

Regular Council Meeting of March 1, 2021

- A. Mayor Duane Pouder opened the meeting at 6:00 P.M.
- B. The Lord's Prayer was recited.
- C. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- D. Roll call was taken with Michael Coning, David Champ, Eric Rust, Chiane Tedrow, Brad Horsley and Nicole Whitesel were present.
- E. **Consent Agenda:**
 - 1. Approval of the Agenda
 - 2. Department Head Reports
 - 3. Accounts Payable with "now and then" February 1-28, 2021
 - 4. Statement of Balances March 1, 2021
 - 5. March 1, 2021 Municipal Income Tax Report
 - 6. March 1, 2021 Debt Report
 - 7. General Fund and Payroll Bank Statements
 - 8. Village Council Minutes February 1, 2021

Councilman Brad Horsley motioned to consent of agenda and Councilwoman Nicole Whitesel seconded. The voice vote passed unanimously.

F. Village Citizens:

Rick Reichard, Utility Supervisor addressed Council and Residents about issues that appeared on the Union City Community Facebook post. Residents keep comparing the Village of Union City Ohio with the City of Union City Indiana. Union City Indiana has more manpower and more equipment than Union City Ohio. We do not plow curb to curb when plowing snow. We do address and answer complaints, sometimes people do not like our answers, therefore they do not think their complaint has been answered. Every complaint that is received by me or Village Administrator/Fiscal Officer Karen Stubbs is addressed. Also, yes, I do know who I work for and am proud to work for the Village of Union City, Ohio. The Department had a rough beginning the first snow, we have addressed these issues with Assistant Fire Chief Greg Miller and have worked these issues out and hoping to get along better. Councilman Eric Rust stated they do a very good job. Mayor Duane Pouder stated he went out and drove the streets the following day after the snow and found the plowing issues of snow in the intersections were people pulling snow (independent contractors) into the intersections. I drove around town for approximately one hour and half and found this situation at least three times.

Mike Bowers, Darke County CIC collected the sheets passed out at the last council meeting from council. If council did not complete the survey or failed to bring, give them to Mayor Duane Pouder and he will get them back to Mike Bowers. Mike Bowers stated we are all in this together and need to work together.

G. Project:

Mike Bruns from Mote and Associates updated Mayor, Council and Residents on current projects.

1. Water Treatment Plant-Nomination for Ohio EPA funding submitted.
2. Detention Pond Modifications-waiting on the completion of easement and then it will be put out for bid.
3. Street Maintenance Plan-now that snow has cleared will be bring back to Council a proposed plan.
4. Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation-manhole castings to be finished by end of March.
5. Park Grants-Susan Laux met with the Park Advisory Board to discuss the NatureWorks Grant that is due June 1, 2021. Councilwoman Chiane Tedrow stated she will be attending the Darke County Park District meeting and will be requesting to use grant monies through their grant program as matching monies for the NatureWorks Grant.

Councilman Eric Rust stated his number one concern are Village roads, they are in bad shape and some are even nonexistent. How are they going to grade them? Mike Bruns stated they are going to break them down, partial, or total reconstruction. Evaluations will be done every year thereafter to determine deterioration since the Village will not be able to complete all the work at once. Councilman Eric Rust also asked how many miles of streets are in the Village. Utility Supervisor Rick Reichard stated between 9 and 10 miles and this does not include any alleys. Utility Supervisor Rick Reichard stated he is looking into using the old concrete we have, grinding it down and putting in the alleys.

H. Administrative Reports:

Mayor Duane Pouder, nothing to report.

Village Administrator/Fiscal Officer Karen Stubbs received a telephone call from Jag Healthcare Nursing Home, they are doing some construction work on their property and have placed a dumpster in the alley behind their building and are asking if they can leave it sit there for several days. Safety Service Director Mark Ater stated he would not be able to get the fire equipment at the back of the building if there was to be a fire. Councilman Brad Horsley motioned to remove the dumpster from the alley immediately and Councilman David Champ seconded. The voice vote passed unanimously.

I. Committee Reports:

The Park Advisory Board met on February 26, 2021 to discuss grants and deadlines. They currently only have two members on the committee and are asking for additional members.

J. Ordinances and Resolutions:

Ordinance 2021-08-Emergency Reading-"AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE SALARIES AND WAGE SCALE OF VILLAGE EMPLOYEES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021" and declaring an emergency. Councilman Brad Horsley motioned to declare and emergency, suspend the rules and advance by title only and Councilman Eric Rust seconded. The voice vote passed unanimously.

Ordinance 2021-08-Second Reading-“AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE SALARIES AND WAGE SCALE OF VILLAGE EMPLOYEES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021” and declaring an emergency.

Ordinance 2021-08-Third Reading-“AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE SALARIES AND WAGE SCALE OF VILLAGE EMPLOYEES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021” and declaring an emergency. Councilman Brad Horsley motioned to pass Ordinance 2021-08 as an emergency and Councilman Eric Rust seconded. Councilman David Champ, Councilwoman Chiane Tedrow, Councilman Brad Horsley and Councilwoman Nicole Whitesel, yea, Councilman Michael Coning, abstain, motion carried.

Ordinance 2021-09-Emergency Reading-“AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE VILLAGE OF UNION CITY, OHIO”, and declaring an emergency. Councilman Brad Horsley motioned to declare an emergency, suspend the rules and advance by title only and Councilman Michael Coning seconded. The voice vote passed unanimously.

Ordinance 2021-09-Second Reading-“AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE VILLAGE OF UNION CITY, OHIO”, and declaring an emergency.

Ordinance 2021-09-Third Reading-“AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE VILLAGE OF UNION CITY, OHIO”, and declaring an emergency. Councilman Michael Coning motioned to pass Ordinance 2021-09 as an emergency and Councilman Eric Rust seconded. The voice vote passed unanimously.

K. Old Business:

1. Update-Overpopulation of cats in Village. Councilwoman Chiane Tedrow stated she has contacted some non-profit organizations to see if they had any grant opportunities the Village could apply for. Councilwoman Chiane Tedrow also stated she is trying to find a veterinary that would offer a lower cost to spayed or neuter the cats. Safety Service Director Mark Ater stated the Indiana side did a similar program a few years back. Mike Bowers stated the local animal shelter in Greenville did a trap and release program 7 years ago, the City of Greenville did have to match monies with the grant. Mayor Duane Pouder appointed Councilman David Champ to the Stray Cat Committee dealing with the overpopulation of cats in the Village. Councilman Eric Rust asked if an Ordinance could be passed to prohibit residents from feeding stray cats. Nothing in the Ohio Revised Code, therefore it would be hard to enforce. Resident Homer Stammen stated as the cat population lowers, the bird population will rise, birds eat insects which benefits everyone.

L. New Business:

1. Probationary period of Bradley Barker and recommendation for probationary raise. Sergeant Turner recommends Patrolman Bradley Barker be taken off probation. Councilman David Champ motioned to take Patrolman Bradley Barker off probation and Councilwoman Chiane Tedrow seconded. The voice vote passed unanimously.

The recommendation for probationary raise was \$.50 per hour. Councilman Michael Coning motioned to award \$.50 hour as probationary raise and Councilman Eric Rust seconded. The voice vote passed unanimously.

2. Purchase Order Requests:

Public Service-JL Spencer Trucking-\$2,111.55-Councilman Brad Horsley motioned to issue purchase order in the amount of \$2,111.55 to JL Spencer Trucking and Councilman David Champ seconded. The voice vote passed unanimously.

M. Emergency Business/Ordinances: None

N. Call of Council:

Police Chief Mark Ater informed council the Village has obtained a vehicle from the Darke County Sheriff Department. The vehicle is a 2014 Ford Explorer SUV set up as a K-9 unit, this vehicle will be assigned to Sergeant Jeff Turner. Thanks to the Darke County Prosecutor's Office, they purchased the vehicle for the Village. There is also a new sign on the Police Department Building. The H & R Block sign was removed and replaced with the new sign. Police Chief Mark Ater also stated they are looking into solar lights for the building.

Councilman Eric Rust asked if the new Amazon lockers were getting any activity. Police Chief Mark Ater stated yes, he has also seen a reduction of porch thefts since they have been installed. They can also be used for Amazon returns.

O. Communications and Announcements:

P. Executive Session:

Councilman Brad Horsley motioned to go into executive session for "pending legal matters" and Councilman Michael Coning seconded. The voice vote passed unanimously. Council went into executive session at 6:30 P.M. Chief Mark Ater and Sergeant Jeff Turner were invited into the Executive Session.

Council returned to regular session at 7:07 P.M.

Mayor Duane Pouder informed council that he was working with Darke County CIC Director Mike Bowers on a 1/3/5-year plan for the Village. Council discussed how to get the word out to the citizens to let them know the Village is moving forward.

Q. Adjournment or Recess:

Councilman Brad Horsley motioned to adjourn, and Councilwoman Chiane Tedrow seconded. The voice vote passed unanimously. Council adjourned at 7:21 P.M.

Duane Pouder, Mayor

Karen Stubbs, VA/Fiscal Officer