



Town Clerk
Leonard J. Perfetti

Town of Union

Town Board
Richard A. Materese, *Supervisor*
Thomas R. Augustini, *Councilman*
Frank J. Bertoni, *Councilman*
Sandra C. Bauman, *Councilwoman*
Heather R. Staley, *Councilwoman*

TOWN OF UNION BOARD MEETING

November 3, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Union was held on Wednesday, November 3, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. in the Town Board Room, 3111 E. Main Street, New York.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Town Supervisor Richard A. Materese, Councilman Thomas R. Augustini, Councilman Frank J. Bertoni, Councilwoman Sandra C. Bauman, Councilwoman Heather R. Staley.

TOWN OFFICIALS PRESENT: Town Attorney Alan J. Pope, Town Clerk Leonard J. Perfetti, Deputy Town Clerk Rebecca Kruckowski, Comptroller Gretchen Uhler.

Also in attendance was Linda Jackson, Village of Endicott Mayor.

Supervisor Richard A. Materese opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Supervisor Richard A. Materese reminded everybody that we would appreciate you to support small businesses now and always, particularly, this holiday season. He said small businesses are the backbone of our community.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A Public Hearing was called for on Wednesday, November 3, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. to consider the 2022 Preliminary Budget including the Annual Water Fund, Annual Sewer Fund, Annual Fire Contracts for the Fire Protection Districts, and proposed Tax Cap Override local law.

The following are the proposed 2022 annual salaries for certain elected officials of the Town of Union: Supervisor - \$20,000; each Councilperson (4 total) - \$10,000; Town Clerk - \$51,765; each Town Justice (2 total) - \$28,340.)
Pub. & Posted: 10/24/2021.

Lori Wahila, 721 Monforte Drive, Endicott, spoke in support of continuing the funding for the Union Volunteer Emergency Squad. She said the Town's contribution to UVES has not increased in 22 years and feels the \$75,000.00 is a drop in the bucket towards their income. She said over the years when they needed an ambulance for her son, who is a Type 1 Diabetic, they showed up in a timely manner and if they had to wait for another ambulance



Town of Union

service, or a for profit ambulance like Superior, to come from Binghamton, he would not have survived. She feels we should do whatever we can to keep them going.

Linda McKenzie, 508 Sunset Drive, Endwell, said as a resident in the Town of Union, it is inexplicable to her that there would even be a question to what has been a static amount of support for UVES. She said she is a health care worker who knows how ambulance services and mutual aid works in Broome County. She knows how expensive it is to maintain their vehicles, and that every time a call goes out and equipment is used, it must be replaced, if medications are used or expire, and they must be replaced. She also said if you call for an ambulance and it takes 2 minutes to get there, it seems like 20 minutes. She does not want to wait for another ambulance from another community to get there. She ended by saying the health and safety of the residents of the Town of Union should be the top priority in our budget.

Valdi Weiderpass, 809 Madeline Drive, Endicott, agrees with what has been already said, and if it works out to be \$4.00 a year per household, which is about \$15.00 on the average parcel, it is worth it to save this lifesaving service. He said people spend that much on a meal from a fast food restaurant. He also said this increase is long overdue and he feels it should be built into the budget as an automatic increase, upon review of the UVES books in terms of their expenses and what they are getting reimbursed from insurances. He asked that the Board grant this increase and make it automatic.

Barbara Mullen, a Vestal resident, said she is a Social Worker that has worked for 10 years with Twin Tier Home Health, and has been to at least 1000 homes throughout Broome County, many in the Town of Union, Johnson City, Endwell and Endicott. She has visited Ideal, Absolut, Nichols Notch, Marion Apartments, Good Shepherd and Hilltop facilities and said she knows the geriatric population is expanding and growing in our community, and that the Town of Union has many homes for people with disabilities. The services that the Union Volunteer Emergency Squad provides is absolutely essential to the citizens, so, the amount of money that people are speaking of, can't really speak to or reflect how important these services are to our community. She also said that if Vestal is tied up because of mutual aid, Town of Union will come to our assistance and support as they do for other communities and municipalities in need. She said we should be extremely proud of the service you help to provide to our County, and hopes the Board considers the citizens they represent, and will continue to fund and increase the funding to this vital service.

Carol Howell, 605 Carl Street, Endicott, echoes what everyone has said about the services that Union Volunteer Emergency Squad provides. She said there are many aged people, many poor people and many people who need assistance in the Town of Union. She cannot believe that we would consider taking away this kind of service, and she said it is beyond her comprehension that we would do this, If anything, we should be increasing the funds for these services. She said a community is known for the services they provide and if we don't provide services, if we don't help others, what are we.



Town of Union

Martin Patchett, 927 Farm to Market Road, Endwell, has used the UVES services in the past for his father. They were there within a few minutes, which was essential for him. He said the problem is we have a paradigm shift in what Medicare, Medicaid and insurances are reimbursing them now for their services, and what it is hitting us in the face is that they are not being paid for what they need to fund their operations anymore. He said UVES is not a Town of Union service, but a volunteer service; we don't pay their salaries, there are no salaries because they are volunteers, so we are getting a gratis service from them. He also said we have a good volunteer service and funding it should not be a question.

John Hussar, 633 Valleyview Drive, Endwell opposes the \$75,000.00 increase in the budget, which is about a 30% increase from last year. He disclosed that he has a past affiliation with UVES and his comments are his own and are not representing any of his clients or organizations he is affiliated with. He said he was a member of UVES for 22 years, 13 of which were as a volunteer. He spoke of many roles he has had with UVES. He consults with volunteer and commercial organizations throughout New York State. He said he is a project manager with the New York State Volunteer Ambulance and Rescue Association and works on a regular basis with the New York State Emergency Managers Association, the New York State Fire Coordinators Association and the New York State Emergency Nurses Association. He said none of us wants to see our taxes increase and this is not about the dollars, it is about how we got here and what the future looks like. He said most agencies in New York State are trying to get away from taxation of their residents. Secondly, we have the ability to do third party billing, which UVES has been doing since 1992. They can bill Medicaid, Medicare, co-payments, rates of change, para mixes of change, which all of these things create a unique situation for Union. They have an incredible billing team, probably one of the best in New York State, that brings in high returns and they do not pay commissions to a third party billing agency. Union Ambulance is in a good spot to be self-sufficient. He said they send out a mailing to everybody that says Union "Volunteer" Emergency Squad has very few volunteers left; it is not disclosed that they are compensated staff. We have to question how we got here. He said in 2001-2003 he crafted the original proposal and participated in the negotiations of the tax district. He said the reason the tax district passed, was the promise that UVES would use the money collected by the Town to offset the copays and deductibles for the elderly people and the money we that were losing back and the Town would supplement this to keep the income stream going. I'm not privileged on as to why they came forward for an increase, but there are some things at Union Ambulance that need to be looked at by you as a Board. You, as the Board, are for the ambulance like the fire commissioners for a fire district, and if there is not a public elected board for Union Ambulance District, That falls back on you as your responsibility. By simply granting them money as unrestricted funds, there is no quality of service, no checks and balances and no controls that are there. I am not saying to wipe out funding, or do away with volunteers. Superior Ambulance is spending a lot of their time covering when Union can't cover their own calls. I also want to point out that Union Ambulance is looking to expand their certificate of operating territory, to go on a regular basis into Tioga County, Berkshire, Newark Valley and also looking to go into Vestal, City of Binghamton, more than they are now. So, now we are going to fund \$270,000.00 or a 30% increase they are asking for this year and have our ambulances going out to Berkshire. There was recently had an incident at the Highland Park



Town of Union

Maintenance Building that you are all aware of, and if that ambulance was coming from Berkshire, or the City of Binghamton or someplace else, we would have had a much different outcome that day. If we are funding tax dollars to support Union Ambulance, keep them in the Town of Union. He read Town Municipal Law #122B which allows the Town to contract with an ambulance service that doesn't mean we have to contract with Union Ambulance. We put out an RFP on a regular basis for copy paper, social media and cyber security, why are we not looking at all of our options for EMS. I'm here to oppose the increase. I'm not saying that we cut them, I'm not saying we stop paying them, I'm not saying we do away with Union Ambulance. I would respectfully ask that you table it and maybe bring in the NYS Comptroller, who has done studies all throughout New York, at no cost, to review what we have going on, to make sure our dollars are being well spent, to make sure we have the best organization possible.

Susan Schofield, 2032 Felicia Boulevard, Endwell, said she is here to support the increase for UVES. She asked where in the budget the \$75,000.00 they are asking for is coming from. She said she thought she heard it could come from funds that were received from the federal government because of COVID. She'd hate to not spend \$75,000.00 and have someone's child be dying of an overdose because the ambulance couldn't get there soon enough. We have an opioid crisis in this county, in this country that everyone is aware of, and it requires immediate response. Now is not the time to be thinking we should not be giving our ambulance service the funds requested. We can all give stories on how they have been there to help this one, and that one. She said they are asking us for \$75,000.00, and I really don't see how it can be denied, despite, respectfully, Mr. Hussar's comments.

Supervisor Richard A. Materese said the money is not coming from federal funds received, and he clarified that the \$75,000.00 is a proposed increase in the budget, It is not that they have asked for, but it is an amount that some of us have come up with and we are debating it. It is not a done deal. It would come from an increase in taxes, not from ARPA money.

Valdi Weiderpass, 809 Madeline Drive, Endicott, said it is not just old people, or people with an illegal drug problem that need an ambulance. An accident or medical emergency could happen to anybody. It could be a child or a baby. He said his wife needed an ambulance after coming home from the hospital after childbirth and he is glad they got there quickly. He gave examples of accidents in which there was a need for an ambulance. He said if you want to look at the books before a decision is made, fine, but please an increase of \$4.00 on average per tax parcel, is not unheard of. People cannot take care of their own medical emergencies. It is the basic service of the government to help and protect people's health and safety.

Matt Schroedel, 914 Martin Street, Endicott, Commissioner of West Corners Fire District, said Mr. Hussar raised valid questions. He said the Board of Fire Commissioners have full oversight of how their money is spent. He said it sounds like the funds are given to UVES and then there is no oversight on spending from the Town of Union.

Lori Wahila, 721 Monforte Drive, Endicott, said pre-Covid in 2019, UVES brought in over \$4 million dollars in revenue; of that income, \$260,000.00 has been what the Town of Union has



Town of Union

given to them for the last 22 years, along with returns from the insurance companies and donations that helped the non-profit business stay in the black. She said that after expenses that were over 3 million, it left them with a profit of \$189,000.00, but in 2020 with Covid, they took a hit with the increase of calls. She said that the Town is not funding all of the ambulance service and that the money from the Town is a small part of the funding. They get donations from the public from various fundraisers. She also said that the Town of Union is the only municipality in this county that pays for ambulance service.

John Hussar, 633 Valleyview Drive, Endwell, said he opposes the \$75,000.00 increase in the budget, which is about a 30% increase. He said is not debating or suggesting to take away the money or do away with the ambulance service. He is suggesting that as a Town, we understand that we are funding inappropriately, we need to know where the money is going, and to also understand that this is a business that makes a profit, and is listed for tax status as a non-profit. He said we as a Town, need to make sure UVES is transparent with their fundraising and donations, and know where the money is being spent and make sure it's being done appropriately.

Matt Fellows, 308 South Loder Avenue, Endicott, Executive Director of UVES, thanked everyone who came out tonight, whether it is in support or opposition for the funding our service gets. He spoke about a few points that have come up tonight. He said as far as monitoring the funds, UVES is a non-profit organization that provides independent audit reports annually to the Town of Union, New York State Department of Charity, IRS and our 990 reports. He said the biggest issue they are facing is the para mix that turns around the support of healthcare and EMS services, which is more than 86% Medicare and Medicaid. That population, coupled with the self-paid patients, which remains about 5% are 91% of patients we see are underfunding the cost to respond an ambulance. Medicare, Medicaid and private pay does not cover the cost of an ambulance, not anymore. He said many years ago, under previous directors, which may be in this room, squandered their investments on a platform to try and improve the organization for more billing; unfortunately, that failed. We admit that. It was a great idea, well thought out but was extremely poorly executed. The loss of those funds does impact us. We have a small investment fund that provides us with enough to cover 1 month of operations for our organization. Earlier this year, Medicare turned around and stopped paying for all our part B providers across the United States due to a software upgrade. We soaked up that cost, made adjustments to protect our organization, to protect our community and to make sure we continued to respond, and we did. We have an access to a line of credit that we use, we brought it up and we paid it down. 2019 was a very strong year for us. When we look at our cash flow statement and projections for a 20% increase in call volume this year alone, we are estimating that if we continuing hiring to meet that increase, we would have a loss of \$220,000 in cash. As an organization, we have already scaled back our planned hiring for next year. We were planning to add a 7th 12 - hour ambulance daily, however based on discussions and based on the potential of not having adequate funding, we have scaled that ambulance back in our budget. We were also planning on replacing two 12 - year old ambulances. Much of the \$185, 00.00 profit goes to repaying our debt obligations annually. We take loans from Tioga State Bank and M&T Bank and if we do need to use our investment, we will use it. Town of Union receives our quarterly financial



Town of Union

reports, they have complete access to our books, New York State Charity Bureau and financial audits done by independent auditors not affiliated to our organization. There is oversight to this organization. As far as the statement that ambulance services are self-sufficient, many Towns have increased their subsidies for their ambulance services to allow them to continue serve their communities. There are many ambulance services shutting down on a monthly basis. We do respond outside of this town. We are applying for an operations expansion certificate. This is not UVES saying we are taking over their territories; this is about the 900 times our surrounding neighbors having asked us to assist them. Our focus is on Emergency Medical Services. We are an open organization, our books are open. We allow people to visit the station, and go on ride along with a crew.

Joe Morris, 3614 Hoover Avenue, Endwell, Corporate Compliance Officer for UVES, said he has been in Emergency Services for 22 years and has contracted and worked with Mr. Hussar in the past when he was Director of the Regional EMS Council prior to being hired by UVES. He said his family is very dedicated to this community. He serves with UVES because they are the most ethical operation he has ever worked for. His job is to look under the circle at times. He sits over Matt's shoulders at meetings and knows what was discussed and communicates with team members. He also runs ambulance calls as a paramedic. He said he has worked with Superior Ambulance for 8 years and with the Town of Chenango Ambulance when he lived out there. This is what we do, we provide community service. We do not ask for anything other than honest, straight forward conversation. When our contract comes up for discussion, we debate things like how many dollars we spend on bottled water that we provide for fire services when we are on standby at every fire call in the community and when a SWAT team is goes out or at events in the Town and outside, we are on standby. If a person drowns in the river and Vestal needs people to provide protection for our firefighters, UVES goes to provide additional resources and support them. We do not get paid money for those standbys. He said if you do not transport a patient, you don't get paid, by and large, except when the Town has described it in the contract where we need to expand our billing practices. Everything that the company does when they bill a patient has been authorized and directly prescribed through the contracting process with the Town of Union. One of the most contentious things is when we go to a community call and the elderly patient needs a lift assist, we are there for an hour to further evaluate the patient to make sure they are further injured. The patients are appalled when they hand us their insurance card and we have to tell them that Medicare does not pay for lift assists. UVES is allowed to bill Medicare just so they can deny it, and then we can provide a bill directly to the patient. The Town of Union said they would not give us any additional money 3 years ago, but said we can bill now for those assists at certain price because we recognize that you are losing money. He said he understands that these conversations are necessary, but he feels it has been very disingenuous in dealing with both the response side and the oversight side and he is disgusted that we would consider cutting, let alone not increase funding for safety services in the community. He said; read the numbers we have provided, every single cent is accounted for. We are doing exactly what you contracted us to do. It is that simple. I would be glad to show you how many of my employees snow blowed a path out of the station when we had the storm last year and for 72 hours plow trucks went right past our station and would not clear



Town of Union

out our bays, they said we were non-essential. When that happened, we knew we going to be here tonight.

Martin Patchett, 927 Farm to Market Road, Endwell, said the Town should consider the consequences if UVES was not here, you'd have to hire professionals to do the services.

Linda McKenzie, 508 Sunset Drive, Endwell, said that taxes are not a burden, they are an investment in community.

Matt Wahila, 721 Monforte Drive, Endicott, said he thought at first Mr. Hussar sounded good, then while listening to what the others speakers have said, it does make sense to him. He said the ambulance services should be here when we need it. The money in taxes is worth it. I support funding the ambulance services and don't want the Town of Union determining what the money is spent on.

Gregory Maney, 824 Cyndy Street, Johnson City, said the budget has not been increased in 22 years.

As no one else wished to speak, Supervisor Richard A. Materese closed the Public Hearing.

BIDS: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Moved by Augustini, seconded by Bertoni to approve the Minutes of the Regular Town of Union Board Meeting held on Wednesday, October 20, 2021.
Carried.

HEARING OF VISITORS:

Mark Patchett 927 Farm to Market Road, spoke on concerning the old Air Force plant in Johnson City. He asked the Board if they are considering installing a community solar farm. The price of gasoline is going up and electric cars are coming to market. The demand for electric is going up. There may be money if the infrastructure bill gets passed. He asked that the Board consider it.

Supervisor Materese said the Town welcomes ideas for that property, but did say that it is in the flood plain and wasn't sure if solar could be placed there.

Councilwomen Staley said that Councilwomen Bauman and I are looking at putting solar in some town buildings to help save tax payers money.



Town of Union

Valdi Weiderpass, 809 Madeline Drive, Endicott, said he also supports a solar farm at the old Air Force plant and that a 5 megawatt facility would fit there and could use racks to elevate the panels in the flood plain. He said there is already many items there to support the equipment. He said to call NYSEG and they will hook it up. He thinks it's worth looking at.

Barbara Mullen, Vestal resident, thinks it's a great idea. She said people could see it from highway and see that we are an innovated town and it could bring in residents.

As no one else wished to speak, Supervisor Richard A. Materese closed the first Hearing of Visitors.

COMMUNICATIONS FOR FILING:

Moved by Augostini, seconded by Bertoni to receive the following Communications:

1. Village of Endicott Board Minutes – September 20, 2021 and October 4, 2021.
2. Charter Communications Notices – November 15 & 22, 2021.
Carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FOR ACTION:

1. Moved by Augostini, seconded by Bertoni to refer the West Corners Fire District Final Budget for 2022 to Comptroller Gretchen Uhler.
Carried.
2. Moved by Augostini, seconded by Bertoni to approve the letter from John Bernardo, Executive Director, The SEPP Group, requesting to temporarily occupy the western-most section of Woodland Avenue (along the floodwall) to house a 20' x 20' tent to be installed on November 9th and removed on the 10th for the Fairmont Parks Apartments ribbon cutting ceremony on November 10, 2021, and refer it to Commissioner of Public Works Louis V. Caforio and Highway Superintendent Chester Kupiec.
Carried.
3. Moved by Augostini, seconded by Bertoni to refer the letter from Dr. David M. Chico, New York State Department of Agriculture and Market with Dog Control Officer Inspection Report completed on September 27, 2021 to Commissioner of Public Works Louis V. Caforio.
Carried.

PETITIONS: None.



Town of Union

COMMITTEE REPORTS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

Moved by Staley, seconded by Augostini to approve the following Budget Transfers –
09/30/2021 Budget Reconciliations:

Org	Object	Description	Increase/(Decrease)
10 1315	4104	Books, Periodicals, & Subscripts	188.40
10 1315	4620	Education	323.00
10 1315	1090	Health Insurance Buy Out	(511.40)
10 1355	1090	Health Insurance Buy Out	625.00
10 1355	1030	Temporary	(625.00)
10 1355	4515	Legal Expense	60.00
10 1355	4101	Office Supplies	(60.00)
10 1410	4104	Books, Periodicals, & Subscripts	188.04
10 1410	4401	Equipment Maintenance	600.00
10 1410	4601	Travel & Expense Reimb	(788.04)
10 1430	4104	Books, Periodicals, & Subscripts	188.40
10 1430	4631	Pre-employment Checks/Test	(188.40)
10 1680	4104	Books, Periodicals, & Subscripts	188.40
10 1680	1040	Overtime	39.56
10 1680	4516	Inter-net Services	.13
10 1680	1030	Temporary	(228.09)
10 1680	4138	Checks	926.18
10 1680	4139	Computer Ribbons	(926.18)
10 1989	4805	Audit & Accounting	2,300.00
10 1989	4512	Consultant	(2,300.00)
10 3510	1090	Health Insurance Buyout	500.00
10 3510	1040	Overtime	(500.00)
10 3510	4167	Gloves, Boots & Gear	54.62
10 3510	4171	Clothing	(54.62)
10 6989	4104	Books, Periodicals, & Subscripts	188.40
10 6989	4011	OSHA	(188.40)
10 7145	4516	Inter-net Services	1,089.83
10 7145	1038	Seasonal – Summer	(1,089.83)
10 7145	4159 FS116	Fall Soccer Rec Supplies	333.70
10 7145	4159 SF111	Summer Fun Rec Supplies	3,146.45
10 7145	4159 YBC9	Youth Basketball Rec Supplies	11.33
10 7145	4159	Recreational Supplies	(3,491.48)
10 7145	4162 FD104	Father/Daughter Ball Supplies	550.29
10 7145	4162 PKHIP	Halloween in Park Supplies	550.00
10 7145	4162	Special Event Supplies	(1,100.29)
10 7145	4459 SBL	Softball Leagues Program Serv	1,395.00
10 7145	4459	Recreation Program Service	(1,395.00)
10 7145	4462 CIPK	Christmas in Park Event Serv	850.00
10 7145	4462 JULY4	4 th of July Special Event Serv	34,121.80



Town of Union

10 7145	4462 PKHIP	Halloween in Park Event Serv	1,050.00
10 7145	4462	Special Event Service	(36,021.80)
20 1490	4603	Legal Notices	800.00
20 1490	4601	Travel & Expense Reimb	(800.00)
20 1910	4301	Property Insurance	653.47
20 1910	4302	Liability Insurance	4,161.67
20 1910	4305	Automobile Insurance	5,991.58
20 1620	4423	Property Repairs	(10,806.72)
20 3620	1040	Overtime	8,258.73
20 3620	1010	Salary Base	(5,758.73)
20 3620	4601	Travel & Expense Reimb	(2,500.00)
20 8021	4104	Books, Periodicals, & Subscripts	376.80
20 8021	2200	Office Equipment	(376.80)
20 8021	4628	Employee Physicals 40+ Yrs	100.00
20 8021	4620	Education	(100.00)
20 8120	4167	Gloves, Boots & Gear	200.00
20 8120	4428	Uniforms	(200.00)
20 8160	4201	Telephone	600.00
20 8160	4175	Equipment Rehab Parts	(600.00)
20 8160	4415	Refuse Collection	110.00
20 8160	4513	County Tipping Fee	(110.00)
31 5110	1040	Overtime	3,434.37
31 5110	1020	Hourly Base	(3,434.37)
31 9062	8010	FSA Health	47.58
31 9060	8004	Health Insurance	(47.58)
40 7110	1057	Security Guards	5,677.00
40 7110	1020	Hourly Base	(3,000.00)
40 7110	1056	Seasonal – Pools	(2,677.00)
40 7110	4305	Automobile Insurance	141.17
40 7110	4202	Electricity	(141.17)
40 7110	4413	Building & Grounds Maint	17,000.00
40 7110	4401	Equipment Maintenance	(10,000.00)
40 7110	4624	Site Improvement	(7,000.00)

Carried.

(Prepared Resolution filed as part of these minutes to approve the following increase to our current cybersecurity services with ICS & 1nteger. Currently, we pay \$2,700/month. The attached quote provides the Town with enhanced services and protection for an additional \$700/month. This is to be funded with ARPA funds. A total of \$42,000.00 will be allocated for this expenditure. (\$700*12*5)

Res. by Staley, Seconded by Augostini.
The Resolution was adopted.

Vote: All yes.

Supervisor Richard A. Materese said we can pay for 5 years with the funds.



Town of Union

(Prepared Resolution filed as part of these minutes to establish standard workdays for elected and appointed officials (Christopher D. Grace) and to report the following days worked to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System based 12.67 on the record of activities maintained and submitted by elected and appointed officials to the Town Clerk.)
Res. by Bauman, seconded by Staley. Vote: All yes.
The Resolution was adopted.

(Prepared Resolution filed as part of these minutes to declare the following Town owned properties as surplus and authorize the sale of said properties through a RFP process The eventual sale of each parcel will need to be approved by the Board subject to a Permissive Referendum).

56 Cherry St., Johnson City
515 Fernwood Ave., Johnson City
147 Hudson St., Johnson City
68 Roberts St., Johnson City
194 St. Charles St., Johnson City
1205 Catherine Ave., Endicott
1709 Nanticoke Dr., Endicott
618 Zimmer Ave., Endicott)
Res. by Augustini, seconded by Bertoni.
The Resolution was adopted.

Vote: All yes.

(Prepared Resolution filed as part of these minutes to approve Change Order #1 for the GWJ Park Improvements project in the amount of \$9,725.00 to Marchuska Brothers Construction, LLC thus increasing the project total to \$91,275.00.)
Res. by Augustini, seconded by Bertoni.
The Resolution was adopted.

Vote: All yes.

HEARING OF VISITORS:

Matt Schroedel, 914 Martin Street, Endicott, asked about the resolution regarding the disposal of the properties. He said some of the properties are in his neighborhood, and asked how the Town became owners of them.

Councilman Thomas R. Augustini said that Brome County forecloses on properties and sends a list to the various municipalities to see if they want to sell them. The Town used Community Development Block Grant money to demolish the buildings and now they are vacant properties to be sold to anyone that has an interest in them.

Supervisor Richard A. Materese said that it costs us money to keep up the properties and we want to get them back on the tax rolls.



Town of Union

As no one else wished to speak, Supervisor Richard A. Materese closed the second Hearing of Visitors

DEPARTMENT REPORTS ON FILE IN THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE:

Moved by Augustini, seconded by Bertoni to receive and file the following Reports:

1. Town of Union Planning Board Decision – Special Use Permit: Animal Husbandry, Andrea DellaValle, 1060 Robinson Hill Road, Johnson City, Tax Map # 126.01-1-12.1.
2. Town of Union Planning Board Decision – Special Permit – Development in a Floodplain Repair of Pond and Drainage System, Sam Arcangeli, 1571 Union Center Maine Highway, Endicott, Tax Map # 124.04-1-8.1.
3. Town of Union Planning Board Decision – Special Permit – Development in a Floodplain Residential Pool and Gazebo, Jay Li, 2308 Riverview Drive, Endicott, Tax Map # 157.12-1-8.
4. Town of Union Planning Board Decision – Expansion of Public Utility - Approval of Site Plan, Louis V. Caforio, Commissioner of Public Works, Town Of Union, 1101 River Drive, Endicott, Tax Map # 140.20-4-20.
5. Town of Union Planning Decision – Expansion of Public Utility - Approval of Special Use Permit, Louis V. Caforio, Commissioner of Public Works, Town Of Union, 1101 River Drive, Endicott, Tax Map # 140.20-4-20.
6. Town of Union Planning Board Minutes – September 14, 2021.
7. Town of Union Planning Department Decision - Tioga Tools, 160 Glendale Drive, Endicott, Addition for Storage, Minor Site Plan Review, Tax Map # 156.11-1-14.
Carried.

Councilwoman Sandra C, Bauman said since the next meeting is after Veterans Day, I want to honor our Veterans, all the men and women who gave their best when called upon to serve and protect our country , for their unselfish service to preserve our freedom, our safety and our country's heritage for all. Thank you.

Councilwoman Heather R, Staley said she fully supports UVES and said they are essential to our community. She said she had a teenager who was hit by a car on the way to school and UVES was right there to care for her. We don't want to gamble with people's lives for a few dollars a month and have it my child or any child that doesn't make it to the hospital in time because there was no ambulance. She also said we can't do without their service and we appreciate their services. She thanked them for what they do for us.



Town of Union

Councilman Frank J. Bertoni asked Mr. Hussar for a contact number if they were to respond to the papers he gave to the Board.

Councilman Thomas R. Augostini wished all the schools that are going to Sectionals good luck.

Supervisor Richard A. Materese read the following statement:

We would like to acknowledge the work of 4-H UNITY Endicott, led by Kelly Mabee, 4-H UNITY Project Coordinator and Asia Ambler, Co-Project Coordinator. UNITY Endicott held a kick-off event at West Endicott Park to recruit new members and welcome the UNITY Teen Leaders to the new school year.

The Teen Leaders began working on their next community improvement project, focusing on nutrition in school lunches. They will work with Visiting Professor, Tara Kenyon, CCE Broome Nutrition and Julie Raway, Farm to Institution New York State Initiative.

The Teen Leaders are planning a taste test at Union-Endicott High School, developing surveys, promotional and social media to help educate the community about nutrition. UNITY Endicott hosted a Family Engagement Dinner with the CCE Broome Nutrition educators, and thanked UNITY Endicott and CCE Broome Parent Educator, Cindi Conway, for her many, many contributions to UNITY, as she retires from CCE Broome.

The UNITY Endicott team is thrilled to welcome new community partner, the Southern Tier Community Center (STCC). To celebrate, the Teen Leaders joined Nikki Post, STCC Director, to host a Halloween 'Trunk or Treat'. They decorated the back of a van, passed out candy to Endicott families and led activities for the children.

In addition, UNITY Endicott is excited to welcome a new partnership with Union-Endicott's Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Chris Murdock. Thanks to Chris's initiative, UNITY has been invited to be part of the "Thanks for Giving Harvest Fest" on November 13th.

We acknowledge their work and hope they have a successful year.

He also congratulated all who ran for office whether they won or lost and thanked them for taking the effort to become part of the public process. He said that we look forward to working with those who won.

Lastly, we lost two important men from our community. Joe Svobda was a County Legislator from Endwell. He was a dedicated public servant and Tim Grippen, who was County Executive, War Veteran and War Hero. His loss to this community is huge. We give best wishes to both of their families and wish them comfort.

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Augostini, seconded by Bertoni to adjourn the meeting.

Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 P.M.



Town of Union

Leonard J. Perfetti
Town Clerk

LJP/bk