

CITY OF UNION CITY
HUDSON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING : TRANSCRIPT OF
: :
: :
-----: PROCEEDINGS

UNION CITY MUNICIPAL COURT
3715 Palisade Avenue
Union City, New Jersey

Thursday, August 29, 2024
Commencing at 7:33 a.m.

M E M B E R S P R E S E N T:

WENDY A. GRULLON, COMMISSIONER
MARYURY A. MARTINETTI, COMMISSIONER
CELIN J. VALDIVIA, COMMISSIONER
BRIAN P. STACK, MAYOR

M E M B E R S A B S E N T:

LUCIO P. FERNANDEZ, COMMISSIONER

A L S O P R E S E N T:

SCARINCI HOLLENBECK
BY: ANGELO AUTERI, ESQ.
Corporation Counsel

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1 MR. AUTERI: This is a special public
2 meeting of the Union City Board of Commissioners
3 being held on Thursday, August 29, 2024 at 7:30
4 a.m. at the Union City Municipal Court, 3715
5 Palisade Avenue, Union City. Please stand for the
6 Pledge of Allegiance.

7
8 (Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was
9 recited.)

10
11 MR. AUTERI: This meeting is being
12 called in accordance with the Open Public Meetings
13 Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been
14 provided to The Jersey Journal, The Record, and
15 has been posted on the bulletin board in City Hall
16 and been made available to the public in the
17 office of the Municipal Clerk.

18
19 **ROLL CALL:**

20
21 MR. AUTERI: Roll call. Commissioner
22 Fernandez is absent.

23 Commissioner Grullon.

24 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Here.

25 MR. AUTERI: Commissioner Valdivia.

1 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Here.

2 MR. AUTERI: Commissioner Martinetti.

3 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Here.

4 MR. AUTERI: Mayor Stack.

5 MAYOR STACK: Here.

6 Commissioner Fernandez is not feeling
7 well today.

8
9 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
10 action on the following items in total:

11 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

12 (1) Resolution Approving the Payment of Claims.

13 (2) Resolution Approving the Payment of
14 Concurring Claims.

15 (3) Resolution Approving the Escrow Refunds.

16 (4) Resolution Approving the City Payroll.

17 (5) Resolution Approving the Library Payroll.

18 (6) Resolution of Intent For City of Union City
19 to Form the ACR Health Insurance Fund With the
20 City of Hackensack and City of Plainfield.

21 (7) Resolution to Authorize the Submission of a
22 Grant Application to the New Jersey Department of
23 Transportation For LAIF 2025 45th Street, 44th
24 Street and 39th Street Improvement.

25 (8) Resolution Approving Contract For the LAIF

1 2024 37th Street and 38th Street Improvements
2 Project.

3 (9) Resolution Authorizing the Receipt of Bids
4 For the 2024 CDA Roads Program: 35th Street, 36th
5 Street, 39th Street, and 42nd Street Improvements
6 Project.

7 (10) Resolution Authorizing the City of Union
8 City to Enter a Cooperative Pricing Agreement For
9 Participation in the Hunterdon County Education
10 Services Commission.

11 (11) Resolution Authorizing the Purchase and
12 Installation of LED Light Fixtures and Supplies
13 Pursuant to the Hunterdon County Education
14 Services Commission Cooperative Pricing Contract.

15 (12) Resolution Authorizing the Receipt of Bids
16 For the 2024 Sidewalk Opening Permit Restoration
17 Program.

18 (13) Resolution Authorizing Payment to A&J
19 Contractors Group, Inc., For Emergency Repairs
20 Throughout the City of Union City.

21 (14) Resolution Authorizing a Contract With
22 Realauction.com, LLC, For Electronic Tax Lien
23 Certificate Sale Service.

24 (15) Resolution Authorizing Payment A&J
25 Contractors Group, Inc., For Site Work For Parking

1 Lot Project At 900 Kennedy Boulevard.

2 (16) Resolution Authorizing Payment For Invoice
3 2024-5 Submitted By A&J Contractors Group, Inc.,
4 For Emergency Repairs Throughout the City of Union
5 City.

6 (17) Resolution Authorizing Progress Payment to
7 A&J Contractors Group, Inc., For Bergenline Avenue
8 Streetscape Improvements Project Phase III.

9 (18) Resolution Authorizing Progress Payment 3 to
10 A&J Contractors Group, Inc., For Bergenline Avenue
11 Streetscape Improvements Project, Phase III.

12 (19) Resolution Authorizing the Progress Payment
13 4 to A&J Contractors Group, Inc., For Bergenline
14 Avenue Streetscape Improvements Project, Phase
15 III.

16 (20) Resolution Authorizing Progress Payment 4 to
17 A&J Contractors Group, Inc., For 2023 CDA Roads
18 17th Street and 8th Street Improvements Project.

19 (21) Resolution Authorizing Final Progress
20 Payment 6 to A&J Contractors Group, Inc., For 2023
21 CDA Roads 17th Street and 8th Street Improvements
22 Project.

23 (22) Resolution Appointing Perla Castro As Deputy
24 Registrar of Vital Statistics For the City of
25 Union City.)

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MR. AUTERI: The consent agenda has 22 items on it.

Number one, resolution approving the payment of claims.

Two, resolution approving the payment of concurring claims.

Three, resolution approving the escrow refunds.

Four, resolution approving the city payroll.

Five, resolution approving the library payroll.

Six, resolution of intent for City of Union City to form the ACR health insurance fund with the City of Hackensack and City of Plainfield.

Seven, resolution to authorize the submission of a grant application to the New Jersey Department of Transportation for LAIF 2025 45th Street, 44th Street and 39th Street improvement.

Eight, resolution approving contract for the LAIF 2024 37th Street and 38th Street improvements project.

1 Nine, resolution authorizing the receipt
2 of bids for the 2024 CDA roads program: 35th
3 Street, 36th Street, 39th Street, and 42nd Street
4 improvements project.

5 Ten, resolution authorizing the City of
6 Union City to enter a cooperative pricing
7 agreement for participation in the Hunterdon
8 County Education Services Commission.

9 Eleven, resolution authorizing the
10 purchase and installation of LED light fixtures
11 and supplies pursuant to the Hunterdon County
12 Education Services Commission Cooperative pricing
13 contract.

14 Twelve, resolution authorizing the
15 receipt of bids for the 2024 sidewalk opening
16 permit restoration program.

17 Thirteen, resolution authorizing payment
18 to A&J Contractors Group, Inc., for emergency
19 repairs throughout the City of Union City.

20 Fourteen, resolution authorizing a
21 contract with Realauction.com, LLC, for electronic
22 tax lien certificate sale service.

23 Fifteen, resolution authorizing payment
24 A&J Contractors Group, Inc., for site work for
25 parking lot project at 900 Kennedy Boulevard.

1 Sixteen, resolution authorizing payment
2 for invoice 2024-5 submitted by A&J Contractors
3 Group, Inc., for emergency repairs throughout the
4 City of Union City.

5 Seventeen, resolution authorizing
6 progress payment to A&J Contractors Group, Inc.,
7 for Bergenline Avenue streetscape improvements
8 project phase III.

9 Eighteen, resolution authorizing
10 progress payment 3 to A&J Contractors Group, Inc.,
11 for Bergenline Avenue streetscape improvements
12 project, phase III.

13 Nineteen, resolution authorizing the
14 progress payment 4 to A&J Contractors Group, Inc.,
15 for Bergenline Avenue streetscape improvements
16 project, phase III.

17 Twenty, resolution authorizing progress
18 payment 4 to A&J Contractors Group, Inc., for 2023
19 CDA Roads 17th Street and 8th street improvements
20 project.

21 Twenty-one, resolution authorizing final
22 progress payment 6 to A&J Contractors Group, Inc.,
23 for 2023 CDA roads 17th Street and 8th Street
24 improvements project.

25 Twenty-two, resolution appointing Perla

1 Castro as deputy registrar of vital statistics for
2 the City of Union City.

3 Mayor, at this time, would you like to
4 take public comment on the consent agenda?

5 MAYOR STACK: Sure, thank you, Angelo.
6 The reason for the early meeting is because
7 there's a number of items as we just heard on the
8 concept agenda of different items, we couldn't
9 wait until the next regular meeting because some
10 of the work would be held up. And we're starting
11 certain projects that you saw on this agenda.

12 Also, I'd like to thank each of the
13 Commissioners for being at these meetings and for
14 their support. And more importantly for being
15 here this morning to make sure we get these
16 projects started and not waiting until the next
17 commission meeting. That's why we did it so
18 early.

19 Just a couple items I wanted to mention.
20 A lot of the work that's taking place right now is
21 on here Bergenline Avenue down to 30th Street is
22 being redone, the sidewalks, the new lighting, new
23 lighting is down to 42nd Street or 41st Street at
24 this time. The new lighting on Bergenline and
25 that will go down to 30th Street. The sidewalks,

1 they're down to between 30 and 31, Bergenline.
2 They'll be redoing Plaza of the Arts again, just
3 to make it look nicer than what it is.

4 In addition to that, Hudson Avenue will
5 be getting started next week between 30th and 37th
6 for this year. That will be new sidewalk,
7 streetscape and tree planting. Once they're done,
8 the street will be paved.

9 Our goal, back to Bergenline, is to pave
10 Bergenline Avenue in the evening hours and the
11 overnight, probably in October, if we can -- if
12 Public Service finishes the lights, we'll do it in
13 late October. If they don't finish the lights
14 this year, then we'll pave in the spring of next
15 year.

16 In addition to that, there's a number of
17 streets that are on here, streets that are being
18 done, which is 37th Street between Park Avenue and
19 Hudson Avenue, along with a number of other
20 streets in uptown that will be getting done this
21 year. Some will be started this month coming up
22 in September and then some will be postponed to
23 the spring, weather depending.

24 In addition to that -- I think that may
25 have been it. 900 Kennedy, we put a parking lot

1 in on that property. We rented the property and
2 we put parking lot in with 32 spaces, just as a
3 holdover until we get the parking deck built in
4 the downtown, the one at the senior building on
5 720 Eighth Street. And then hopefully, another
6 deck in the downtown area that we're working on,
7 in addition to other parts of the city.

8 Also we're working on paving 27th Street
9 from Bergenline Avenue to New York Avenue to place
10 a parking lot in the old DPW facility, that will
11 temporarily give us 110 parking spaces in the
12 neighborhood for the residents until we can put a
13 parking deck in that neighborhood also.

14 I think that was it. Congratulations,
15 Perla, for the job you're doing downstairs --

16 MS. CASTRO: Thank you.

17 MAYOR STACK: -- and being the deputy
18 registrar.

19 Any Commissioners or members of the
20 public have any comment, please step forward?

21 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Mayor, I just
22 want to relay a message from a person that used to
23 live here before in Union City. She came to visit
24 some relatives and she so impressed with the work
25 you have done, the streets, everything, she

1 couldn't believe how beautiful the city looks.
2 And she wanted me to relay the message to you. So
3 thank you for all the work you do.

4 We're about to start school and our
5 schools are in tiptop condition. So that's
6 because of your leadership and your work that you
7 make everyone make the city beautiful. So thank
8 you so much, Mayor.

9 MAYOR STACK: Thank you. In addition to
10 that, that's not on here today, I don't believe,
11 but we received funding to redo 36th, 37th, 38th,
12 39th Street, Bergenline to Kennedy Boulevard once
13 the school is finished. That just reminded me.

14 Anyone wishing to comment at this time,
15 please step forward, state your name and address
16 for the record. And again, it's usually our
17 practice to hold these meetings at 6:30 or 7:00 at
18 night. It was held at this time just to
19 coordinate the schedules of Commissioners just to
20 get these emergency projects done.

21 Seeing no one else to comment at this
22 time, I'll make a motion to close the public
23 comment period.

24 MR. AUTERI: Motion by Mayor Stack.

25 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Second.

1 MR. AUTERI: Second by Commissioner
2 Grullon.

3 Commissioner Grullon.

4 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

5 MR. AUTERI: Commissioner Valdivia.

6 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

7 MR. AUTERI: Commissioner Martinetti.

8 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

9 MR. AUTERI: Mayor Stack.

10 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

11 MR. AUTERI: May I have a motion to
12 approve all items on the consent agenda? The
13 mayor is recusing on payments to Chasan
14 Lamparello.

15 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Motion.

16 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Second.

17 MR. AUTERI: Motion by Commissioner
18 Valdivia, second by Commissioner Martinetti.

19 Commissioner Grullon.

20 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

21 MR. AUTERI: Commissioner Valdivia.

22 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

23 MR. AUTERI: Commissioner Martinetti.

24 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

25 MR. AUTERI: Mayor Stack.

1 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

2

3 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
4 action on the following item:

5 **REGULAR AGENDA:**

6 1. Resolution approving payment to
7 Grace Theater Workshop, Inc.)

8

9 MR. AUTERI: Next, we're going to take
10 the agenda out of order. Next will be the regular
11 general. We have one item on the regular agenda.
12 It is a resolution approving payments to Grace
13 Theatre Workshop. May I have a motion to approve
14 this item?

15 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Motion.

16 MR. AUTERI: Motion by Commissioner
17 Martinetti.

18 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Second.

19 MR. AUTERI: Second by Commissioner
20 Gullon.

21 Commissioner Gullon.

22 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

23 MR. AUTERI: Commissioner Valdivia.

24 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

25 MR. AUTERI: Commissioner Martinetti.

1 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

2 MR. AUTERI: Mayor Stack.

3 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

4

5 **OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:**

6

7 MR. AUTERI: Next, we have public
8 comment.

9 MAYOR STACK: Anyone wishing to comment
10 at this time, please step forward, state your name
11 and address for the record. Seeing none.

12 MR. AUTERI: May I have a motion to
13 close public comment.

14 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Motion.

15 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Second.

16 MR. AUTERI: Motion by Commissioner
17 Martinetti, second by Commissioner Valdivia.

18 Commissioner Grullon.

19 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

20 MR. AUTERI: Commissioner Valdivia.

21 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

22 MR. AUTERI: Commissioner Martinetti.

23 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

24 MR. AUTERI: Mayor Stack.

25 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

ADJOURNMENT :

MR. AUTERI: May I have a motion to adjourn?

MAYOR STACK: Motion.

COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Second.

MR. AUTERI: Motion by Mayor Stack, second by Commissioner Martinetti.

All in favor?

(All Board Members indicate in the affirmative.)

MR. AUTERI: Thank you.

MAYOR STACK: Thank you, everyone.

(Whereupon the meeting was adjourned at 7:42 a.m.)

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Brian P. Stack

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Maryury A. Martinetti

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Celin J. Valdivia

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Wendy A. Grullon

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Board of Commissioners

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Attest:

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Angelo Auteri, Esq.,

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Corporation Counsel

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and accurate transcript of the testimony and proceedings as taken stenographically by me at the time, place, and on the date hereinbefore set forth.

SUSAN BISCHOFF, CCR, RPR
LICENSE NO. 30XI00233700