

**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	

Other present: J.P. Jost, Attorney, Robert Clerico, P.E., and Ella M. Ruta, Municipal Clerk

**5. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES**

- a. Executive Session Meeting Minutes of July 16, 2014.

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

**6. VISITORS – no visitors scheduled**

**7. REPORTS RECEIVED – acknowledged**

- a. Road Dept.- Week Ending: 8/29/14; 9/05/14
- b. Animal Control Officer – August 2014
- c. Zoning Report – August 2014
- d. Engineer's Report –

- Municipal Building Foundation Drainage Project – work in progress.
- Cooks Cross Rd. Improvements – final voucher payment to the Contractor is on the bills list for approval tonight.
- Perryville Road Sec. 2A – will be ready for final payment to the Contractor in October. Paperwork will be processed for reimbursement from NJ DOT.
- Municipal Aid Application – gave a detailed overview and explanation of two possible projects, Perryville Rd. Section 4A and Baptist Church Rd. Improvements as proposed and discussed previously.

The following motion was introduced after brief discussion of Baptist Church Rd. Improvements Project:

To approve filing for improvements of Section 1B of Baptist Church Rd. Project on the Municipal Aid Application.

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			

Mr. Severino inquired about bridge inspections by NJ DOT. He said bridge embankment for I-78 overpass at Exit 11 Southside has deteriorated with concrete crumbling and cracking. Engineer Clerico will contact the appropriate department at NJ DOT office.

At this time, State Trooper Walsh came in to give his report and answer questions from the Committee if there are any. He distributed copy of the report for June, July and August to the Township Attorney. Trooper Walsh said that he would be attending UT Community Day on September 28<sup>th</sup> and setting up a kiosk. He introduced Trooper Bishop who recently graduated from the Police Academy and joined the force at Perryville Barrack. Trooper Walsh also said that he spoke with UT Court Administrator regarding monthly revenue from the Court. An increase in revenue could be a result of adding police officers to staff providing for more officers patrolling the roads.

Mr. Severino made Trooper Walsh aware of the vandalism on the newly landscaped and seeded with grass parking lot at the old municipal building. Trooper Walsh said he would be patrolling the area.

Mr. Hirt asked if Trooper Walsh would be willing to accompany Zoning Officer to visit a property in the Township that stores cars with expired license plates. Trooper Walsh agreed and asked that the zoning officer contact him directly next week.

**8. CORRESPONDENCE / WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Bischoff mentioned the following correspondence:

- COAH takes action regarding municipal affordable housing trust fund
- Red Tape review Commission Public Hearing
- NJ DEP Public Notice – Clean Water Financing

Ms. McBride mentioned the following correspondence:

- Mayor asked that the Clerk provide a copy of “Public Hearing on Proposed Revision to the Franklin Twp. Master Plan (Open Space and Recreation Plan)” and “The NY-NJ Trail Conference NJ DEP Green Acres Planning Incentive Grant Application Green Corridors II Project Area” to UT Environmental Commission.

- 9. PUBLIC COMMENTS – none at this time**
- 10. PUBLIC HEARING - none**
- 11. OLD BUSINESS - none**
- 12. NEW ORDINANCE – 1<sup>ST</sup> Reading - none**
- 13. NEW BUSINESS**

a. The following resolution was introduced for adoption:

**RESOLUTION #2014-118**

**TOWNSHIP OF UNION, HUNTERDON COUNTY  
RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE DIRECT MAILING**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 54:5-26 requires the Tax Collector to advertise the Notice of Tax Sale for four weeks prior to the tax sale; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 54:5-26 provides the Tax Collector may give notice by direct mail in lieu of two publications, the cost of which shall not exceed \$25.00 for each such notice, which cost shall be added to the cost of sale.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2014 by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, Hunterdon County, State of New Jersey, that:

1. The Tax Collector may provide notification by Direct Mail in lieu of two publications.
2. The cost of each Direct Mailing shall be set at \$25.00.
3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

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

Motion carried

b. The following resolution was introduced for adoption:

**RESOLUTION 2014 - 119**

**REFUNDING APPLICATION FEE AND EXCROW DEPOSIT FOR ROAD OPENING PERMIT  
19 Frontage Road  
Elizabeth Town Gas c/o AGL Resources  
PO Box 4569 Atlanta, GA 30302**

**WHEREAS**, AGL Resources on behalf of Elizabeth Town Gas did file an application for a Road Opening permit at 19 Frontage Road, and

**WHEREAS**, AGL Resources posted the fees associated with said application in the amount of \$100.00 for application and \$500.00 for Inspection Fees, and

**WHEREAS**, AGL Resources has withdrawn said application,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the application for road opening at 19 Frontage Road is withdrawn and the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to release the application fee of \$100.00 as well as the Escrow deposit of \$500.00.

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

Motion carried

c. The following resolution was introduced for adoption:

**TOWNSHIP OF UNION**

**RESOLUTION #2014-120**

RESOLUTION: Approval to submit a grant application and execute a grant agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Perryville Road Section 4A Improvement Project.

WHEREAS, Perryville Road Section 4A is in need of Improvement

WHEREAS, Robert J. Clerico, P.E., Township of Union Engineer, has prepared a cost estimate for improvements to this road.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Union Township Committee that the grant application for the above stated project is formally approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as MA-2015-Union Township-00103 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of Township of Union.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Township of Union and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approved the execution of the grant agreement.

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

Motion carried

d. The following resolution was introduced for adoption:

**TOWNSHIP OF UNION  
RESOLUTION #2014-121**

RESOLUTION: Approval to submit a grant application and execute a grant agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Baptist Church Road Improvement Project.

WHEREAS, Baptist Church Road is in need of Improvement

WHEREAS, Robert J. Clerico, P.E., Township of Union Engineer, has prepared a cost estimate for improvements to this road.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Union Township Committee that the grant application for the above stated project is formally approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as MA-2015-Union Township-00104 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of Township of Union.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Township of Union and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approved the execution of the grant agreement.

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

Motion carried

**14. REPORTS**

**a. Attorney’s Report**

- Spoke with Atty. Lott who represents Pilot Travel Centers LLC about scheduling meeting with the Township Committee trying to resolve outstanding issues. Atty. Jost will email members of the subcommittee for Pilot for dates that they are available to attend the meeting.
- Contacted the Township’s Labor Attorney with questions regarding finalizing Ordinance for the Fire Company.
- Looking into cost recovery ordinance for UT Fire Dept. when they respond to accidents on State and Federal Highways.
- Executive Session matters.

**b. Committee Reports**

Mr. Mazza reported the following:

- Updated the Committee on maintenance and upkeep of the Township’s parks by DR&F.

Mr. Hirt reported the following:

- Reported on preparation for the UT Community Day scheduled for September 28, 2014.

Mr. Severino reported the following:

- Suggested a clean-up site for UTEC as per Mayor’s inquiry at the prior meeting. He said there is a site at the Spruce Run Reservoir that has a lot of debris now that the water is very low.

Mr. Bischoff reported the following:

- Quote: “The Constitution only gives people the right to pursue happiness. You have to catch it yourself”- Benjamin Franklin
- Received an e-mail from NJ Highlands Council regarding submitting public comments on the Highlands Regional Master Plan. He said the e-mail was forwarded to Mr. Balzano, Environmental Consultant.
- Updated the Committee on negotiations for Municipal Shared Court Services with Clinton Township.
- Working on the Personnel Procedures and Polices.
- Asked that the job consolidation description for Deputy Clerk and Deputy Registrar distributed at the last meeting be approved:

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

- Matters for Executive Session.

**c. Mayor’s Report**

- Distributed three quotes for Surveillance System for Municipal Building to the Committee members. After brief discussion the following motion was introduced for approval:

Give the Mayor the authority to make a final decision of choosing the vendor.

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

- Landscaping work still in process but almost finished at the Old Municipal Building. Securing and preventing entrance on the site was discussed. Mr. Mazza will be contacting DR&F regarding the issue.
- Wi-Fi connection available in the municipal building. Will be providing necessary information to the Committee members and professionals.
- Asked Atty. Jost to prepare a proclamation for Grow-A- Row as Mr. Paillex, resident of the Brass Castle Development is a founder. The Mayor stated that Mr. Paillex received national recognition for his efforts to combat hunger by providing fresh produce to NJ Food Banks.

**15. PUBLIC COMMENTS** – none at this time

**16. 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			
Mr. Mazza			x			
Mr. Hirt	x		x			
Ms. McBride			x			
Mr. Bischoff		x	x			

Motion carried

**17. EXECUTIVE SESSION –**

The following Resolution introduced for adoption:

**RESOLUTION #2014 – 122**  
**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 or 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 \_\_\_\_\_ 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 September 17, 2014 at 8:12 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		x			
Mr. Hirt			x			
Ms. McBride			x			
Mr. Bischoff						x

Motion carried

The Committee returned to a regular meeting session at 8:37 p.m.

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 following motion was introduced after the Committee came out of Executive Session:

To approve the agreement between Union Township, High Bridge Borough and Township of Clinton Sewer Authority relative to sewer issues and to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement at the appropriate time.

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

**18. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Township Committee at this time Mr. Bischoff made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m. Mr. Hirt seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Prepared by: Ella M. Ruta, Municipal Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michele McBride, Mayor