

TOWN OF UNION BRIDGE  
WORK SESSION  
February 13, 2023

The Council held a work session meeting on February 13, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., in the Town Hall. Notice of the meeting was given by posting the agenda at the Town Hall, on the Town's website, and provision to the Carroll County Times. Those present were Mayor Perry L. Jones Jr.; Donald Wilson; Laura Conaway; Amy Kalin; Cheri Thompson; Edgar Wentz; and Clerk-Treasurer, Dawn Metcalf.

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION

- Mr. Caudle sent an email on January 23, 2023, inquiring about renting the Community Center for use of the bathrooms for an outdoor benefit concert. Mayor and Council stated that he would be responsible to meet all the Community Center rental requirements and it would be recommended that he have someone in the center to monitor people going in and out of the center.
- Alan Smolin, owner of 134 West Broadway, submitted a letter requesting relief to his current water bill, due to a water leak that was underground. The Clerk-Treasurer already provided Mr. Smolin the standard credit to the sewer portion of his current bill. After discussion, Mayor and Council were in total agreement that, due to set precedence, further relief cannot be offered. A copy of Mr. Smolin's January 23, 2023, letter is attached to and made a part of these minutes.
- Everyone was given a copy of the first draft of the proposed FY 23/24 budget. This upcoming budget year Union Bridge has had a loss of income from the Sprint/T-Mobile merger, low interest rates.
- Other budget items Mayor and Council were in total agreement to include in the FY 23/24 budget are as follows;
  - \*\$20,000.00 Town's portion for a track loader, pending the approval of the USDA grant that Union Bridge applied for.
  - \*\$40,000.00 new pump for the Aqua Jet, which is used to clean out sewer pipes and storm drains.
  - \*\$ 5,000.00 a year for consulting fees for Planning and Zoning Consultant/Zoning Administrator to be paid monthly.
  - \*Increase Base Fees for Water and Sewer and to include the annual 3% increase to water sewer usage fees.
- Everyone was in agreement to donate the Town's old meter heads to Westminster City.
- Request for proposals went out for trash removal service. Sealed bids due by March 10, 2023, by 3:00 p.m.

DONALD WILSON

- Mr. Wilson discussed track loader town portion cost, if USDA approves the grant that was applied for.

LAURA CONAWAY

- Ms. Conaway met with Shriner Court residents on February 13, 2023.

AMY KALIN

- Ms. Kalin discussed Union Bridge old meter tops, Aqua Jet new pump purchase.

CHERI THOMPSON

- Ms. Thompson presented her petition to change wording in the Town Code, Chapter 220, Section 13.2.5, Article K.
  - \*Councilmember Donald Wilson stated that the cost associated with the changes was not worth it.
  - \*Councilmember Laura Conaway researched and found that the same language is in all of Carroll County municipalities. Ms. Conaway reminded everyone that Union Bridge Main Street is on the National Register of Historic Places and it may not be fitting to change the wording in the ordinance.
  - \*Mayor Jones stated that, if the Council decided to refer the petition to Planning and Zoning the whole Sign Ordinance should be reviewed to see if other changes need to be made.

After a lengthy discussion, Ms. Thompson, decided to withdraw her petition to change the wording in the Town Code, Chapter 220, Section 13.2.5, Article K. Everyone was in agreement that this petition is withdrawn and the matter is closed. Ms. Thompson will supply an email that she has withdrawn the petition. A copy of Ms. Thompson's petition to Mayor and Council is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

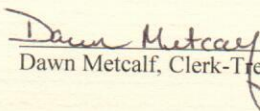
EDGAR WENTZ

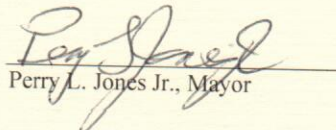
- Mr. Wentz had no new business.

MAYOR JONES

- Mayor Jones discussed consulting fee for Planning and Zoning Consultant/Zoning Administrator duties.

The February council meeting will be held on February 27, 2023.  
The March work session will be held on March 13, 2023.

  
Dawn Metcalf, Clerk-Treasurer

  
Perry L. Jones Jr., Mayor