TOWN OF UNION
UNION, NEW YORK

In the Matter of:

Town Board
Work Session and Meeting

December 16, 2020
3111 East Main Street
Endwell, New York 13760

APPEARANCES:

FOR THE TOWN OF UNION

RICHARD A. MATERESE
Town Supervisor

THOMAS R. AUGOSTINI
FRANK J. BERTONI
SANDRA C. BAUMAN
HEATHER R. STALEY
Board Members

ALAN POPE
Town Attorney

ROSEMARIE POPE
Deputy Town Attorney

LEONARD PERFETTI
Town Clerk

Digitally recorded proceeding,
Transcribed by: Ria Jara
Czerenda Court Reporting
71 State St.
Binghamton, NY 13901
MR. LEONARD PERFETTI: All right. Who called to get out of the executive session?

MR. RICHARD MATERESE: Sandy.

MR. PERFETTI: Yeah.

MR. MATERESE: And Tom.

MR. PERFETTI: Time?

MS. SANDRA BAUMAN: 6:35.

MR. PERFETTI: Okay.

MR. MATERESE: Okay. Fortunately, we have a fairly light agenda tonight, but Tom asked to be able to speak on an issue. Tom?

MR. THOMAS AUGOSTINI: Yeah. So I'll go back to the beginning of the redevelopment proposal. These are just examples for the redevelopment proposal going back probably ten years to what is now National Pipe & Plastics, 1 North Page Avenue. So originally, there was a developer who came from out of state and said he was going to redevelop that site and did not go anywhere. Fast forward from that development, we spent a tremendous amount of time entertaining a proposal, Twist Run Road, the Pikaski (phonetic) development going --

MR. BERTONI: Farm to Market.

MR. AUGOSTINI: Farm to Market. Yeah. I'll go way back even before my time when it started but continued shortly after I got on the board, was a development up on
Cotton (phonetic) Road that went nowhere. The most recent one is the time we spent over in Fairmont Park for CSI where all the approvals are granted and he walks away and is going to do something up on Airport Road in the Town of Maine.

Where I'm going with this is that along the way everyone is compensated except the Town of Union. I don't have specific details other than say maybe have a committee in 2021, look at some form of escrow amount of money that's refundable if permission is granted, approvals are positive, and then the developer just walks away from their proposed idea or concept or development. That way, the town would be right in line with everybody else because it seems like - no offense, Alan or Rose - but attorneys get paid. Lenders definitely get paid upfront. Right? Engineers, architects, all the professional services. The Town sometimes makes a tough decision.

One right now is a CDI over on Hooper Road. There's noise. People don't want anything built there. And come up with some formula or some number that says you want to start the project, this amount of money goes into escrow, and if you start and complete it, it gets refunded. And if you don't, that's the Town's money. In essence saying, you know, there's a fee for wasting our time. I would call it like a commitment, some type of
commitment fee or some type of commitment letter. And if you look at other real estate deals, you know, you pursue whether it's a residential house or something else, there's down payments and if you walk away, you lose the down payment. There's penalties when you proceed to a certain point and then walk away.

MR. MATERESE: It's not a bad idea. I'm not sure if we can. They do have to pay fees, permit fees, and things like that that we did get.

MR. AUGOSTINI: There's an application fee.

MR. MATERESE: Right.

MR. AUGOSTINI: The permit fees are different. You're starting to build -- you're right, that means you're going forward and you pay your permit fees. I'm saying you put your application and maybe we rethink what that amount is because --

MR. MATERESE: Well, yeah --

MR. AUGOSTINI: You put your application in and then it's really a nominal fee. But there's a tremendous amount of work and time that goes into it.

MR. BERTONI: It's actually years.

MR. AUGOSTINI: Yeah.

MR. BERTONI: I mean the Town puts literally years of work in.

MR. MATERESE: Yeah. As long as it's not jeopardizing other or not counter -- double taxation shall
we say on whatever fees we already charged. But I have no
problem with that. I like that idea.

MR. AUGOSTINI: No. And this would be
refundable. You carry through with your commitment, you
get -- it's a refund. I mean --

MR. BERTONI: It's an escrow, right?

MR. AUGOSTINI: What's that?

MR. BERTONI: It's like an escrow. The same as
we would do for our alternate energy. Right? They have
to have some sort of a bond or something that we could
claim if they don't do what they say they're going to do.

MR. AUGOSTINI: I'd have to ask Rose or Alan on
that. Like if you walk away, can you attach yourself to a
bond? I was thinking not really a bond, but something
liquid.

MR. MATERESE: Rose, Alan, do you guys have an
opinion?

MR. ALAN POPE: Yeah. So Rose is on right now.

Do you want to --

MS. ROSEMARIE POPE: No, no, I don't want to be
seen. Thank you. No. Frank, or whoever asked it, do you
recall in our solar law what we put in was an escrow for
like engineering fees, and you know, anything else that
might come up during the review process? So, I think what
Tom is talking about is something similar to that. Not
necessarily a bond, I don't think that would work. But,
you know, call it a project fee or something - I don't
know - or project escrow. And along those same lines that
money gets used if you have to bring in engineering or the
planning, or however that works, but only if they don't
proceed is what you're saying, Tom, correct?

MR. AUGOSTINI: Correct.

MS. POPE: But --

MR. BERTONI: That's a good idea, Tom.

MS. POPE: I mean I think it could work that
way. Alan, feel free to jump in if you want to.

MR. POPE: Yeah. I've got a client up in
Sackets Harbor, New York. And up in the Village of
Sackets Harbor, they've got a provision where they
basically look at each development and they say, okay,
we're the government. We're going to put in X in number
of hours in attorney time, engineer time, staff time. And
they kind of quantify that upfront. And if you bring them
a more difficult project and it exceeds that, you're going
to foot the bill for engineers, attorneys, and staff time.

So while the same thing could happen, somebody
could walk away after they get approval, but they know
going in, here is the threshold. And if you have a
difficult project, you're going to pay over that
threshold. I know up there they think that's a little bit
more fair because everybody coming in knows in advance
that you may have to pay. Even if you're successful and
stay, you're going to still have to pay the municipality some amount of money for the extraordinary or difficult project.

MS. POPE: But, Alan, is that escrow, or they're paying afterwards?

MR. POPE: They're paying afterwards. They're getting a bill afterwards.

MS. POPE: But what if they don't want to? What if they like the CSI, whatever that was, that walks away, then what?

MR. POPE: They would get a bill for anything over and above. Using the Village of Sackets Harbor, you know there will be a threshold amount. If it takes more, you would get a bill whether you stayed or left. I mean it's just a different concept from what you're talking about, Tom.

MR. MATERESE: How do you get them to pay if they walk away? I mean you send them a bill, but how do you get them to pay that bill?

MR. POPE: Up there, they have an attorney fee provision. So if they have to sue them, they're going to get their attorney's fees on top of it.

MR. MATERESE: Okay. All right. I think it's something to investigate. I have no problem setting that up maybe from the Planning Committee.

MR. AUGOSTINI: So the examples that I gave and
then you look at some future examples, and like the RFPs we do on Friday for the old IBM Country Club. So there's interest there. There is interest in the BAE site. The Goudy Station just sold, I think, last week or the week before. So somebody, a new owner bought it. It’s got to come to the Town at some point with some idea.

We just heard that Robinson Hill Road want to put battery storage units up there. I mean, we're willing to write a review, Alan, and then just kind of get it going so that projects that come before us, they know going into it that they got to put something upfront.

MR. BERTONI: Yeah. We should do that sooner rather than later.

MR. AUGOSTINI: Yes.

MR. MATERESE: We can do that. We can set that up at our first meeting.

MR. AUGOSTINI: Okay.

MR. POPE: Okay, great.

MS. POPE: Okay. But don't forget, anything like that, you've got to do a local law.

MR. AUGOSTINI: Right.

MS. POPE: So you got to go through that process. So you need to come up with -- Tom, I think you mentioned forming a committee or whoever wants to work on it. But it's got to go through that process.

MR. MATERESE: So, we'll set that up at the
organizational meeting. We'll form the committee and you
guys can run, you know, do it from there.

MR. AUGOSTINI: I mean it's okay just to maybe
assign it to the Planning, Zoning, Economic Development
Committee, whoever that's going to be in 2021.

MR. MATERESE: Right. But then if they want to
do a subcommittee out of that or --

MR. AUGOSTINI: Yeah.

MR. MATERESE: Yeah.

MR. POPE: I know you're going to do that and it
will be discussed more. But, I think, whatever it is,
we've always been pro-development. Right? We have
welcome arms for developers. So part of me kind of leans
towards what Tom is saying. The only people to get
penalized or charged or billed are those that leave the
Town of Union after using our funds, and our people, and
our engineers, and staff - not the other developers.
Right?

MR. MATERESE: Correct.

MR. POPE: We want them to come. We'll do
everything we can to keep them here.

MR. MATERESE: I agree. Okay. Tom, are you
good?

MR. AUGOSTINI: Yeah.

MR. MATERESE: Okay. Thank you, Tom.

MR. BERTONI: Tom, would that also apply to like
pilot agreements? Could you extend it to something like that? So that when people promise to put out a certain number of jobs or something, and they don't, and they get this kind of a tax -- you know they get all these 20 years of tax breaks, and then they just walk away without reaching their part of the agreement. Is there something we can do? Because I know we've been burned a couple of times with that.

MR. AUGOSTINI: I think that's just really enforcing the agreement.

MR. MATERESE: That would be my guess, also.

MR. AUGOSTINI: The agreement just comes to an end.

MR. BERTONI: Yeah. But if you remember, when the jobs weren't created, I think it was the guy that owns all the plazas there --

MR. AUGOSTINI: That was Rockwell Collins.

MR. BERTONI: Yeah. But they promised to create a certain number of jobs and never did.

MR. AUGOSTINI: That goes back to -- that agreement was 1997. It was signed. They said we're going to create 400 jobs. Never did. I mean back then somebody should have said like, no, the agreement ends.

MR. BERTONI: Yeah. I think Finberg, Feinberg (phonetic), or what?

MR. AUGOSTINI: Yeah.
MR. BERTONI: Edwin McCann (phonetic), too.

MR. MATERESE: Okay. All right. So, shall we move on? All right. Going down the old business, IMAs. Frank, there is another IMA, but I'm not sure, and I asked Alan. Alan, where did that most recent thing between Endicott and us come from? The IMA that Jen Fanture (phonetic) sent over.

MR. POPE: That was one that the Town of Union had with Dickinson. So, all we did was we took the form of what we already had in place. You're talking about the sharing, the road sharing agreement?

MR. MATERESE: Yes.

MR. POPE: Yeah. So that really came from an existing agreement we already had with Dickinson. We just converted it over and made it into something that was akin to be used for the Village of Endicott.

MR. BERTONI: Right.

MR. MATERESE: Okay. Now, this looks serious, Frank, do you know about that one?

MR. BERTONI: Yes.

MR. MATERESE: Okay. Because I just wanted to make sure we touch base with Lou on that contract.

MR. BERTONI: I can't hear you, you're breaking up.

MR. MATERESE: I wanted to make sure you touch base with Lou on the particulars of that agreement.
MR. BERTONI: Yes. I spoke to Chad, too, and he said that I think we have one with almost everybody except Endicott.

MR. MATERESE: Okay. All right. Contract. We already talked about cameras (sounds like). We got a note from Sara today about all the stuff that's happening in her department. She's got a lot going on. She's been pretty busy. Our new hire there, Chris, has been extremely helpful for her. She's losing Gina tomorrow. Tomorrow, Gina is having a baby. So Gina is going to be out of the picture for a little bit. But there are a lot of good things happening in her department. I just hope everybody got to see the email she just sent this afternoon. I'm guessing, your composting isn't going anywhere right now.

MS. BAUMAN: No, it's a little cold out for composting.

MR. MATERESE: Okay. Budget items. We're still looking for somebody for Deputy Dog. I spoke with Jo Anne Klenovic, supervisor from Chenango, yesterday. She is interested, and I connected her with Dee. She is interested in maybe seeing if we can do something jointly. Even though we're both big towns, at least to get a part-time person for each -- a full-time job but two part-time jobs for the two towns. So we're still working on that. We still don't know what's going to happen with Mary yet,
if Mary is coming back or not. So that's where we are on there.

If any of you get to the office, Darren Pero is retiring. He'll actually be coming back to work part time for us, but he's retiring from a full-time job. So there's a card. It will be in Lou's office. If you'd like to sign a card and make a donation.

MR. BERTONI: When is that?

MR. MATERESE: What's that?

MR. BERTONI: When?

MR. MATERESE: It will be there until December 23rd.

MR. AUGOSTINI: That's his last day, the 23rd?

MR. MATERESE: Lou, is that correct?

MR. LOU CAFORIO: I'm not sure when his last day is. Where do you say the card is?

MR. MATERESE: Well, the card is in my office right now. I got it today and I was going to send it to your office for anybody else to fill in.

MR. CAFORIO: Okay. I don't know if it's made it all the way through the Town but that's fine. If you send it back to Mary, she can hang onto it.

MR. MATERESE: Okay. Yeah. Anybody else who's checked off other than Dog Control?

MR. PERFETTI: Yeah. I didn't get it for some reason. I still have to sign it.
MR. MATERESE: Okay. We're looking at trying to make some and we're just in the talking stages. Nothing's been decided, obviously, because we haven't talked to any of the board members. We're looking to see if we can do some things to make the building more accessible for people once we hit, you know, start coming out of COVID here, and opening the building up.

MR. BERTONI: A tool they have - it looks like a big - you know when you go into a government building and you have to walk through the metal detector?

MR. MATERESE: Yeah.

MR. BERTONI: It looks like half of one of those, and you just put your wrist against it. It takes your temperature automatically.

MR. MATERESE: Cool. Dan Schofield is looking at a couple of different things for that, and we're just looking to see if there is any other things we can do or should do. Because we'd like, particularly, when we hit January, and elderly people are coming in. We're running into some elderly people who get to the front door, don't have telephones, don't have any access to our -- our intercom system is nonfunctional right now. So, we want to be able to get them in out of the cold and get down to the assessor's office so they can do their Star Energy things, or whatever the assessment stuff is.

MR. BERTONI: Like I said at the school, there
is no contact with any person at all. It's just you put
your wrist against the thing, and then you sign in, and
you go where you're going to go. You don't have to like
-- the secretary doesn't have to have contact with you or
anything.

MR. MATERESE: So, if you might mention that to
Dan Schofield, Frank?

MR. BERTONI: Yes.

MR. AUGOSTINI: Like an E-Z Pass system, right,
Frank?

MR. BERTONI: What?

MR. AUGOSTINI: It's like an E-Z Pass system.

MR. BERTONI: Yeah, yeah.

MR. MATERESE: Okay. There is also in my
office, there will be something from the Town for all of
us to sign, for Studio 11, which just opened their
business down the road from us. Nick Sorrenti started a
new barbershop there. He is a master barber. He is
actually teaching other people to be barbers in this
thing, but he started a new business officially last week.
And we just figured we'd give him something from the Town
saying welcome. So if anybody wants to come in and just
sign that, we would appreciate that too.

I don't have a lot about other things for the
work session. Does anybody else (audio glitch)?

MR. BERTONI: Sandy has two names that she'd
like to add to the Light Committee, if anybody else doesn't have any names to add.

MR. MATERESE: Okay. Are we following Lou's suggestion on that from you, Frank, the ones that you suggest?

MR. BERTONI: Yes.

MR. MATERESE: Okay. Yeah. I have no problem with that. So, Sandy, will you get those in to me?

MR. BERTONI: It would be the right number because then, you know, if we have to vote, it would be 3:2, and rather than just three and it's only 2:1, and that's a little bit harder.

MR. MATERESE: Right.

MR. BERTONI: So we thought five would be the right number. We could try to get one from Johnson City and one from Endwell.

MR. MATERESE: So, Sandy, will you send those names to me, please?

MS. BAUMAN: Yes, I will. What time are you going to be there on Friday, Rick? What time will you be in the building?

MR. MATERESE: I have a 9:30 meeting. That will probably go until 10:00, and then theoretically I have an 11:30, so probably between 10:00 and 11:30.

MS. BAUMAN: Okay. Thank you.

MR. MATERESE: Okay. Anybody else have anything
else?

MR. BERTONI: We have several items that have been kind of lingering out there for a long (audio glitch), and one of them is National Pipe deeding the road over to us.

MR. MATERESE: Correct.

MR. BERTONI: It's plowing (sounds like) and I guess it won't be an issue but we technically -- you know, if we're going to plow that, we should own it. I mean it should be the town road, not private property.

MR. MATERESE: Right. Lou, did you have something to say about that?

MR. CAFORIO: I haven't seen anything yet.

MR. BERTONI: Rose, I think, was working with National Pipe.

MR. MATERESE: On just getting them to deed it over to us?

MR. BERTONI: What?

MR. MATERESE: To have them deed it over to us finally?

MR. BERTONI: Yes.

MS. POPE: Oh, yes. I haven't heard anything from Lily and Libby (phonetic), but my understanding was that they still owed us several things before they could get final sign off on the whole project. Right, Alan, has that changed?
MR. POPE: Not that I know of.

MS. POPE: So I'll check with Marina to see what else it is that she needs or if she's gotten everything, and then I'll push really in for it. So they're not going to get their final whatever from Marina now or the Town until they sign that over and also do whatever else they have to do. But I'll send Marina an email tomorrow morning.

MR. MATERESE: So just to clarify, Rose, does that mean that they can't or won't sign that deed, that part over until the entire project is set?

MS. POPE: No, no. I'm saying no. They're not saying that. It's just that, you know, it's not that they're going to get their certificate of compliance or whatever it is they're getting without first deeding that to the town.

MR. MATERESE: Okay.

MS. POPE: So they're going to have to do it at some point to get what they want. But I'll push Lily and see where she is with it. I haven't heard from her in a while.

MR. MATERESE: All right.

MR. BERTONI: Has anybody made any progress about looking into a court location?

MR. MATERESE: We're investigating a couple of different places. We haven't come up with anything
significant yet, and we also have to follow the regulations we have to follow from the state. So once we determine --

MR. BERTONI: What?

MR. MATERESE: Once we determine a possible place to go, then we have to follow regulations from the state court system. We've made some movement in investigating, but we haven't done anything yet.

MR. BERTONI: You keep moving on your computer and it goes silent.

MR. MATERESE: All right. Let's try it again.

MR. BERTONI: Right there, just stay right there.

MR. MATERESE: We have done some investigating, but we have not done anything to bring back to the board, and once we have designated a spot that we think we want to look at, we then have to involve the New York State Court System.

MR. BERTONI: Okay. But I think we should make sure that we're -- I mean I --

MR. MATERESE: We're on it, Frank. We did something last week. We're doing something next Monday. It takes time.

MR. BERTONI: Okay.

MR. MATERESE: Anything else?

MR. BERTONI: Well, do we get to know where they
MR. MATERESE: Sure. I'm not sure that we want to do that now until we decide. We have a number of places, and then we'll say, okay, here are the places. Let's go make a decision. I don't know that we would just want to do them, you know, we looked at this place, and then we looked at that place. We're going to do it all once we got a whole bunch of people.

MR. POPE: I agree. Let's hold off on identification of locations until we got a little more certainty.

MR. MATERESE: Yeah.

MR. POPE: Do it offline if you have to.

MR. MATERESE: Yes.

MR. CAFORIO: Hey, Rick. It's Lou. A quick question on who has to be involved once you consider a location?

MR. MATERESE: The New York State Court System has recommendations and rules that we have to follow to be able to set up a court.

MR. CAFORIO: So, it's something on paper. Because we know when we did Johnson City -- when we moved to Johnson City, I don't recall having any input from the court system. But I know we had to do things, build the floor plan work, et cetera. I just don't remember them being involved.
MR. MATERESE: Dee was in contact with somebody. She gave me the name of that person who sort of directed what we were doing, apparently. That's my understanding.

MR. CAFORIO: So Dee is involved in this as well?

MR. MATERESE: Yes.

MR. BERTONI: I don't mean to belabor this, but why is a board member -- can I not know where we're looking for space? Why is this --

MS. STALEY: Frank, I have pictures of the one -- I could send everybody. I took a lot of pictures.

MR. MATERESE: Frank, you were invited to come with us. You didn't want to.

MR. BERTONI: But I still like to know what the location is.

MR. MATERESE: Once we have the location set, we'll show everybody.

MR. BERTONI: Why is it a secret, though? I don't understand that.

MR. POPE: Frank, the reason that you don't do it publicly at this point is we may have to negotiate with different people. Right? And if you, in a public setting like this, have those types of discussions and disclosures, then you're going to create a potential problem. So, if you do it offline, that's no secret. Just do it offline.
MR. BERTONI: I meant in executive session, who
was negotiating for us --

MR. MATERESE: Yeah. But we're not in executive
session now. If you want to do that, we can do that.
Does anyone else have anything else?

MS. STALEY: Are we still pursuing tipping fees?
Remember we talked about that during budget. We were
going to do tipping fees for the refuse and recycling.

MR. MATERESE: We have tipping fees.

MS. STALEY: In my notes, we were looking to do
some sort of additional fee, and it said if we were going
to do it, we had to get moving on it in January.

MR. MATERESE: I'm thinking that was a
discussion on whether we were removing refuse from the
budget. I may be wrong. Tom, Frank, are either of you
guys --

MR. AUGOSTINI: Yeah. That was -- right.
Removing it as a -- instead of taxing for it, having a
user fee.

That's the phrase I was thinking of.

MR. BERTONI: It was one of the four
alternatives that we looked at, or five, or whatever it
was.

MR. MATERESE: Right.

MS. STALEY: Are we going to pursue that
further? Because I just had in my notes, if we are going
to do it, we need to start discussing in January.

MR. MATERESE: We can. That's up to the board. If it's something you want to pursue. I believe when we
went through the budget, we found that that was -- when we
looked at it, it didn't appear to be saving any money for
the taxpayer. But it's something -- feel free to look at
it.

MS. STALEY: Okay. I just wasn't sure what we
were doing with that, you know, with January coming up.
So, that's why I was asking.

MR. MATERESE: Okay. Lou?

MR. CAFORIO: Yeah. Rick, once we get into the
New Year, which is coming pretty quick, I think I would
suggest because we kind of left a lot of that stuff
hanging especially with refuse. That we have either a
subcommittee or just a conversation regarding whether or
not any of those options will be considered in the future.
You know to Heather's point, if we're going to take it off
the table, then we could do that. That's fine. But we
kind of did leave some of that stuff hanging.

MR. MATERESE: Okay. Again, I have no problem
with that. Okay? Anybody else, anything else?

MR. CAFORIO: Do you want to talk about Daren
Drive?

MR. MATERESE: Sure. Do you want to talk about
it, Lou?

MR. CAFORIO: No. Go ahead. Just let them know that we had the conversation.

MR. MATERESE: We had a meeting with Mike Holmes from Daren Drive today. Lou explained the situation. Explained what he had explained to us as far as cost of things. Mr. Holmes was very nice to meet with. He did not understand the additional cost that it was going to be for the wetlands. And he still would like us to pursue something, but we're waiting until sometime in the spring to maybe have a meeting with the whole group when we can all get together and explain a few more things and see how things are working from there. Is that fair, Lou?

MR. CAFORIO: Yes, I would agree. He was very nice, polite to me. We then -- he did agree that we should probably wait a little bit and see how this COVID thing gets under control then we can get together and talk.

MR. MATERESE: Anything else? All right. Then let's come out of work session and go into our regular meeting. Or do you guys want to go over the agenda, or is it small enough that you've already seen it and we don't need to -- there are no questions? Everybody good?

MS. STALEY: I'm good.

MR. AUGOSTINI: Yes.

MS. BAUMAN: Good.
MR. MATERESE: Okay. Then let's go into the regular meeting. Please stand or say the Pledge of Allegiance for today's meeting.

ALL: I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MR. MATERESE: Okay. We'd like to welcome everyone to this regular meeting of the Town of Union on December 16, 2020. Copies of our agenda were provided online so that you can follow along with us. Mr. Perfetti, would you read your statement and take a roll call please?

MR. PERFETTI: Please take notice that in accordance with the emergency order of the governor of the state of New York, notice is hereby given that the Town Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 16, 2020 at 7:00 or thereafter, on Zoom. Please see the link below. I'll take a roll call. Staley?

MS. STALEY: Here.

MR. PERFETTI: Bauman?

MS. BAUMAN: Present.

MR. PERFETTI: Bertoni?

MR. BERTONI: Present.

MR. PERFETTI: Augustini?

MR. AUGOSTINI: Present.
MR. PERFETTI: Materese.

MR. MATERESE: Present. Okay. Public hearings. Mr. Augostini?

MR. AUGOSTINI: I'll defer to the clerk, but I don't think there are any.

MR. PERFETTI: No public hearings this evening.

MR. MATERESE: Okay. Bids, Mr. Augostini?

MR. AUGOSTINI: No bids tonight.

MR. MATERESE: Okay. Approval of minutes. Mr. Augostini?

MR. AUGOSTINI: Motion to approve the minutes of the regular Town of Union Board Meeting held on Wednesday, December 2, 2020.

Mr. BERTONI: Second.

MR. MATERESE: A motion has been made by Mr. Augostini, seconded by Mr. Bertoni, to approve the minutes of the regular Town of Union Board Meeting held on Wednesday, December 2, 2020. Are there any additions, deletions, or corrections? Hearing none, seeing none, we'll call for a vote. All those in favor, say aye.

ALL: Aye.

MR. MATERESE: All those opposed, say nay. The minutes are approved. Hearing of visitors. We have come to the part of our agenda where we have our first of two hearings of visitors. We ask that you limit your comments to three minutes. Speak only once at each hearing.
Please do not repeat information that has already been presented. Most importantly, please remember that this time is not set aside to debate with us and the Town Board, but rather we are offering you an opportunity to respectfully share your concerns with us.

That being said we encourage anyone wishing to speak regarding the Town of Union to please raise your hand. Mr. Perfetti will allow you to speak. You have to clearly state your name and address. Is there anyone wishing to speak?

MR. PERFETTI: Just unmute your mic. Hello?

MS. TERRI FARRELL: Hi. How is everyone? Thank you, sir, for letting me speak today. Hi, Rick, how are you? My name is Terri Farrell, and I live at 404 Hazel Avenue in Endicott. I just wanted to come on here today because I wanted to just share with everyone some great things that are happening in our community.

I work for Molina Healthcare, and we help our underserved population find affordable and quality healthcare. I worked a lot with Heather Staley on some community events. That is part of my responsibilities. And this year I worked with another former colleague of mine at iHeartMedia, Eileen Corey, to create the first ever Watch Us Change Us Crazy Christmas, to give 100 local children in our Broome County a Christmas.

What's really unique about this event and really
special is these children were allowed to go on and ask for specific things that they wanted. And you know some have asked for beds, to bicycles, to Nike sneakers. And their wishes are being fulfilled. It's amazing. We've had so many people coming in to support this. We have many volunteers. We worked with the Mirado (phonetic) teams to collect and distribute the gifts. We worked with the Oakdale Mall. Heather Staley, she reached out to me. She does a lot for our community to see how they could volunteer their time, help to sponsor some of these kids. They wrapped gifts. Her children, my children wrapped gifts.

But we're just truly blown away by this. We could never imagine how many donations we were actually going to get. Of the 100 children, we're down to five. We have a lot of money left over to help other families in Broome County and also in Tioga County where there is a real big need.

So if any of you guys are interested, you want to share this amazing event. We even had the local Girl Scouts sponsoring and wrapping gifts. It's unbelievable. You can go to Mix 103.3 at iHeartMedia, or any of their five stations to get more details. So, thank you for allowing me to share this, and thanks for everything everyone is doing in our community.

MR. MATERESE: And Terri, the Watch Us Change
organization is the organization sort of founded by Kashif Summers, is that correct?

MS. FARRELL: Yes. This year we chose to sponsor him with this event because of all he does in the community. Next year, I did get the approval through Molina Healthcare. Because it does cost me, you know, it did cost about 10,000 to promote and advertise this event. We really felt that this year, we wanted to start with him because his efforts have been so great. And next year, I did get the approval to take this to three other counties. So I'll cover Chenango, Broome, Tioga, and Tompkins. So just amazing, and when you see a kid getting a -- I mean, somebody dropped off gifts for two children today and it basically covered my tree. So they're getting whole Christmases.

Heather, thank you. You've been really instrumental in all that you've done to help support this event, and I can't wait to do it again with more organizations next years. Thank you very much.

MS. STALEY: I had a lot of fun and Queen really enjoyed volunteering and wrapping all those gifts. Thank you, Terri.

MS. FARRELL: Yeah. My son learned how to wrap and I got wrapped gifts now.

MR. MATERESE: Thank you for your assistance for the community.
MS. FARRELL: Thank you.

MR. MATERESE: Is there anyone else wishing to speak? What does it look like, Len?

MR. PERFETTI: Nobody is unmuted.

MR. MATERESE: Okay. Hearing no other visitor wishing to speak, we'll call this hearing of visitors to a close. Communications for filing. Mr. Augostini?

MR. AUGOSTINI: I make a motion that communications for filing one through six be accepted and placed on file.

MR. BERTONI: I second.

MR. MATERESE: A motion has been made by Mr. Augostini, seconded by Mr. Bertoni, to receive and file communications for filing one through six. Are there any comments? Hearing none, we'll call for a vote. All those in favor, say aye.

ALL: Aye.

MR. MATERESE: All those opposed, say nay. The communications have been filed. Communications for action. Mr. Augostini?

MR. AUGOSTINI: There are none tonight.

MR. MATERESE: Thank you, sir. Petitions. Mr. Augostini?

MR. AUGOSTINI: I make a motion that we accept the petition from Ryan Avery, 607 Milan Avenue in Endicott.
MR. BERTONI: Second.

MR. MATERESE: You’ve heard the motion by Mr. Augostini, seconded by Mr. Bertoni, to receive the petition from Mr. Ryan Avery of 607 Milan Avenue. Are there any questions or discussion?

MR. BERTONI: Yeah. How many signatures are on the petition?

MR. MATERESE: I don't have that. Lenny, do you have the number?

MR. PERFETTI: Yeah. I didn't bring them home. I think it's -- unless Becky knows. She's on a page and a half, I don’t know, maybe 30, 40 signatures.

MR. BERTONI: Okay. Thanks.

MS. BECKY KRUCZKOWSKI: Everybody should have gotten a copy of that.

MR. MATERESE: Right. I thought so. I just don't have it with me. Okay. So all those in favor of accepting the petition, say aye.

ALL: Aye.

MR. MATERESE: Anyone opposed, say nay. The petition is accepted. Okay. Committee reports, recommendations and resolutions. The following committee items referenced a motion or resolution and are simply potential items after due consideration. Safety, laws, legislation, and intergovernmental committee. Mr. Bertoni?
MR. BERTONI: Nothing tonight.

MR. MATERESE: Thank you, sir. Finance/Capital Projects and Public Works Committee. Ms. Staley?

MS. STALEY: I have a resolution to approve the following 2020 year-end budget modification: increase other home and community services by $100,000; increase capital improvement, $100,000.

MR. AUGOSTINI: Second.

MR. MATERESE: You’ve heard the proposed resolution as presented by Ms. Staley and seconded by Mr. Augustini. Are there any comments? Hearing none, we'll have a roll call vote. Please, Mr. Perfetti?

MR. PERFETTI: Staley?

MS. STALEY: Aye.

MR. PERFETTI: Bauman?

MR. BAUMAN: Aye.

MR. PERFETTI: Bertoni?

MR. BERTONI: Aye.

MR. PERFETTI: Augustini?

MR. AUGOSTINI: Aye.

MR. PERFETTI: Materese?

MR. MATERESE: Aye. The resolution is adopted. Ms. Staley.

MS. STALEY: I have a motion to approve the following 2020 budget transfers: decrease other equipment by $265; increase uniforms by $265; decrease Blacktop
Maintenance $2,900; and increase Guard Rails by $2,900.

MR. AUGOSTINI: Second.

MR. MATERESE: You've heard the motion as presented by Ms. Staley and seconded by Mr. Augustini. Are there any comments? Hearing none, we'll call for a vote. All those in favor, say aye.

ALL: Aye.

MR. MATERESE: All those opposed, say nay. The motion is approved. Ms. Staley.

MS. STALEY: I have a resolution to resolve the transfer of proceeds from the sale of equipment through Auctions International to the following reserve accounts: Part Town Capital Improvements & Equipment, $68,090.

MR. AUGOSTINI: Second.

MR. MATERESE: You've heard the proposed resolution as presented by Ms. Staley and seconded by Mr. Augustini. Are there any comments?

MR. BERTONI: I know we do budget transfers all the time. But in the case of road cut fees, when we come to road cut fees, those are supposed to be designated for road repair. Are they still eligible if they have money in them for a budget transfer? Or does that money have to stay there because that was dedicated to that?

MR. MATERESE: I'm not sure of the answer to that, Frank. But that has nothing to do with this one. This is equipment.
MR. BERTONI: It's taken from Blacktop Maintenance.

MR. MATERESE: No. This is from -- we're in the resolution, Frank. We're in the next one.

MS. STALEY: We sold equipment.

MR. BERTONI: Okay. All right. Okay.

MR. MATERESE: Any other comments?

MR. BERTONI: No.

MR. MATERESE: Hearing no other comments, we'll have a roll call vote. Please, Mr. Perfetti?

MR. PERFETTI: Staley?

MS. STALEY: Aye.

MR. PERFETTI: Bauman?

MS. BAUMAN: Aye.

MR. PERFETTI: Bertoni?

MR. BERTONI: Aye.

MR. PERFETTI: Augustini?

MR. AUGUSTINI: Aye.

MR. PERFETTI: Materese?

MR. MATERESE: Aye. The resolution is adopted.

Now going back, Frank, to your question, I'm wondering if they include Blacktop Maintenance and Guard Rail maintenance in the same item. I can ask Laura tomorrow, but I'm --

MR. BERTONI: Yeah. I just wondered if it was a dedicated account, if you were still allowed to do budget
transfers out of that account. I just wondered.

MR. MATERESE: We can call Laura tomorrow and check.

MS. STALEY: All right.

MR. BERTONI: No problem.


MS. BAUMAN: Thank you. I have a resolution to approve the recertification of the records of activities for Leonard J. Perfetti, town clerk, for the term beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2024, which recertifies the record of activity that began on July 29, 2017.

MS. STALEY: Second.

MR. MATERESE: You’ve heard the proposed resolution as presented by Ms. Bauman and seconded by Ms. Staley. Are there any comments?

MR. BERTONI: Yeah. What is this for?

MR. MATERESE: So, apparently, this allows Lenny to continue to perform the duties of a town clerk. Is that accurate, Lenny?

MR. PERFETTI: Well, you have to keep track every term for the hours you work for three months for the New York State Retirement System.

MR. BERTONI: Okay, okay.

MR. PERFETTI: If you're not in the system, then
you don't have to do it.

MR. BERTONI: Yeah. Thanks. I just didn't know what it was for.

MR. MATERESE: Okay. Any other comments?

MR. BERTONI: No.

MR. MATERESE: All right. Hearing none, we'll have a roll call vote. Please, Mr. Perfetti?

MR. PERFETTI: Staley?

MS. STALEY: Aye.

MR. PERFETTI: Bauman?

MS. BAUMAN: Aye.

MR. PERFETTI: Bertoni?

MR. BERTONI: Aye.

MR. PERFETTI: Augustini?

MR. AUGOSTINI: Aye.

MR. PERFETTI: Materese?

MR. MATERESE: Aye. The resolution is adopted.

Ms. Bauman.

MS. BAUMAN: I have a resolution to approve the recertification of the records of activities for Thomas R. Augustini, town board member, for the term beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2024, which recertifies the record of activity that began on January 1, 2013.

MS. STALEY: Second.

MR. MATERESE: So you've heard the proposed
resolution as presented by Ms. Bauman and seconded by Ms. Staley. Are there any comments? I believe, Frank, this is the same thing, just allowing for the system.

MR. BERTONI: Yeah.

MR. MATERESE: Is there any other comments? Hearing none, we'll have a roll call vote. Please, Mr. Perfetti?

MR. PERFETTI: Staley?

MS. STALEY: Aye.

MR. PERFETTI: Bauman?

MS. BAUMAN: Aye.

MR. PERFETTI: Bertoni?

MR. BERTONI: Aye.

MR. PERFETTI: Augustini?

MR. AUGOSTINI: I probably should have asked Alan this, to see if I should abstain.

MR. MATERESE: That's right. Can you vote?

MR. AUGOSTINI: I'll abstain just for -- but it's really, you submit a log of activity of just your daily activities, and I'll abstain.

MR. PERFETTI: Okay.

MR. AUGOSTINI: I should have asked Alan, but --

MR. PERFETTI: And Materese?

MR. MATERESE: Aye. The resolution is adopted.

Ms. Bauman.

MS. BAUMAN: I have a resolution to re-appoint
Town Clerk Leonard J. Perfetti, pursuant to Domestic Relations Law Section 11, as a marriage officer in the Town of Union for and during his elective term 2021 through 2024.

MS. STALEY: Second.

MR. MATERESE: You've heard the proposed resolution as presented by Ms. Bauman and seconded by Ms. Staley. Are there any comments? I would like to say that Mr. Perfetti has been performing some unique marriage ceremonies in the parking lot, on the sidewalk during this COVID experience, and I'd like to congratulate him for continuing this service. Anyone else? Okay. Hearing no other comments, we'll have a roll call vote. Please?

MR. PERFETTI: Nice to get a nice, warm jacket for that sidewalk. Staley?

MS. STALEY: Aye.

MR. PERFETTI: Bauman?

MS. BAUMAN: Aye.

MR. PERFETTI: Bertoni? You're cut out, Frank.

MR. BERTONI: Aye.

MR. PERFETTI: Augustini?

MR. AUGOSTINI: Aye.

MR. PERFETTI: Materese?

MR. MATERESE: Aye. The resolution is adopted.

Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development Committee. Mr. Augustini.
MR. AUGOSTINI: There is nothing on the agenda tonight.

MR. MATERESE: Thank you, sir. Hearing of visitors. We now are at the part of our agenda where we have our second hearing of visitors. The same rules apply. We ask that you be respectful. Confine your comments to three minutes. One time only at the microphone. No repetition. Is there anyone out there who would like to speak, Mr. Perfetti? If you would like to speak, raise your hand, unmute yourself, and let us know. Mr. Perfetti?


MR. MATERESE: Okay. Seeing that there are no people who care to speak, we'll call this hearing of visitors to a close. Department reports on file in town clerk's office. Mr. Augostini.

MR. AUGOSTINI: I make a motion that department reports one through four be accepted and placed on file in the Town Clerk's office.

MR. BERTONI: Second.

MR. MATERESE: You've heard the motion by Mr. Augostini, seconded by Mr. Bertoni, to receive and file department reports one through four. Are there any comments? Hearing none, we'll call for a vote. All those in favor, say aye.
ALL: Aye.

MR. MATERESE: Opposed, say nay. The motion is approved. All right. Now, council comments? Anyone have anything they'd wish to say?

MS. STALEY: I just want to thank our Highway Department. As I have been sitting here through the whole meeting, I can hear the plows going through. So we definitely appreciate those guys out there working tonight and probably into the wee hours of the morning. So thank you to Lou and the Highway Department.

MR. MATERESE: Thank you, Heather. Anyone else?

MR. AUGOSTINI: Rick, I'd like to recognize the life of Marty Kelley, who passed away last Friday.

MR. MATERESE: Wait. Excuse me. Which Marty Kelley?

MR. AUGOSTINI: Probably the one most of us know.

MR. MATERESE: The basketball official?

MR. AUGOSTINI: Yes.

MR. MATERESE: Oh, I didn't realize that.

MR. AUGOSTINI: Yeah. A very, very good friend of mine, very sudden, unexpected loss. Probably one of the most generous, kindhearted person that I know who would give unconditionally to anybody. He didn't care about people knowing what he did. He just wanted -- if somebody needed something, Marty would do it and wanted
nothing in return for it. So, condolences to his wife Charlene. Most of his family is in the New England area. Condolences to all of his friends and family and to all the lives that Marty touched for decades here in the Binghamton area.

MR. BERTONI: Yeah.

MR. MATERESE: He was a very bombastic official.

MR. AUGOSTINI: Oh, God.

MR. MATERESE: Both in basketball and baseball. Yeah. That's a loss. The only bad part about him was he was a Boston Red Sox fan, but other than --

MR. AUGOSTINI: That was it.

MR. MATERESE: Thank you. I appreciate hearing that and knowing that. Anyone else?

MR. AUGOSTINI: I think his services are Monday, Our Lady of Good Counsel. I am not sure of the time, but I was told it was going to be Monday. Something should be in the paper between now and then.

MR. MATERESE: Thank you, Tom. Anyone else?

All right. Well, then --

MS. BAUMAN: I would just like --

MR. MATERESE: Go ahead.

MS. BAUMAN: Hold on, Rick. I just wanted to say I wish everyone at the Town and all of our Town of Union constituents a very merry Christmas, and I also have wishes and prayers for peace, health, and prosperity for
all of us in 2021. I think we are all hoping and praying for a better year. So stay healthy and safe and we're looking forward to good things ahead.

MR. MATERESE: Thank you, Sandy.

MR. AUGOSTINI: Thanks, Sandy.

MR. MATERESE: Anyone else? And I would also like to extend merry Christmas, happy Hanukkah, happy Kwanzaa, happy Festivus for the rest of us. Anybody, if I missed any, I apologize, and I hope next year, got to hope, it's got to be better than this one. Thank you all. As Heather said, thanks to our crews that are out working. May they all be safe and get their job done safely. Okay. Mr. Augustini?

MR. AUGOSTINI: I make a motion to adjourn.

It's 7:35.

MR. BERTONI: Second.

MR. MATERESE: All right. All those in favor, say aye.

ALL: Aye.

MR. MATERESE: Opposed? None. We're adjourned.

Merry Christmas everybody.

ALL: Merry Christmas.

(Off the record)

CERTIFICATE

I, Ria Jara, certify that the foregoing transcript of
proceedings in the Union Town Board Work Session and Meeting, Union, State of New York, was prepared using digital transcription software and is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Signature_______________________________

Date: January 6, 2021