

THE TOWN OF UNION BRIDGE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
April 25, 2022

The Council met in the Union Bridge Town Hall, on Monday, April 25, 2022 at 7:02 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 Attorney, Mandi Porter. The attendees' sheet is attached to and made a part of these minutes. **Councilmember Laura Conaway motioned to approve the March 2022 operating statements; March 28, 2022 public hearing minutes; March 28, 2022 council meeting minutes; April 11, 2022 work session minutes and Quantum financial statements for March 2022. Councilmember Edgar Wentz seconded and the motion unanimously.**

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Jones reported that he received several phone calls from Shriner Court residents, concerning the grass not being mowed at Shriner Court. Quantum Management is working on securing a mowing contract for Shriner Court.
- Mayor Jones plans to attend the Water Resource Coordination Council (WRCC) meeting on May 6, 2022. The council plan to tour the stormwater projects.
- The Town of Union Bridge celebrates its 150th birthday kickoff at Flood Zone with a cake cutting on May 1, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. Mayor Jones would like everyone to attend.
- Mayor Jones reported that, with the help of Senator Ready, \$5,000,000.00 was secured through Governor Hogan's supplemental budget submission to fund upgrading Union Bridge's sewer plant.
- New state legislation for Maryland which restores the state's highway user revenues (HURs) to Maryland's municipalities. The new legislation ensures municipalities, counties, and Baltimore City will receive 20% of the transportation funding, instead of the prior 10%. The municipal share of that funding pot is currently 2%. This bill will increase that percentage as follows:

FY 23: 2% (Union Bridge estimated amount \$75,978.74)
FY 24: 2.4% (Union Bridge estimated amount \$91,174.49)
FY 25: 2.7% (Union Bridge estimated amount \$102,571.30)
FY 26: 3% (Union Bridge estimated amount \$113,968.11)
FY 27: 3% (Union Bridge estimated amount \$113,968.11)
FY 28 and beyond: 2.4% (anticipated decrease due to electric vehicles)

- The MML Carroll County Chapter meeting will be held on May 19, 2022.
- The Town has received some complaints concerning the decibel level of the church bells. Mayor Jones plans to set up a time to speak with the Pastor.
- Clerk-Treasurer received a phone call from a business owner concerning the process the Town plays in renewing their business license. Mayor Jones stated that the Clerk-Treasurer, followed Town policy and procedure in verifying if a business is compliant with the Personal Property Division of Maryland State Assessments and Taxation.
- The MML received 2,200 essays from Maryland 4th graders for the "If I Were Mayor" essay contest. Mayor Jones was given 47 essays to read.
- Kenny Black, Public Works Technician, will be resigning from his permanent part-time position on May 6, 2022. Mr. Black's status will change from permanent part-time to part-time as he will fill in as needed.

BUDGET ORDINANCE 318-A

-Mayor Jones called for a motion on Budget Ordinance 318-A, for fiscal year 2022/2023. **Councilmember Donald Wilson motioned to approve Budget Ordinance 318-A, for fiscal year 2022/2023, for expenditures and revenues of \$1,041,289.00, with the town tax rate to remain at \$0.35 per \$100 of full value assessment of property in The Town of Union Bridge, and the town personal property tax rate is to remain at \$0.75 per \$100 of assessed value. Councilmember Laura Conaway seconded and the motion passed unanimously.** A copy of Budget Ordinance 318-A is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

O & M INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR

-The Town advertised for an O&M Independent Contractor for the Water and Waste Water Treatment Plants. The advertisement for bids ran on March 18, 2022, and March 21, 2022, in the Carroll County Times. The Town received one bid proposal from Environmental Operations (our current contractor) in the amount of \$56,412.00 for FY 22/23, \$56,412.00 for FY 23/24 and \$56,412.00 for FY 24/25. Both the contractor and the Town have the option to renew at the proposed prices for the second and third year. **Councilmember Amy Kalin motioned to approve Environmental Operation's bid proposal for O&M Independent Contractor for the Water and Waste Water Treatment Plants in the amount of \$56,412.00 for FY 22/23, \$56,412.00 for FY 23/24 and \$56,412.00 for FY 24/25. Councilmember Laura Conaway seconded and the motion passed unanimously.**

ATTORNEY REPORT – MANDI PORTER

-Mandi Porter reported that Ordinance 317, Solar Facilities that was put on hold last year will move forward and is scheduled to be on the next Union Bridge Planning and Zoning Commission agenda.

CARROLL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE - DEPUTY COLUSSY

-Deputy Colussy reported that between the dates of March 28, 2022 until April 25, 2022, the Carroll County Sheriff's Office responded to 62 calls for service within the town limits of Union Bridge. Out of those calls for service, only six (6) required a report. A copy of Deputy Colussy's report is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

- The Bureau of Aging & Disabilities is celebrating 50 years of service to Carroll County. They will be holding a community celebration on Wednesday, April 27, 2022, from 10am to 2pm on the campus of the Westminster Senior & Community Center and the Bureau of Aging & Disabilities (125 Stoner Avenue, Westminster). There will be food trucks onsite, a walk Carroll event, line dancing, seated yoga, tours, bingo, Mr. D's Magic and a COVID-19 vaccine/booster clinic.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

-There were no public comments or concerns.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

WATER/SEWER

-Ms. Kalin had zero (0) phone calls related to water or sewer since the last Town Council meeting.

STREETS

-Mr. Wilson reported that Chip Kraft be extending the section of sidewalk along the west side of Benedum Street. There are Sections of this sidewalk that will be located on Town property and on Nathan Baugher's property (10 E. Elger St.). Mr. Wilson had the Town Attorney draw up a letter of consent giving permission for the sidewalk to be installed on Mr. Baugher's property, which Mr. Baugher signed. There are 90 feet of curbing that is to be installed, and per Union Bridge code, the Town is responsible to pay half the cost of the curbing.

-Mr. Wilson reported that the railroad crossing on Route 75 will be closed for repair between the dates of May 20, 2022 – May 23, 2022. Residents will have to use alternate routes during the closure.

COMMUNITY CENTER

-Mr. Wentz had no new business.

POLICE/MOWING/CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

-Ms. Conaway contacted the teachers at Elmer Wolfe and requested the remainder of the "If I Were Mayor" essays.

-Ms. Conaway attended the Carroll Cable Regulatory Commission meeting.

-Ms. Conaway designed the flyer for Union Bridge 150th birthday kickoff at Flood Zone

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

STREET LIGHTS/TRASH

-Ms. Thompson was asked to serve on the board for the Homeless Shelter Program (HSP). Mayor Jones gave his approval. Ms. Thompson is waiting for more information on the program before she commits.

-Ms. Thompson contacted State Highway about crosswalk signage for Flood Zone.

-Ms. Thompson delivered letters to residents and obtained signatures for the proposed additional street light on S. Farquhar.

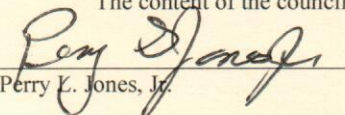
-A copy of Ms. Thompson's full report is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

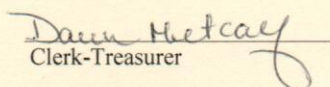
Councilmember Laura Conaway motioned to adjourn the Council meeting. Councilmember Donald Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The next council meeting will be held on May 23, 2022.

The next work session will be held on May 9, 2022

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


Perry L. Jones, Jr.


Dawn Hetcoy
Clerk-Treasurer