

BECAUSE OF THE COVID-19 STATE OF EMERGENCY AND THE CLOSURE OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING THIS MEETING WAS HELD ELECTRONICALLY. FOLLOWING WAS A LINK TO THE MEETING:

<https://zoom.us/j/98592030483?pwd=c255YlM0OTFmM2djTWJEOVFVRd1lGUT09>

Meeting ID: 985 9203 0483
Passcode: 632041

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1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. "Sunshine Law" Announcement- Adequate notice of this public meeting has been provided by Annual Notice; published in the Hunterdon Democrat and Courier News; posted on the public bulletin board and on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office. In addition, due to the current situation, notices of the virtual meeting were published/posted in compliance with the Sunshine Law.

3. ROLL CALL

	Present	Absent
Mr. Severino	x	
Mr. Mazza	x	
Mr. Hirt	x	
Mr. Stiger	x	
Mr. Stothoff	x	

Also present, Keri McNally, Attorney, Robert Clerico, Township Engineer, Grace Brennan, CFO and Ella M. Ruta, Municipal Clerk.

4. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING August 19, 2020

a. Regular and Executive Session Meeting Minutes of July 15, 2020

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino	x		x			
Mr. Mazza			x			
Mr. Hirt			x			
Mr. Stiger			x			
Mr. Stothoff		x	x			

Motion carried

5. VISITORS – no visitors scheduled

6. REPORTS RECEIVED – Acknowledged and briefly discussed

- a. Road Dept.- Week Ending; 7/10/20; 7/24/20; 7/31/20; 8/07/20;
- b. Municipal Court – July 2020
- c. Animal Control Officer – July 2020
- d. Public Safety Director
- e. Engineer’s Report

- Chip Seal Program completed.
- Brass Castle Road Improvement Project started today. Drainage issue was briefly discussed.
- Received Amendment to the Quarry Ordinance addressing the 50-foot buffer. Would like to check for any additional issues pertaining to the Ordinance before introduction.

Mr. Hirt asked Engineer Clerico to inspect two trees on Main Street in Pattenburg that have to be trimmed or removed. Mayor Mazza said he will ask the Road Dept. to check the trees.

CFO Brennan asked about financing for a Baptist Church Road Improvement Project. Engineer Clerico said he would be in contact with Mrs. Brennan regarding introduction of Bond Ordinance.

7. CORRESPONDENCE/WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Stothoff mentioned the following correspondence:

Stated that Chairman MacCormack and members of the Recreation Committee have done a great deal of work preparing necessary waiver forms for parents whose children will be participating in the Fall Recreation Programs. Mr. Stothoff forwarded the forms to Atty. Cecil for review.

Mr. Stothoff asked that the following motion be approved:

To utilize the forms for registration for Fall Recreation Programs after Attorney’s review and approval.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino	x		x			
Mr. Mazza			x			
Mr. Hirt			x			
Mr. Stiger			x			
Mr. Stothoff		x	x			

Motion Carried

Safety of Fall Recreation Programs was discussed at length.

Mr. Stiger mentioned the following correspondence:

Said the Environmental Commission received two inquiries about trees that were removed and dump trucks delivering fill to the property located at 2 Old Forge Lane. They were forwarded to Mr. Ford, Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Liaison to UTEC. He then provided a copy to the Zoning Officer. Zoning Officer Gronau contacted the County Soil Conservation District. Mr. Stiger said they will investigate the land disturbance and issue a report.

Received an email from County Engineer Tom Matthews. The Contractor who will be demolishing them asked if the structures had been deemed unsafe. Mr. Stiger said the Zoning Officer contacted Jack Templeton at the DCA State Construction Office to ask if notices of unsafe structures at Hoffman Park had been issued. Mr. Templeton confirmed there had been no notices issued. After inspecting the structures, he issued a "Notice of Unsafe Structure" for buildings to be razed and forwarded same to the County.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Richard Lordi, Township resident, asked if the Township would consider allowing payment of property taxes by Credit card. CFO Brennan said it was the Committee's view in the past, that because of the high interest rates already charged on delinquent taxes, the Committee by not allowing Credit card payments would be discouraging usage of Credit cards that would put an additional interest on delinquent taxes. Mr. Lordi said that he is not asking about delinquent taxes, he would like to pay his current amount. CFO Brennan reiterated that the Township never encouraged nor inquired about allowing credit card payments. She said the Township allows payments on line, but it is only from the payee's personal bank account. Credit card service fees as well as allowing delinquency payments with a Credit Card were briefly discussed. CFO Brennan will inquire into the issue.

9. PUBLIC HEARING – 2nd Reading

10. OLD BUSINESS

11. NEW ORDINANCES - 1st Reading

12. 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 #2020-81**: Cancelling 2020 Taxes - 100% Disabled Veteran

**RESOLUTION #2020-81
TOWNSHIP OF UNION, HUNTERDON COUNTY**

WHEREAS, the Tax Assessor has granted a disabled veteran exemption for Hardy, Debra as a surviving spouse of a 100% disabled veteran, Block: 24, Lot 2, Qualifier C2003, located at 101 Overlook Drive,

WHEREAS, taxes were billed for 2020 in the amount of 3,119.65, and

WHEREAS, this exemption became effective March 27, 2020, and

WHEREAS, pro-rated taxes for 2020 need to be cancelled in the amount of \$2,382.66 and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, Hunterdon County, State of New Jersey to direct the Tax Collector to cancel \$2,382.66 for 2020 taxes.

- b. RESOLUTION #2020-82: Rescinding Resolution #2020-65 – Estimated Tax Bills

RESOLUTION #2020-82
TOWNSHIP OF UNION, HUNTERDON COUNTY

WHEREAS, Resolution #2020-65 was adopted by the Township Committee on June 17, 2020 to allow the Tax Collector to send estimated tax bills; and,

WHEREAS, the Township subsequently received the certified tax rate from the Hunterdon County Board of Taxation; and,

WHEREAS, the 2020 Final/2021 Preliminary tax bills have been issued and Resolution #2020-65 can be rescinded;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, Hunterdon County, State of New Jersey Resolution #2020-65 is hereby rescinded.

- c. RESOLUTION #2020-83: 2020-2021 Liquor License Renewal – Perryville Wine & Spirits

RESOLUTION #2020-83
UNION TOWNSHIP, HUNTERDON COUNTY

2020-2021 PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LICENSE – RENEWAL

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that the following Plenary Retail Distribution License be issued in the Township of Union to be effective on July 1, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Municipal Clerk or his/her duly authorized agent is hereby authorized to execute, issue and delivery such license to the following licensee:

Name & Trade Name: Joseph V. Martin, Jr., Inc.
t/a Perryville Wine & Spirits
Location & Mailing Address: 72 Rte. 173 West
Hampton, New Jersey 08827
License #: 1025-44-008-003

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution, certified to be a true copy by the Municipal Clerk, be forwarded to the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

- d. RESOLUTION #2020-84: 2020-2021 Liquor License Renewal – OINK and MOO BBQ & Brew @ The

Perryville Inn

RESOLUTION #2020-84

UNION TOWNSHIP, HUNTERDON COUNTY

2020-2021 PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSE – RENEWAL

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that the following Plenary Retail Consumption License be issued in the Township of Union to be effective on July 1, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Municipal Clerk or his/her duly authorized agent is hereby authorized to renew the following inactive “Pocket” license:

Name & Trade Name:	JJ Development III LLC
Location & Mailing Address:	171 Route 173 Suite #201 Asbury, NJ 08802
License #:	1025-33-006-008

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution, certified to be a true copy by the Municipal Clerk, be forwarded to the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

- e. **RESOLUTION #2020-85**: Authorizing Legal Services of Michael Sullivan, Esq.–Fallone Group LLC, Tax Appeal

RESOLUTION #2020-85

UNION TOWNSHIP; HUNTERDON COUNTY

AUTHORIZING LEGAL SERVICES OF MICHAEL SULLIVAN, ESQ. FROM THE FIRM OF STICKEL, KOENIG, SULLIVAN & DRILL LLC, TO REPRESENT THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION IN A TAX APPEAL FILED BY THE FALLONE GROUP LLC

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Union is in need of representation in the matter of the Fallone Group LLC, Tax Appeal; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Union had retained a Professional Services Contract with the Firm of Stickel, Koenig, Sullivan & Drill LLC, of which Michael Sullivan, Esq. is a partner; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee agreed for Michael Sullivan, Esq. to represent the Township in the Fallone LLC. Tax Appeal Litigation including the year 2020; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union that Michael Sullivan, Esq. is hereby authorized to represent the Township of Union in the matter of the Fallone Group LLC, Tax Appeal Litigation before the Hunterdon County Board of Taxation and/or the New Jersey Tax Court; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the municipal attorney is hereby authorized to represent this municipality before the Hunterdon County Board of Taxation and/or the New Jersey Tax Court in prosecution and defense of

appeals filed with said Board or Court and to enter into and sign stipulations of appeals on behalf of this municipality, which he/she feels are proper and in the best interests of the municipality, provided that all such stipulations shall be with the concurrence of the municipal assessor.

- f. **Motion to Approve** – NJ Firemen’s Assoc. Membership Application for Brian E. Huff
- g. **Motion to Approve** - Confirming Approval of Pittstown Trail Association Trail Obstacle Challenge Event on August 15, 2020 – CFO Brennan mentioned that the event was cancelled.
- h. **Motion to Approve** – Authorization to Participate in the Hunterdon County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update
- i. **Payment of Bills**

End of Consent Agenda

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino			x			
Mr. Mazza			x			
Mr. Hirt		x	x			
Mr. Stiger			x			
Mr. Stothoff	x		x			

Motion Carried

13. REPORTS

a. Attorney’s Report

- Comcast Franchise Renewal Application – Notice of a Public Hearing scheduled for September TC meeting was published. Bob Clifton, Director of Government Affairs from the Comcast Franchise will be attending the next Township Committee meeting. He will be discussing Comcast Application for a renewal of the Municipal Franchise Consent. Atty. McNally said a memo was issued to Committee members outlining the process of the renewal. She asked that the Committee email her with any questions.

b. Committee Report

Mr. Stothoff reported the following:

- Together with Mr. Stiger, participated in an Open Space Plan renewal meeting last Thursday. Mr. Stothoff said that 26% of the Township is already designated as parkland and 30% is owned by the State. He stated that if nothing is going to be added, the Plan will be updated to comply with current standards.

Mr. Stiger reported the following:

- Mentioned that the Township’s Farmland Preservation Plan should also be updated. He said Agricultural land accounts for 25% of the Township; therefore, changes, if any, should be made before it is incorporated in the Master Plan.

Mr. Severino reported the following:

- Thanked Glenn Roth, OEM Coordinator for coordinating emergency services during the last Tropical Storm.

- Posed a question to Township Attorney Cecil regarding setting a protocol that the Committee should follow in case a vote is needed between scheduled TC meetings. Atty. McNally said she would communicate the message to Atty. Cecil.
- Asked about a damaged fuel tank on the old backhoe. CFO Brennan said she spoke with Road Foreman Fleming. He asked Ron Burns, a retired employee, to show the Road Crew how to repair the tank. There was no need for a new one at this time.

c. Mayor's Report

- Thanked Mr. Severino and the Recycling team for accepting items at the depot even though dumpsters had not been emptied. No resident was turned away. Especially thanked Recycling Attendant Robert Brennan for coming and helping. It was suggested that office employee or DR&F Foreman call for dumpster pick-up if it is full on Thursdays. Personnel Administrator Brennan stressed the need for Recycling Attendants. She proposed that members of the Road Crew be asked to help. Various options were briefly discussed.

14. PUBLIC COMMENTS - none

15. 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 9:10 p.m. Mr. Hirt seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote.

Transcribed by: Ella M. Ruta, Municipal Clerk

Frank Mazza, Mayor