12. NEW ORDINANCES - 1st Reading - None

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.

Mayor DeGiralamo requested to remove the Resolution Approving the Appointment – Emergency Management Council.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Mazza						x

Mr. Hirt			X			
Mr. Stiger		X	X			
Mr. Lordi	X		X			
Dr. DeGiralamo			X			

- a. **RESOLUTION #2022-82** : Approval to Submit a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Contract with NJ DOT for the Perryville Road Section 4B Project

#2022-82

TOWNSHIP OF UNION

RESOLUTION #2022 - 82

Approval to submit a grant application and execute a grant contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Perryville Road Section 4B project

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Union formally approves the grant application for the above stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as *MA-2023-Perryville Road Section 4B-00164* to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Township of Union.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Township of Union and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

CERTIFICATION

I, **Ella M. Ruta**, Clerk of the Township of Union, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Township Committee on the 20 day of July, 2022.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of this body this 21 day of July, 2022.

Ella M Ruta, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk

- c. **RESOLUTION #2022-84** : 2022 Authorization for Tree Removal on Various Municipal Roads

**RESOLUTION 2022 – 84
2022 AUTHORIZATION TO TREE REMOVAL
TREE KING, INC.
12 Lenel Road
Landing, New Jersey 07850**

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Union along with the Foreman of the Department of Roads and Facilities, have determined that there is the need to remove trees and stumps on various roads, and **WHEREAS**, this item will be purchased through the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Counsel, Contract #18, so no bidding is required; and **WHEREAS**, there is appropriated in the 2022 Municipal Budget sufficient funds for this purchase; and **WHEREAS**, this contract shall not exceed \$25,000.00 **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 removal of trees by Tree King, Inc.

CERTIFICATION

I, **Ella M. Ruta**, Clerk of the Township of Union, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Township Committee on the 20 day of July, 2022.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of this body this 21 day of July, 2022.

Ella M Ruta, Municipal Clerk

- d. **RESOLUTION #2022-85** : 2022 Authorization for Tree Removal in Finn Road Park

**RESOLUTION 2022 – 85
2022 AUTHORIZATION TO TREE REMOVAL
TREE KING, INC.
12 Lenel Road
Landing, New Jersey 07850**

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Union along with the Foreman of the Department of Roads and Facilities, have determined that there is the need to remove trees and stumps on various roads, and **WHEREAS**, this item will be purchased through the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Counsel, Contract #18, so no bidding is required; and **WHEREAS**, there is appropriated in the 2022 Municipal Budget sufficient funds for this purchase; and **WHEREAS**, this contract shall not exceed \$25,000.00 **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 removal of trees by Tree King, Inc.

CERTIFICATION

I, **Ella M. Ruta**, Clerk of the Township of Union, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Township Committee on the 20 day of July, 2022.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of this body this 21 day of July, 2022.

Ella M Ruta, Municipal Clerk

- e. **RESOLUTION #2022-86** : 2022 Professional Services Contract – Special Litigation Counsel: Joseph Tauriello, Esq.

**RESOLUTION #2022-86
UNION TOWNSHIP; HUNTERDON COUNTY**

**AUTHORIZING THE LAW OFFICES OF JOSEPH C. TAURIELLO,
PREVIOUSLY RETAINED SPECIAL LITIGATION COUNSEL, TO
PROCEED WITH POTENTIAL LITIGATION REGARDING CERTAIN
ZONING VIOLATION**

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 Law Offices of Joseph C. Tauriello, Esq., P.C. (“Attorney”) was previously retained by the Township to represent it in relation to defense of the tax appeals entitled, United Telephone, LLC v. Union Township, and any other matters with regard to United Telephone; and

WHEREAS, the Attorney who has been retained by contract in 2022 as Special Litigation Counsel (a copy of the duly executed contract is attached hereto) shall keep the Township advised of all developments in the above matters; and WHEREAS, the Attorney shall report to the Township as required; and

WHEREAS, this contract shall cover the period from January 1, 2022 until 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 Law Offices of JOSEPH C. TAURIELLO, ESQ., P.C. 221 WITHERSPOON STREET, PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY 08542
 - 1. The Township agrees to compensate the Attorney, which shall not exceed \$175.00 per hour unless amended by further action of the Township for the above-mentioned services. The agreement is for a not to exceed amount of \$40,000.00. 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 Joseph C. Tauriello, 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** adopted municipal budget.
- 4. A Notice of this action shall be printed once in the official newspaper of this municipality.

Date: July 20, 2022

CERTIFICATION AS TO AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

As required by N.J.S.A. 40A:4-57, N.J.A.C. 5:34-5.1 et seq., I, Grace M. Brennan, CFO of the Township of Union, have ascertained that there are available sufficient uncommitted appropriated funds in the **2022** Adopted Budget to award a contract to Joseph C. Tauriello, Esq., as appropriated under the line item "Legal".

Date: _____

Grace M. Brennan, CFO

Ella M Ruta, Municipal Clerk

- f. **RESOLUTION #2022-87** : Extending Grace Period for the 3rd Quarter (August) Property Tax Payments

**Township of Union
Hunterdon County**

RESOLUTION# 2022 – 87

Extending Grace Period for 3rd of CY 2022 Quarter Property Tax Payments

WHEREAS, due to a delay in receiving the Certified Tax Rate from the County, the property tax bills are being mailed later than usual,

WHEREAS, we are mandated to allow taxpayers twenty-five (25) days from mailing date to due date,

NOW THEREFORE, the Tax Collector respectfully requests to extend the grace period to August 18, 2022.

OFFERED BY: Stiger

AYES: Hirt, Stiger, Lordi, DeGiralamo

SECONDED BY: DeDigaralamo

NAYS:

ABSENT: Mazza

- i. **Motion to Approve –** 2022/2023 Junkyard License Renewal – Genyar LLC
- j. **Payment of Bills**

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

Motion Carried

End of Consent Agenda

- b. **RESOLUTION #2022-83** : Appointment – Emergency Management Council
RESOLUTION #2022-83

UNION TOWNSHIP, HUNTERDON COUNTY
APPOINTMENT – EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

WHEREAS, the New Jersey state law requires the Township of Union to appoint an Emergency Management Council (LEPC) for which the Emergency Management Coordinator serves as chairperson.

WHEREAS, all required Municipal and County departments and first responder agencies are represented on the LEPC. (The list of members of the Union Township LEPC is attached.) Cooperatively, this group updates the Local Emergency Operations Plan.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the township Committee of the Township of Union to appoint listed LEPC members to the Emergency Management Council

David DeGiralamo, Mayor

Attest:

Ella M. Ruta, RMC
Municipal Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Ella M. Ruta, RMC, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Union, County of Hunterdon, do hereby certify the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Governing Body at a meeting held on July 20, 2022.

Ella M. Ruta, Municipal Clerk

TOWNSHIP OF UNION, HUNTERDON COUNTY
“Emergency Operations Plan”
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COUNCIL
7/9/2022

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| Glenn Roth | Union Twp. OEM Coordinator |
| John Paulmeno | Union Twp. Deputy OEM Coordinator |
| Dave DeGiralamo | Union Twp. Mayor |
| Bruce Hirt | Union Twp. 911 Coordinator |
| Grace Brennan | Union Twp. Chief Financial Officer |
| Nicholas Diaz | Union Twp. Superintendent of Schools |
| Karen De Marco | HC Div. of Public Health Services –Div. Head |
| Marc Strauss | Union Twp. Public Safety Director |
| Ella M. Ruta | Union Twp. Municipal Clerk |
| Robert Clerico | Union Twp. Engineer |
| Korey Fleming | Union Twp. Road Dept. Foreman |

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Station Commander New Jersey State Police Perryville

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			

k. **Discussion** – providing Township cell phone for Mr. Lordi – The committee agreed to provide Committeeman Lordi with a cell phone.

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

14. REPORTS

- a. **Attorney’s Report**
- b. **Committee Report**

Mr. Hirt reported the following:

- Given earlier.

Mr. Lordi reported the following:

- Had meeting with school held regarding shared services agreement.
- Call received from state police regarding ancillary patrols.
- DPW roof is leaking and needs to be replaced, township will need to go out to bid.
- Update on website logo and options discussed.

Mr. Mazza reported the following:

- Field Hockey registration open until July 30, 2022. Fall soccer registration open. UT rec golf 2nd session underway. Friday Family Fun Night July 22 & August 19. Recreation committee fall volunteer drive should contact Cory McCormick. Finn Trail paving update, info sent to town engineer.

- c. **Finance Officer’s Report**
 - Retro pay has been issued to employees.
 - Negotiations for union are being held.
 - Tax bills going out on Monday, 7/26.
 - July 8th ARPA funds 285,707.49 - remainder of the funds were received.

d. Mayor’s Report

- Hunterdon Games planning is going well. Volunteers are in place as well as financial backing.
- Mayor asking for updates from the condo association regarding reconstruction for the Union Hill fire, but received little information. He will keep asking.
- Family Harvest is collecting and distributing funds for the fire.
- Summer Newsletter and Mayor’s letter to come out in a few days.
- Negotiations with the Union for the DPW will require a team from the Township. Mr. Lori, Mr. Stiger and CFO will participate.
- Municipal Court negotiations will be negotiated with Attorney Jost.
- Resident expressed interest at a town wide yard sale.
- Consideration and costs to set up water system at Finn Rd. Park

e. Public Safety Director

- Recorded names of junior members for the committee per the by-laws, Talon Petroski, and Tyler Narbonne. By-laws need to be updated for clarify regarding junior members.

Motion for approval of Junior Members:

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				

- NJDFS training unit, information sent to establish Jake Cregar as IMS Level 1, for consideration as a fire official. Brandon Rocha’s paperwork is also being updated with the state. Once received, the records will be updated and given to the Township.

Motion for approval of Jake Cregar & Brandon Rocha as PVFC Members:

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				

- Newest member Robert Wisnosky, certification from the state is in process.

Motion for approval of Andrew Schneyer & Shane as PVFC Members:

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				

- Reviewed items from Chief Narbonne’s report.

- An SOG is being developed for the special services truck, which will outline the requirements of operators.
- PVFC looking to adopt ordinance to incorporate fire police.
- State allows junior members on state roadways.

h. Mayor’s Comments

- The township and PVFC have come a long way since the beginning of the process to clarify rules, update policies and to do right by the community. Volunteerism of the PVFC is vital and the mayor thanked the PVFC for their commitment.
- Chief Narbonne asked for a list of any remaining issues to ensure there are no further discrepancies. Mr. Lordi has a list.

15. PUBLIC COMMENTS –

Karen Wisnosky, 710 Deerfield Lane, asked about if the road department will now be in a Union. The committee confirmed it will.

Steve Wardell, 29 Frontage Rd, asked why the NJDEP has moved the Township to Tier A. The attorney will review at a later date.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION – 9:48PM FORMAL ACTION MAY BE TAKEN FOLLOWING

Resolution #2022-87

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:

“Matters falling within the attorney-client privilege involving the reclassification of the Township's Stormwater Permit from Tier "B" to Tier "A" by NJ DEP”

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union assembled in public session on July 20, 2022 at 9:48 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

To come out at 10:53pm

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING July 20, 2022

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

A motion was made for the attorney and engineer to apply for a hearing on the NJPED Stormwater reassignment of the township from Tier B to Tier A.

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

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 10:55 p.m. Dr. DeGiralamo seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote.

 Transcribed by: Leigh Gronau, Deputy Municipal Clerk

 David DeGiralamo, Mayor