

THE TOWN OF UNION BRIDGE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
June 21, 2021

The Council met in the Union Bridge Town Hall, on Monday, June 21, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., for their monthly council meeting. 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. Mayor Jones presided over the meeting with councilmembers Donald Wilson; Laura Conaway; Amy Kalin; Cheri Thompson; Edgar Wentz; and Town Attorneys, John Maguire and Mandi Porter. The attendees' sheet is attached to and made a part of these minutes. **Councilmember Laura Conaway motioned to approve the May 2021 operating statements; May 24, 2021 council meeting minutes; June 14, 2021 closed work session minutes and Quantum financial statements for May 2021. Councilmember Edgar Wentz seconded and the motion passed.**

MAYOR'S REPORT

-Mayor Jones attended the grand opening of Save Point, Maryland State Police Alumni 100-year anniversary event, VFW Memorial Day remembrance event, the ribbon cutting for Carroll County Veterans Independent project new building, conference call on American Rescue Plan Act, Water Resource Coordination Council (WRCC) meeting and participated in many Maryland Municipal League (MML) meetings.

-Mayor Jones participated in the conference call with the governor.

-Mayor Jones received a call concerning a water leak on Penrose Street.

-Mayor Jones will be attending the MML 2021 conference the last week of June.

-Mayor Jones called for a motion on Shriner Court FY2021/2022 budget. After discussion, **Councilmember Laura Conaway motioned to approve Shriner Court FY 2021/2022 budget for expenditures and revenues of \$146,822.00. Councilmember Donald Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.** A copy of Shriner Courts budget is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

-The Town will be sponsoring the National Night Out event, Tuesday, August 3, 2021. If you would like to help, please contact Councilmember Laura Conaway.

ATTORNEY REPORT – JOHN MAGUIRE

-Mr. Maguire discussed the Option to Purchase Agreement relating to the Citizens UB solar project. This arises from the settlement agreement, before the Public Service Commission, where it was negotiated that the Town would have the options to purchase a portion of the conservation land along Locust Street and R6000 land. The conservation land will be deeded in the very near future, however, it is uncertain as to when, or if, the R6000 land will be deeded. The Town will have five (5) years, from the time that the solar project becomes operational, to exercise the option for the R6000 land. The purchase price for the property shall be held at \$4,500.00 per acre for both the conservation and the R6000 land. John Maguire requested that one (1) change be made to the last exhibit (drawing of option area along W. Locust and Whyte St.), and that change is to draw a zoning line on this exhibit, so we know exactly where the conservation land and R6000 land is located. Mr. Maguire has spoken with the Town's Circuit Rider, Mike Reynolds, that perhaps the acquisition of the R6000 land could be tied to the grant funding for the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP). Mr. Maguire stated that a motion is needed to approve the form and to authorize Mayor Jones to sign the Option to Purchase Agreement, with the only potential change is to add the zoning line on the last page. **Councilmember Donald Wilson motioned to approve the form and to authorize Mayor Jones to sign the Option to Purchase Agreement, with the only potential change is for the surveyors to add a zoning line to the last page of the document. Councilmember Laura Conaway seconded and the motion passed unanimously.** A copy of the Option to Purchase Agreement is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

-Mr. Maguire discussed the Locust Wetland Deed. This deed is to the conservation land for the Locust Wetland Project. This deed expands the parcel that the Town already owns where the WWTP is located. Settlement is nearing for the purchase of the two (2) acres for a stormwater management facility along West Locust Street. The County's attorney office is going to conduct this settlement. The form of this deed has been negotiated between the County's attorney office, Citizens UB Solar Attorney's and the Town's Attorney, John Maguire. This project is being funded by Carroll County. The County has identified the two (2) acres and has been surveyed at the County's expense. Plans have been submitted and are under review. The Town's Planning Commission will be responsible to approve this site plan. The Town will accept direct title to this project and the long-term maintenance of this facility will be the Town's responsibility. Mr. Maguire stated that a motion is needed to approve the deed and to authorize Mayor Jones to sign the deed. **Councilmember Laura Conaway motioned to approve the deed and to authorize Mayor Jones to sign the deed. Councilmember Edgar Wentz seconded and the motion passed unanimously.** A copy of the deed is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

-Mr. Maguire reported that GHD, the Town's engineer and Maryland Department of Environment (MDE) are trying to work out a way to avoid having to go out to bid for the Preliminary Engineering Report on the WWTP. MDE claims that they will pay for this project. In the Town's Charter section 20-60 (C), requires the Town to go out to bid for any contract over \$15,000.00, but also has exceptions to this requirement. In a case such as this, the Council needs to approve to waive the bidding process. John Maguire recommends a motion to waive the bidding, so long as MDE is paying for the entire project. If MDE does not waive the bidding, or if MDE will not pay for this entire project, this motion will not be effective and the Council will have to readdress this. **Councilmember Amy Kalin motioned that**

the Town waive the bidding, as long as MDE is paying for the entire Preliminary Report project. Councilmember Laura Conaway seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

CARROLL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE - DEPUTY COLUSSY

-Deputy Colussy reported that between the dates of May 24, 2021, until June 20, 2021, the Carroll County Sheriff's Office responded to 46 calls for service within the town limits of Union Bridge. Out of those calls for service, only four (4) calls required a report. A copy of Deputy Colussy's report is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

-Michelle Smith reported that Dream Big Union Bridge will be holding a community cook out on August 29, 2021. Event will be held on East Broadway, next to the Municipal Parking Lot.

-Cheri Thompson reported that Dream Big Gift Shop will be celebrating it's one-year anniversary the weekend of July 10th and 11th. Door prizes and refreshments will be offered. Ms. Thompson congratulated, Eric Holnicker on the opening of Save Point. Dream Big is also in the planning stages of possibly holding a New Year's Eve celebration, and would like to have the Mayor's and Council's approval. Mayor Jones voiced his concerns about requesting the closure of Route 75 for that event and stated it may not be a good idea to ask for Route 75 to be shut down. Mayor Jones said that the idea of a New Year's Eve celebration was okay with him as long as everyone is safe.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

WATER/SEWER

-Ms. Kalin stated that she received eleven (11) phone calls on June 2, 2021 concerning a water leak on Penrose St. Calls continued to come in.

-Ms. Kalin will be attending the MML conference from June 27, 2021 through June 29, 2021, and she thanked the citizens of the town for the learning privilege.

STREETS

-Mr. Wilson updated everyone on the current water leak on Penrose Street. In the past, the Town has experienced numerous leaks on this particular water line. Mr. Zechman, Water/Sewer Maintenance Subcontractor, recommended that the entire water line on Penrose Street should be renewed, due to history the of water leaks the Town has experienced on that particular water line. Mayor Jones, Council President Donald Wilson all agree with Mr. Zechman's recommendation. Due to the current leak, it is impractical for the Town to advertise for sealed bids. The Clerk-Treasurer has asked three (3) companies to provide quotes to renew the water line on Penrose Street. All quotes will be in by the end of day on, June 28, 2021. Due to the MML Conference beginning on June 28, 2021, and the mayor and three (3) councilmembers will be out of town attending that conference, Councilmember Donald Wilson suggested a motion be made tonight, that once all quotes have been received, Council President Wilson, has the authority to authorize the company with either the lowest bid and or the best-qualified company to commence with the renewal of the water line on Penrose Street. **Councilmember Amy Kalin motioned to authorize Council President Donald Wilson to accept either the company with the lowest bid and or the best-qualified company to commence with the renewal of the water line on Penrose Street. Councilmember Laura Conaway seconded and the motion passed unanimously.**

-Mr. Wilson received an email from the Maryland Department of Transportation that they have the okay to redo the railroad crossing on Route 75. Work should begin in October of 2021. Crossing will be replaced with asphalt not concrete.

-Waiting for Ken Keefer to pour the concrete at the new town storage building on Warehime Alley.

-Mr. Wilson stated that Ken Black, Public Works employee, did a great job on lining the Community Center parking lot. There are 33 parking spots.

-Lehigh graciously donated 3" pipe to be used as a frame for the swing near the "beach" along the creek. Mr. Black and Mr. Wilson reinstalled the swing on the new frame.

-Mr. Wilson dug a couple of ditches to help relieve the water that lays on some areas of the walking trail.

-Mr. Wilson will be meeting with White Pine next week to go over upcoming street repairs.

-Mr. Wilson also participated in two (2) of the Disorderly House Nuisance Abatement Conference meetings.

COMMUNITY CENTER

-Mr. Wentz reported that the flat roofs at the Community Center have been repaired.

-Mr. Wentz reported that the Community Center parking lot has been widened and paved.

-Mr. Wentz replaced bolts on the sliding board. A copy of Mr. Wentz's report is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

POLICE/MOWING/CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

-Ms. Conaway addressed several mowing and parking issues this month.

-Liv Thomas was selected by the mayor and council as the winner for Elmer Wolfe Elementary "If I Were Mayor" essay contest. Ms. Conaway sent letters to Liv, her teacher and the principal inviting them to the July 26, 2021 Council meeting. Ms. Thomas's mother confirmed that they would be attending the July meeting.

-New Christmas decorations have been delivered.

-Attended the grand opening of Save Point.

-A copy of Ms. Conaway's monthly report is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

STREET LIGHTS/TRASH REMOVAL

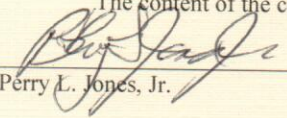
- Ms. Thompson stated she reported five (5) street lights to First Energy in need of repair.
- Ms. Thompson was informed by the Clerk-Treasurer that Hughes Trash Removal reported an ongoing issue with the Post Office trash, in which it appears that the issue has been resolved.
- Attended the grand opening of Save Point.
- A copy of Ms. Thompson's monthly report is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

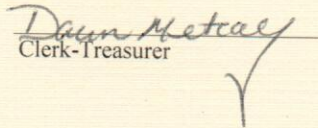
Councilmember Laura Conaway motioned to adjourn the Council meeting. Councilmember Amy Kalin seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The next council meeting will be held on July 26, 2021.

The next work session will be held on July 12, 2021.

The content of the council meeting is contained on a zip drive.


Perry L. Jones, Jr.


Dawn Metcalf
Clerk-Treasurer