1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. "Sunshine Law" Announcement-Adequate notice of this public meeting has been provided by the Annual Notice; posted on Union Township website, published in the Hunterdon County Democrat and Courier News; posted on the public bulletin board and on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

3. FLAG SALUTE
4. ROLL CALL

	Present	Absent
Mr. Severino	X	
Mr. Mazza	X	
Mr. Hirt	X	
Ms. McBride	X	
Mr. Bischoff	X	

Also present: J.P. Jost, Attorney; Robert Clerico, P.E. and Ella M. Ruta, Twp. Clerk

5. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

a. Regular and Executive Session Meeting Minutes of December 4, 2013.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino	X		X			
Mr. Mazza		X	X			
Mr. Hirt					X	
Ms. McBride			X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			

Motion carried

6. VISITORS

7. <u>Presentation by Twp. Engineer</u> – Preliminary Design to the portion of Perryville Rd. between Race St. and St. Catherine's Church Driveway.

Jim Morgan, 139 Perryville Road question about drainage problem repair in his driveway. Engineer responded that driveways are to be reconstructed within a certain limit, usually 5' to 10' from the road with apron included.

8. REPORTS RECEIVED

a. Dept. of Roads & Facilities- Week Ending 12/6/13; 12/15/13
b. Tax Collector - November 2013
c. Municipal Court – November 2013

d. Engineer's Report

- The Race Street guardrail project, we will put in request with Morristown Co-op in January 2014.
- The old municipal building demo, we have been in contact with Yanuzzi and demolition will start after the first of the year.
- Mr. Hirt mentioned that he and the engineer will make up bid sheets for work on water problem to submit it out.

9. CORRESPONDENCE / WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Mazza reported the following correspondence:

- Pavilion at the park and lightning protector; forwarded email to Jack Hara for review with Recreation Committee.

Mr. Bischoff reported the following correspondence:

- HC Planning Board Re: Long Term Importance on Economic Development Planning Initiative. The Mayor suggested that I look into attending the focus group.
- NJLM Re: DEP Notice – Diesel Vehicle Retrofit Requirements. Mr. Mazza said that the DR&F Foreman was working on it. Copy of the notice to DR&F Foreman.
- Town of Clinton Re: Joint Meeting between the Town of Clinton Water Co. and the Highlands Council. The Mayor and I will attend.

Mr. Severino reported the following correspondence:

- NJLM Re: FCC Cell Tower Rule Could Threaten Local Land Use and Construction Controls. Mayor asked Clerk to copy members of Planning Board with a note that the Mayor and Mr. Bischoff would like to discuss with Planning Board at their next meeting.
- NJ State Agriculture Development Committee Re: Application for Farmland Preservation; Block 28 Lot 23. Fifty-eight acres off of Finn Road. Application signed by the Mayor.

Motion: The Township supports the proposed acquisition of Farmland Preservation for Block 28 Lot 23.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino	X		X			
Mr. Mazza			X			
Mr. Hirt		X	X			
Ms. McBride			X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			

Motion carried

Mr. Hirt reported the following correspondence:

– Information from the League about equipment for cleaning the truck and undercarriage I will take to road crew to evaluate.

Ms. McBride reported the following correspondence:

– I asked Clerk to give the CFO, Engineer and Mark Anderson a copy of NJ American Water notice of change of address.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS – none at this time
11. PUBLIC HEARING - none
12. OLD BUSINESS - none
13. NEW ORDINANCE – 1ST Reading - none
14. NEW BUSINESS

a. The following Resolution was introduced:

RESOLUTION #2013-122
UNION TOWNSHIP, HUNTERDON COUNTY
APPROPRIATION TRANSFER(S)

Be it resolved by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that there are insufficient funds to meet the demands necessary for the 2013 Appropriations in the following accounts:

TO:	ENGINEERING OE	10516520	$ 5,000.00
	MUNICIPAL CLERK S & W	10512010	1,000.00
	COMP. DATA PROC. OE	10514020	1,000.00
	PLANNING BD. OE	10518020	3,000.00
	RECREATION OE	10537020	3,000.00
	ROAD MAINTENANCE S & W	10529010	8,000.00
	MAINTENANCE OF PARKS 0E	10537520	1,500.00
			$22,500.00

WHEREAS, the following account(s) have sufficient excess funds to meet such demands:

FROM:	ROAD MAINTENANCE OE	10529020	15,000.00
	LEGAL SERVICES OE	10515520	7,500.00
			$22,500.00

BE IT RESOLVED that in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 40A: 4-58 the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to make the transfer(s) required to meet the obligations of Union Township.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino		X	X			
Mr. Mazza			X			
Mr. Hirt			X			

Ms. McBride			X			
Mr. Bischoff	X		X			

Motion carried

b. **Motion to Approve** – Application for Special Permit for Social Affair – Alexandria Twp. Education Foundation.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino			X			
Mr. Mazza	X		X			
Mr. Hirt		X	X			
Ms. McBride			X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			

Motion carried

c. **Resignation** – Tom Cannan from UT OEM Coordinator Position as of December 31, 2013. The Mayor accepted the resignation with regret and thanked Tom for his service this year.

15. REPORTS

a. **Attorney's Report**

– I understand the Planning Board approved the application of PS Construction for the variances needed in connection with the two affordable housing units to be constructed on one of the original three subdivided lots that were subdivided prior to the next sixteen lots subdivided on the property. In accordance with the Township Committee's prior approval we can then go ahead and sign the Developer's Agreement and they will be eligible to hold up to seven permits. I have finalized the Developer's Agreement and notified the developer to pick it up.

Motion: To authorize the Mayor to sign the Developer's Agreement and the associated attachments as soon as we receive them back from the developer with the necessary executed documents and the money.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino		X	X			
Mr. Mazza			X			
Mr. Hirt			X			
Ms. McBride			X			
Mr. Bischoff	X		X			

Motion carried

– The Mayor asked about the status of the Ordinance for the re-exam report. Short discussion followed. Also inquired about a replacement hydrogeologist.

b. **Committee Report**

Mr. Mazza reported the following:

- All trucks are running. I want to thank the road crew for the outstanding job that they did and I want to thank the temp, Tony Tarantino. I would like to ask the Committee if this year they might consider adding a fifth person to the road crew.

Mr. Bischoff reported the following:

- "My reading of history convinces me that most bad government results from too much government." Thomas Jefferson.
- Executive session
- The bulletproof door will remain at the Court until decision made to put up for auction in the spring.
- COAH and Fair Share suit before NJ Supreme Court to endorse litigants' rights by Fair Share Housing Corporation against COAH.
- Telephone greeting script approved and scheduled to implement in the new year.

Mr. Severino reported the following:

- As we have done in the past, we supply our recycle attendants with jackets and boots. I have a request for four attendants not to exceed $600.00.
- The signage for the bus stop on Rupell Road installed.
- Animal control is going well with the new officer.

Mr. Hirt reported the following:

- We need our search people recertified there is five on this and the other ones are already certified because they are rescue. We need $300.00 to pay for the recertification.
- Estimates for inside and outside work for the water problem. We will set up one for outside and one for inside by the end of January.
- I want to thank the Mayor for all her hard work during the Union Hill fire in organizing a clothing drive; you did a spectacular job. Thank you to the fire companies for all their hard work at the fire.

c. **Mayor's Report**

- December 5th we had our Township Appreciation Dinner with 80 attendees and we appreciate everyone that came out. We announced our Volunteer of the Year Jack Hara.
- December 11th Mr. Mazza and I met with Mark Strauss, Fire Chief of Annandale Fire Company and is also police detective there. We continue to try to talk to surrounding communities to find out what their best practices are and services we can share and transfer of ideas. It was a great conversation.
- Our well abandonment is completed on December 5th by Stovers. Oil tank was pumped by Stem Bros. on the 16th.
- NJSEM bid through electricity auction. The auction was completed on December 10th. The price for the electricity was 9% below what they call the strike price. Our price what we pay for utilities is above the strike price. Will Contact CFO to determine how much our savings would be.

- I continue to make my occasional rounds to pick up illegal bandit signs. One issue is the Ray buys houses guy, who puts his signs up about 15 feet in the air, is it ok to ask road crew to take two of those signs down at exit 12. I will ask the Zoning Offricer to call the owners of these signs.
- In our December 4th meeting we talked about contractors and small jobs ($300.) First contact would be the DR&F, second would be Bruce Hirt and third would be list of semi-approved contractors. Mayor gave her list of contractors.
- Clean Communities Report – I finished the report through the third quarter and I sent a copy of it to the Committee. There are a few changes from last year. Community Clean Up Events are allowable expenses under the grant therefore I consider our household clean up dumpster days to be Community Clean Up Events and thus allowable expenses. I will alter the website accordingly. Tire expenses are allowable. Personnel administration expenses are allowable up to 5% of the grant total amount. Security fencing for the dumpster area is $3940.00 and will be charged against the grant and 25% of the grant can go towards a backhoe this year that is $3634. The $26,000. in the account should be used up by year's end.
- We continue to receive offers of assistance to the 18 Union Hill residents displaced in late November. I am forwarding all the offers and information we get to Access Property Management the people who are responsible for the condominium complex. They are forwarding the information to the 18 residents. It is working very well and the residents are very pleased with the generosity.
- Restoration Technologies is still removing the materials from the old municipal building they will be done by January 1st.
- I wrote 25 thank you letters and Ella mailed them out to all first responders and others who offered assistance to the displaced Union Hill residents.
- I sent a copy of the article about the 43% increase in Clinton Township Sewerage Authority bills to the Committee. I thought it might merit a brief discussion during the Executive Session (contract negotiations) and how we might respond.
- An executive session for personnel to discuss our open OEM Coordinator position and an open Planning Board position.
- We have an Eagle Court of Honor on the 21st for Alex LaTournas, thanked the attorney for the proclamation.
- Incidents report for the County. Mayor gave overview of the reports for our fire and rescue squads. Mayor and Mr. Hirt will visit Hunterdon Developmental Center to discuss emergency calls.
- There was an article in the newspaper about how difficult it is to get emergency response volunteers and to get compensation for emergency services. The Mayor suggested a subcommittee to work on ways to obtain emergency response compensation to the greatest extent possible.
- Thank you to the Committee for allowing me to be Mayor this year. It has been a real pleasure and a privilege to do this. Terry Wright from the Democrat never comes to our meetings anymore because we have the most boring Township Committee meeting anywhere. We don't throw things at each other or yell at each other, we are respectful to each other. We don't always agree, but we treat each other with respect. It has been a good year from that standpoint and I want to thank everybody for working with me. It has been a lot of fun.

d. **Clerk's Report –** none at this time

16. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Bob Wisnosky, Deerfield Lane – Suggested that there are smart phone apps that can map lightning instead of using an expensive setup. Will mention it to Jack Hara to take a look at it.

– Attorney mentioned that Dan Van Fossen and I are going over the Ordinance regarding the fire department and making any necessary updates on it. I will get back to the Committee early next year.

17. PAYMENTS OF BILLS

The approved list of bills and all claims against the Township of Union as appearing in the Claims Register of this date paid and that all checks listed hereinafter issued in payment thereof.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino	X		X			
Mr. Mazza			X			
Mr. Hirt		X	X			
Ms. McBride			X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			

Motion carried

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION –

The following Resolution introduced for adoption:

RESOLUTION #2013 - 123
Providing for a Meeting Not Open to the Public in Accordance with the
Provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Union is subject to certain requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et. seq.,; and

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10-4-12, provides that an Executive Session, not open to the public, may be held for certain specified purposes when authorized by Resolution; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Township Committee of the Township of Union to discuss in a session not open to the public certain matters relating to the item or items authorized by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b and designated below:

1. _____ Matters Required by Law to be Confidential: Any matter which, by express provision of Federal law or State statute or rule of court shall be rendered confidential or excluded from the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

2. _____Matters Where the Release of Information Would Impair the Right to Receive Funds: Any matter in which the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from the Government of the United States.

3. _____Matters Involving Individual Privacy: Any material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy such as any records, data, reports, recommendations, or other personal material of any educational, training, social service, medical, health, custodial, child

protection, rehabilitation, legal defense, welfare, housing, relocation, insurance and similar program or institution operated by a public body pertaining to any specific individual admitted to or served by such institution or program , including but not limited to information relative to the individual's personal and family circumstances, and any material pertaining to admission, discharge, treatment, progress or condition of any individual, unless the individual concerned (or, in the case of a minor or incompetent, his guardian) shall request in writing that the same be disclosed publicly.

4. _____Matters Relating to Collective Bargaining Agreements: Any collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions which are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of the terms and conditions thereof with employees or representatives of employees of the public body.

5. _____Matters Relating to the Purchase, Lease of Acquisition of Real Property or the Investment of Public Funds: Any matter involving the purchase, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of banking rates or investment of public funds, where it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of such matters were disclosed.

6. _____Matters Relating to Public Safety and Property: Any tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public, provided that their disclosure could impair such protection. Any investigations of violations of possible violations of the law.

7. _X__ Matters Relating to Litigation, Negotiations and the Attorney-Client Privilege: Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is, or may become a party. Any matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is require in order for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer.

8 _X___Matters Relating to the Employment Relationship: Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance of promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all the individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting.

9. _____Matters Relating to the Potential Imposition of a Penalty: Any deliberations of a public body occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty upon the responding party or the suspension or loss of a license or permit belonging to the responding party bears responsibility.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, assembled in public session on December 18, 2013 at 8:26 p.m. in the Union Township Municipal Building, 140 Perryville Road, Hampton, New Jersey, for the discussion of matters relating to the specific items designated above.

It is anticipated that the deliberations conducted in closed session may be disclosed to the public upon the determination of the Township Committee that the public interest will no longer be served by such confidentiality.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino	X		X			
Mr. Mazza			X			
Mr. Hirt			X			
Ms. McBride			X			
Mr. Bischoff		X	X			

Motion carried

Motion to come out of Executive Session at about 8:50 p.m.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino	X		X			
Mr. Mazza			X			
Mr. Hirt		X	X			
Ms. McBride			X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			

Motion carried

19. ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business to come before the Township Committee at this time Mr. Mazza made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Mr. Severino seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote.

_____ _____

Prepared by: Patricia Essig, Deputy Clerk Michele McBride, Mayor