

The Borough of Union Beach

Newsletter

"The Best Little Town in New Jersey"

Winter 2022

Mayor Charles W. Cocuzza

Council President Albin J. Wicki
Councilman Louis Andreuzzi
Councilman Anthony Cavallo

Councilman Albert Lewandowski
Councilwoman Cherlanne Roche
Councilwoman Eileen Woodruff

Happy New Year!

Please join us at the
Annual Union Beach Reorganization Meeting
Friday, January 7, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.
Borough Hall, 650 Poole Avenue

Eileen Balut & Madeline Russo

The Borough of Union Beach wishes to congratulate you both on your retirement!
Thank you for professionalism, your dedication and your many years of service!
We wish you much happiness in the future!
You will both be greatly missed!

Christmas Tree Pick-Up

Christmas Tree pick-up will begin on January 4, 2022, following the same schedule as used for leaf pick-up. Section A will be picked up on Wednesdays; Section B will be picked-up on Tuesdays through the end of the month. Please make sure all trees are at the curb the night before your scheduled pick-up and that all decorations are removed, including lights and tinsel. Final pick-up will take place on January 25 and 26, 2022. Residents may also bring their trees to the Recycling Center located at 1400 Florence Avenue. We ask that you please understand if weather prevents us from picking up trees.

Clean Communities Day

A big thank you to all the volunteers who participated in our Clean Communities Day on Saturday, September 25. Seventy-three volunteers picked up trash at the beachfront, Scholer Park, and along the Henry Hudson Trail. All together 160 pounds of garbage was removed from our town!

Another big thank you to Wawa Store #8417 and it's Manager, Linda, for their contribution of bottles of water for our volunteers. It was greatly appreciated.

Mini-grants were distributed at the November 22 Borough Council Meeting to the six groups that participated. They were: Blackbaud, Girl Scout Troop 217, Girl Scout Troop 60003, Grace United Methodist Church, Keyport-Matawan Elks Lodge 2030, and the Raritan Bay Lacrosse Club.

** This Newsletter is intended for the residents of Union Beach **only**. Information regarding curbside pick-ups pertains only to Union Beach. The Union Beach Recycling Center does NOT accept any type of materials from residents outside of Union Beach. ***

Borough Meetings and Events

January

- 4 (Tuesday) Library Association Meeting at 7 p.m. in the Library
4 (Tuesday) Christmas Tree pick-up begins in Section B
5 (Wednesday) Christmas Tree pick-up begins in Section A
7 (Friday) Annual Reorganization Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in Borough Hall
10 (Monday) Board of Health Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall
12 (Wednesday) Community Alliance Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall
13 (Thursday) Mayor & Council Agenda Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Hall
17 (Monday) Borough Offices Closed — Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
20 (Thursday) Mayor & Council Public Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Hall
24 (Monday) Recreation Commission Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall
25 (Tuesday) Christmas Tree pick-up ends in Section B
26 (Wednesday) Christmas Tree pick-up ends in Section A
26 (Wednesday) Planning Board Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall

February

- 1 (Tuesday) Library Association Meeting at 7 p.m. in the Library
9 (Wednesday) Community Alliance Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall
10 (Thursday) Mayor & Council Agenda Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Hall
11 (Friday) Borough Offices Closed — Lincoln's Birthday
14 (Monday) Board of Health Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall
17 (Thursday) Mayor & Council Public Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Hall
21 (Monday) Borough Offices Closed — Presidents' Day
23 (Wednesday) Planning Board Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall
25 (Friday) Deadline for Submission to 2022 Spring Newsletter
28 (Monday) Recreation Commission Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall

March

- 1 (Tuesday) Library Association Meeting at 7 p.m. in the Library
9 (Wednesday) Community Alliance Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall
10 (Thursday) Mayor & Council Agenda Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Hall
17 (Thursday) Mayor & Council Public Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Hall
21 (Monday) Board of Health Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall
28 (Monday) Recreation Commission Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall
30 (Monday) Planning Board Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall

- ** More information on many of these events can be found throughout this Newsletter.
** Please check the Borough's web site, ubnj.net, as well as the web sites and social media pages of each separate organization for updates regarding cancellations.

Electronics Recycling

Public Works will continue to accept electronics from Union Beach residents ONLY. By law, television sets and computer components must be recycled. Each address will be restricted to the disposal of three television sets per calendar year. Proof of residency must be provided.

Borough Phone Numbers

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| FIRE | 911 |
| FIRST AID | 911 |
| POLICE | (732) 264-0313 |
| Chief Michael Woodrow | |
| MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR | (732) 264-3026 |
| Robert M. Howard, Jr. | |
| HEALTH OFFICE | (732) 264-2365 |
| SEWER DEPARTMENT | (732) 264-5657 |
| Alice Ostervich | |
| FINANCE DEPARTMENT | (732) 264-9029 |
| Michael Pennell | |
| BOROUGH CLERK | (732) 264-2277 |
| Anne Marie Friscia | |
| Carol Seney | |
| TAX ASSESSOR | (732) 264-2360 |
| Michael DelRe | |
| COURT ADMINISTRATOR | (732) 264-9098 |
| Sharon Devaney | |
| TAX COLLECTOR | (732) 264-5662 |
| Desiree Durkin | |
| PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. | (732) 264-1133 |
| Stephen J. Higgins | |
| Mary E. Mancini | |
| RECYCLING CENTER | (732) 264-1133 |
| Stephen J. Higgins | |
| Mary E. Mancini | |
| PLANNING/ZONING BOARD | (732) 739-1503 |
| Madeline Russo | |
| CODE ENFORCER | (732) 526-8686 |
| Amado Bencosme, Jr. | |
| CONSTRUCTION DEPT. | (732) 526-8687 |
| Timothy Davis | |
| RECREATION | Search "Union Beach Recreation" on Facebook (732) 264-3792 |
| LIBRARY | (732) 264-3133 |
| BOARD OF EDUCATION | (732) 264-5400 |
| MEMORIAL SCHOOL | (732) 671-6400 |
| T&M ASSOCIATES | (732) 671-6400 |
| O.E.M. | Robert Burlew |

NJ AMERICAN WATER COMPANY
1-800-652-6987

NJ NATURAL GAS COMPANY
1-800-GAS LEAK

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Please do **NOT** blow/sweep cut grass or leaves into the road, or into the catch basins.

Newsletter Deadline

Submissions for the 2022 Spring Issue of the Borough of Union Beach Newsletter are due by February 25. All submissions should be sent in writing to Mary Mancini, Department of Public Works by emailing memancini@unionbeachnj.gov or faxing 732-264-5829.

Snow Removal/Deicing Policies and Procedures from the Department of Public Works

The removal of snow, and deicing of Borough roads, is performed by the Department of Public Works. All snow equipment is deployed by the Director, as needed, after reviewing current conditions and forecasts made available by electronic media and in working closely with the Police, Fire, and First Aid Departments, the School Superintendent, and the Office of Emergency Management by two-way radio communication and cell phones to ensure that our road system is made as safe as possible in a timely, cost effective, and efficient manner for the residents we serve.

It is during these times that our roads are prioritized to always allow Emergency Services (Fire, First Aid and OEM) safe travel to help residents during a situation requiring the transportation to a local hospital, a household fire or other emergency where the Office of Emergency Management is needed.

First priority roads would include roads that directly connect to County and State roads such as Poole, Park, Morningside, Front, etc. with secondary roads being Central, Center, Lorillard, and so on. We also assist with the County roads that run through the Borough, as needed, to improve conditions for our residents.

Following these additional guidelines will also help us in serving the residents in a more effective manner during any snow or ice emergency:

- Please do not pass our snow plows during any emergency snow operations.
- Please park all vehicles off the street whenever snow is in the forecast.
- Basketball hoops should be removed from the street in front of your house.
- As you stand in front of your house looking at it, please shovel or plow any snow you remove from your driveway to the left side so when one of our snowplows comes down your street, the snow you have shoveled is taken away from your driveway, not put back in it.
- After any plowable snowfall we receive, please keep your garbage and recycling cans out of the street.

Please do not shovel/plow/blow snow back into the street.

Memorial School — Message from Superintendent Amanda Lewert

Happy New Year!

As we move into colder months where snow is possible, please be reminded that snow should be cleared from sidewalks and bus stops so these areas are passable for students.

Memorial School is proud to offer preschool for all residents. If you have a child who will be preschool age in September, registration will begin in February. To begin the online registration process, please visit the web site at www.unionbeachschools.org. If you have any questions, please call 732-264-5400.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at alewert@unionbeachschools.org or 732-264-5405, if you have any questions or concerns.

Union Beach Library

Please continue to check out Facebook page for events coming up in the New Year.

Bayshore Success Center is tutoring in the Library on Saturday mornings. Call the Library for more information. Please don't forget our Book Drop Donation Box. The Library Association meets the First Tuesday of the month and new members are always welcome!

Please consider the Library for a monetary donation. We are desperate to raise funds to have the roof fixed. Thank you for your consideration.

Note from the Tax Assessor

The Borough's 2022 Reassessment Report is now located on the Borough's web site ubnj.net for your information. The Tax Assessor has office hours on Mondays from 6 to 8 p.m.

Disposal of Branches/Brush/Grass Clippings

Our garbage contractor will accept branches/brush along with your regular garbage pick-up — on the second pick-up of the week (either Thursday or Friday). Branches **MUST** be bundled. Bundles **CANNOT** be more than 4 feet in length and **CANNOT** weigh more than 50 pounds. Anything larger than 3 inches in diameter **MUST** be cut up. If branches are too small to bundle, they should be placed in a can, the weight of which should **NOT** exceed 50 pounds. The contractor will accept only **THREE** bundles or cans at a time. **PLEASE NOTE:** The garbage contractor does not accept grass clippings; neither does the Department of Public Works. We recommend that you leave cut grass on your lawn, as it is actually good for your lawn.

Union Beach Board of Health

Dog registration is in January. Per NJ State Law, you must register your dog(s). There is a late fee charged as of February 1. A drop-off box is located in the Police Department hallway for dog registration/information. Please pay by check or money order — no cash payments. Only three dogs are allowed per structure. If you no longer have your dog(s), please notify the Board of Health so records can be updated.

This year we are asking if all those registering their dogs on-line can scan a picture of their dog into the registration system to help enable the Police Department to find owners more efficiently, using their software, in the event a dog is found.

There is no trapping of animals from November to April, per the Humane Society.

Please pick up any feces your dog may leave behind, as this is considered littering. Feeding of wild animals is a fineable offense.

A Message from the Chief of Police, Michael J. Woodrow

On behalf of the dedicated men and women of the Union Beach Police Department, we hope you had a wonderful Holiday season; “Merry Christmas! Happy Hanukkah! Happy Kwanzaa! and a Happy New Year!”

Many great community events take place in our gorgeous town throughout the year; all are encouraged and welcomed to attend! We recommend you follow our official social media page(s) [Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, web site, etc.] to keep abreast of the various community events and general police news. As always, please contact us directly at 732-264-0313 if you have any questions, concerns, or emergencies.

With the change of season(s) come roadway challenges. Just a reminder from the UBPD — Traffic Safety Bureau to keep roadways clear of obstacles (i.e., portable basketball hoops, hockey nets, garbage cans, etc.) so as our hard working UBPDW team can safely and efficiently keep the roadways free and clear in the event of inclement weather (snow); the UBPDW covers over 25.60 miles of roadway in our two square mile area. Please continue to use due caution at Memorial Elementary School, especially during drop-off and pick-up time(s). In the event you observe careless driving, please advise a police officer so as to address the issue immediately.

Last year, the UBPD handled over 11,000 calls for service. Our dedicated, professional, and devoted police officers are equipped and trained to handle any given situation that presents itself; no job is too big or too small. Although the UBPD has been recognized internationally for “policing excellence,” it is the accolades we receive from our residents on a daily basis that are the most important. Union Beach truly is the best place to reside any where, not only due to the gorgeous ecosystem we inhabit, but once again — due to the people that reside here.

Respectfully,

Chief of Police Michael J. Woodrow (NJ State Chief’s of Police “Advanced” Accredited Executive—MMXIX)

2022 RECYCLING AND TRASH COLLECTION CALENDAR

Please check the street listing below to see if your address is located in Section A or Section B. Then follow the calendar to locate your trash, recycling, and bulk pick-up days. If you have any questions, please call 732-264-1133. **ALWAYS PLACE TRASH, RECYCLING, AND BULK AT THE CURB THE NIGHT BEFORE A SCHEDULED PICK-UP.**

| <u>Section A</u> | <u>Section B</u> |
|--|---|
| 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, Ash, Aspen, Bay, Bayview (#100-499), Beach, Broadway, Campbell, Center, Central (#100-499), Chingarora, Dock, Edmunds, Ellison, Florence (#100-#1400), Floyd, Front, Gateway, Herbert, Henry, Johnson (#1-99), Kathleen, Locust, Lorillard (#100-499), Maple, Oak, Pine, Park (#100-499), Poole (#100-599), Prospect (#100-499), Raritan, State, St. James, St. Johns, Spruce (#400-799), Victoria, Vista Shores, West | Anderson, Arlington, Asbury, Aumack, Bank, Bayview (#600-999), Beachview, Branch, Brook, Cambridge, Central (#500-999), Chomic, Clark, Columbia, Dibling, Donnelly, Fr. Fitzpatrick, Florence (#1500-1799), Harris, Harrison, Haug, Heckelmann, High, Isabelle, Jersey, Johnson (#300-499), Lorillard (#500-999), Morningside, Newark, Ocean, Orange, Park (#500-999), Patterson, Poole (#600-699), Private, Prospect (#500-899), Rose, Route 36, Seagate, Seaview, Scholer, Shore, Spruce (#900-1000), Stone, Sullivan, Sydney, Union, Washington, Wesley, Willow, Wilson. |
| Regular trash pick-up is scheduled for Tuesdays and Fridays . You may place up to 3 cans/bags at the curb the night before a pick-up. Each can/bag may not exceed 50 pounds. | Regular trash pick-up is scheduled for Mondays and Thursdays . You may place up to 3 cans/bags at the curb the night before a pick-up. Each can/bag may not exceed 50 pounds. There will be no pick-up on Thursday, November 24. |

| <u>Section A — Recycling</u> | <u>Section A — Bulk</u> | <u>Section B — Recycling</u> | <u>Section B — Bulk</u> |
|---|---|---|---|
| Pick-up is scheduled on the following Wednesdays: January 5 & 19 February 2 & 16 March 2, 16 & 30 April 13 & 27 May 11 & 25 June 8 & 15 July 6 & 20 August 3, 17 & 31 September 14 & 28 October 12 & 26 November 9 & 23 December 7 & 21 | Pick-up is scheduled on the following Wednesdays: January 12 & 26 February 9 & 23 March 9 & 23 April 6 & 20 May 4 & 18 June 1, 15 & 29 July 13 & 27 August 10 & 24 September 7 & 21 October 5 & 19 November 2, 16 & 30 December 14 & 28 | Pick-up is scheduled on the following Wednesdays: January 12 & 26 February 9 & 23 March 9 & 23 April 6 & 20 May 4 & 18 June 1, 15 & 29 July 13 & 27 August 10 & 24 September 7 & 21 October 5 & 19 November 2, 16 & 30 December 14 & 28 | Pick-up is scheduled on the following Wednesdays: January 5 & 19 February 2 & 16 March 2, 16 & 30 April 13 & 27 May 11 & 25 June 8 & 15 July 6 & 20 August 3, 17 & 31 September 14 & 28 October 12 & 26 November 9 & 23 December 7 & 21 |
| Includes cans & bottles, bundled cardboard, bundled newspaper-NO PLASTIC BAGS | Includes wooden furniture, mattresses, couches, other plastics (3 items per pick-up) | Includes cans & bottles, bundled cardboard, bundled newspaper-NO PLASTIC BAGS | Includes wooden furniture, mattresses, couches, other plastics (3 items per pick-up) |

Leaves will be picked up curbside in the Fall — Section B on Tuesdays/Section A on Wednesdays. Please use paper bags only. Do **NOT** mix in other types of debris, including branches. Branches/brush will be taken with regular garbage but **ONLY** when properly bundled. Appliances, electronics and metals will be picked up curbside by appointment only. Please call 732-264-1133 for information regarding any of this. If you are putting out a refrigerator, all doors must be removed.

2022 STREET SWEEPING SCHEDULE

April 1 - November 1
(weather permitting)

| First Monday | First Tuesday | First Thursday | First Friday |
|--|---|---|---|
| Florence (#100-1400) Front Dock Locust Second Third Fourth Beach Vista Shores Gateway | Union Brook Shore (#100-899) Prospect (#700-899) Bayview (#600-999) Lorillard (#500-999) | Spruce (#400-800) Center Kathleen Fifth Sixth Seventh Eighth Ninth Oak Prospect (#300-499) | Park (#500-899) Beachview Central (#500-999) Seaview /Private Columbia (#500-799) Ocean (from Columbia To Bayview) |
| Second Monday | Second Tuesday | Second Thursday | Second Friday |
| Park (#100-499) Maple Central (#100-499) Ellison Pine Lorillard (#100-499) Bayview (#200-499) | Jersey Rose Harris Asbury High Willow Isabelle Wesley Patterson | Tenth St. James Floyd Edmunds Bay Raritan Campbell (#100-299) Herbert Henry Chingarora | Ocean (Rt 36 to Jersey) Cambridge Sydney (#500-899) Clark Aumack Washington Sullivan Fr. Fitzpatrick Seagate Shore (#900-1499) |
| Third Monday | Third Tuesday | Third Thursday | Third Friday |
| Poole (#100-599) Victoria St. Johns State (#90-199) Campbell (#400-499) | Sydney (#100-199) Morningside Spruce (#900-1000) Wilson Scholer Chomic Anderson Haug Heckelmann Donnelly Dibling Stone (#600-1000) | Broadway Johnson (#1-25) Ash State (#200-399) West Aspen | Poole (#600-699) Stone (#100-599) Newark Orange Harrison Arlington Johnson (#300-499) Branch Bank Florence (#1400-1799) |

Please remove all vehicles, trash cans, and basketball hoops from the street on your scheduled day. Thank you for your cooperation.

Message from the Code Enforcement Office

The Code Enforcement Office would like to thank all those residents that are helping to keep our town looking beautiful.

With the cold weather coming up, we are asking for help with the following items:

1. Please be sure not to have any water pumping directly into the street. Please run it into your yard first.
2. **All empty lots** must be identified with either the address, or the block and lot of the property, on a board that is large enough, and placed in a place that is visible from the street.
3. **All homes** must have house numbers on them that are large enough to be seen from the street. You never know when an emergency will hit and the first responders will have to try and locate your home.
4. For all homes that have sidewalks on your property and curb side, please be sure to clean all snow and ice off those sidewalks for people to walk on without getting hurt.

Thank you in advance for helping to keep our town safe during these next few months.

Union Beach Recreation

Stay up to date on all of our future events by LIKING us on Facebook under "Union Beach Recreation"! Also, if you have Instagram, follow us @UnionBeachRecreation to stay updated on all things UB Recreation!

Union Beach Community Alliance

Thank you for taking the time to read this section about the Union Beach Community Alliance (UBCA). We want to take a few minutes to tell you about the UBCA. We are a 501-C organization within Union Beach, with representatives and partnerships made up of town citizens, the town council, Union Beach PD, Union Beach EMS, and the National Guard. It is an important goal for the UBCA to coordinate with local and national resources to spread awareness for resources that support individuals with mental health issues, mental distress, and a variety of addictions. We have aligned ourselves with Monmouth County by working with our Mayor, Charles Cocuzza, through Resolution No. 2021-145 by declaring Union Beach a Stigma-Free Community.

The Monmouth County Stigma-Free Initiative is a county-wide program that aims to reduce the stigmas associated with mental illness and substance use disorder. You can view an excellent YouTube video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6zHzSfQM8Bk>) of Sue Kiley, County Commissioner Deputy Director, describing the Stigma-Free Initiative.

Why is awareness and connecting with the community important? According to the CDC's latest statistics, New Jersey is ranked #7 out of 50 states in overdose deaths, and #10 out of 50 in the death rate of overdoses per 100,000 people. It is also estimated that there are over 900,000 individuals in NJ with a mental illness. Although we love our Union Beach community, there are community members amongst us that are included in the state numbers. As members of the UBCA, we believe that if we help even one person, we've accomplished a meaningful and measurable goal.

As we move into 2022, the UBCA has refocused our efforts in three ways. First, we will be more visual within the community by hosting quarterly events to help raise awareness for specific causes. Second, we will expand our reach by teaming with resources within Union Beach, within Monmouth County, and with other charities that have similar causes. Lastly, we would love to grow our team and for you to join us in our journey, as we make Union Beach a more resourceful community.

Please join us in 2022 on the second Wednesday of every month in Borough Hall at 7 p.m. to see how you can help make a difference in your town. Our first two meetings in 2022 are January 12, and February 9. Save the dates and join us! Also, feel free to reach out to us on our Facebook page, Union Beach Community Alliance, with any questions you may have. We are looking forward to meeting all of you and your helping us making Union Beach a better place one person at a time.

Grace United Methodist Church

Welcome to Grace United Methodist Church, 115 St. James Avenue, Union Beach. Our Sunday Worship Services start at 9 a.m. and are led by Pastor Gene Chamberlain. Our services are also posted live on Facebook. If you cannot come in person, join us via our Facebook page at Grace UMC Union Beach. Our Sunday School meets every Sunday morning at 9 a.m. All are welcome, and we invite all to come and join us!

We are still accepting donations to help provide food and necessities to an orphanage in Haiti. 100% of any and all donations go directly to providing for the children. If you would like to contribute, all donations can be dropped in our church mail slot located between the two center doors on the parking lot side of the building.

The Narcotics Anonymous (NA) group has resumed meeting in the church. The WIC Program is every Monday of the month. We have a group that meets for yoga on Wednesday evenings. The Boy Scouts meet every other Tuesday, and the Girl Scouts meet every Tuesday at our church. If you need information on any of these programs, please call and leave a message on our church answering machine, and someone will get back to you with contact information.

If you are in need of prayers for yourself or anyone else, please contact the church and we will be happy to add your request to our prayer list. Pastor Gene will also be happy to speak to anyone in need. His cell phone number is 732-610-6022. You can also contact the church and leave your information, and someone will return your call.

Our email address is GraceUnitedMeth@optonline.net. Our church telephone number is 732-264-0916. You can also follow us on Facebook at Grace UMC Union Beach.

As we enter this new year, let us all continue to pray for our children and young adults, many of whom are struggling to return to normalcy after enduring the trials and tribulations of the pandemic. Let us also continue to pray for the elderly, and for all our relatives, friends and neighbors. Reach out to those around us who may need a friend or a helping hand!

As always, we ask for God's Blessings on all who are reading this, your families and friends, our first responders, and our men and women serving in our Armed Forces. We at Grace wish everyone a very happy and healthy New Year!

God Bless!

Fall Leaf Collection Program

We would like to thank all the residents of Union Beach who continued to help make our Fall Leaf Collection Program a huge success once again! Leaves were collected, in brown biodegradable bags only, curbside on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. In addition, many residents have brought leaves to the Recycling Center and deposited them directly into the dumpster which we made available. This greatly helped us in complying with NJDEP Regulations. All leaves were properly recycled.

We will be collecting leaves curbside again, in biodegradable bags only, next Fall from October 25 to December 28. The dumpster at the Recycling Center will be available to residents on a year-round basis. You may bring leaves in any type of container and empty them directly into the dumpster. Biodegradable bags are available at the Public Works Department located at 1400 Florence Avenue, while supplies last.

Dumpster/Storage Container Permits

EVERY dumpster and container used in the Borough of Union Beach **MUST** have a proper permit. All dumpsters/containers **MUST** be placed on the property. Special permission to use the street may be given in extreme cases only. Permits cost \$30 and are good for thirty (30) days. For more information, please call Public Works at 732-264-1133.

Engineer's Corner

Borough Engineer, Edward Broberg, P.E., provided the following information concerning the status of ongoing construction projects:

Reconstruction of Victoria Place — The Governing Body awarded a construction contract to Lima Construction, Freehold, NJ for the Reconstruction of Victoria Place from Poole Avenue to Florence Avenue. The improvements included installation of new concrete curbs and a total reconstruction of the existing roadway. The improvements were completed as part of the 2021 Roadway Improvement Program.

Reconstruction of Prospect Avenue — The Reconstruction of Prospect Avenue from Pine Street to the easterly terminus was recently completed as part of the 2021 Roadway Improvement Program. The improvements include new concrete curbs, drainage, and a total reconstruction of the existing roadway.

Reconstruction of Ninth Street — The Reconstruction of Ninth Street from Florence Avenue to Pine Street was recently completed as part of the 2021 Roadway Improvement Program. The improvements include installation of new concrete curbs, sidewalks, drainage, and a total reconstruction of the existing roadway.

Reconstruction of Patterson Avenue — The Reconstruction of Patterson Avenue from Willow Street to Isabelle Avenue was recently completed as part of the 2021 Roadway Improvement Program. The improvements included installation of new concrete curbs and a total reconstruction of the existing roadway.

Reconstruction of Seventh Street — The Borough's application for a grant from the Monmouth County Community Development Grant Program for the Reconstruction of Seventh Street from Florence Avenue to Pine Street was awarded in the amount of \$170,932. The improvements will include the installation of drainage, new concrete curbs, and a total reconstruction of the existing roadway. Depending on the availability of funds, we anticipate construction to be part of the 2022 Roadway Improvement Program.

Reconstruction of Seagate Avenue — The Borough was awarded a grant from the New Jersey Department of Transportation Municipal Aid Grant Program in the amount of \$212,800 for the Reconstruction of Seagate Avenue from Sydney Avenue to NJ Highway 36. The improvements will include the installation of drainage, new concrete curbs, and a total reconstruction of the existing roadway. We anticipate construction to be part of the 2022 Roadway Improvement Program.

Department of Community Affairs Local Recreation Improvement Grant — The Borough submitted a grant application to the Department of Community Affairs for drainage and turf improvements at the Helen Hayes Soccer Facility. If successful, and the funds are readily available, we anticipate construction to be completed sometime after the Spring 2022 soccer season.

Demolition of 1400 Florence Avenue — The Governing Body recently awarded a contract for the demolition of the front portion of the existing DPW building to All State Wrecking. The demolition is underway, and we anticipate demolition be completed in the Fall of 2021.

FY 2022 Monmouth County Open Space Grant Program — The Borough recently submitted a grant application for Scholer Park Improvements Phase IX. The improvements include the installation of a lighted walking trail with additional security cameras around the perimeter of the existing ball fields. If successful, we anticipate the improvements to be completed in the Spring/Summer of 2022.

Army Corps of Engineers Flood Control Project — The Governing Body continues to work closely with the State and Army Corps officials on the acquisition of easements from the property owners impacted by Phase I construction. The Borough has contacted most of the residents impacted by the Phase I construction concerning the easement acquisition. We are cautiously optimistic that the easement acquisition process will move quickly. Phase I project consists of the beach fill element of the project extending from the westerly most end of the shore front (point) to Flat Creek. The final design plans and specifications for Phase I are completed and are ready to be advertised for construction bids as soon as all easements for Phase I have been secured.

2021 Turf Maintenance Program — The Borough awarded a three-year contract for the 2021 Turf Maintenance Program. The 2021 Turf Maintenance Program includes the fertilization and treatment of all athletic fields and common grassed areas within the Borough. The Fall treatment is under way.

A Message from Mayor Charles W. Cocuzza

Dear Friends,

I hope everyone had an enjoyable and memorable Holiday Season with friends and family.

Our annual Reorganization Meeting will take place on Friday, January 7th at 6:30 p.m. at Borough Hall. At that time we will be swearing in many of our volunteers and professional staff, as well as our Re-elected Council members Albin Wicki and Eileen Woodruff. This meeting is open to all who wish to attend.

As many of us do in our personal lives, as we begin the New Year, I would like to look back on the accomplishments of the past year and some of the plans we have in store for the New Year.

Highlights of 2021:

- Road Reconstruction Projects on 9th Street, Prospect Avenue, Victoria Place and Patterson Avenue
- The Army Corps of Engineers is on schedule to award the Phase I contract in Spring 2022 with the project to begin shortly thereafter
- Replaced the play surface area at Firefighters Park, along with a renewed commitment to invest in the maintenance and upgrades of all of our recreational facilities
- Completed major renovations to Borough Hall including Administrative Offices, Police Headquarters and the Construction Office, while remaining committed to upgrading the facilities to better serve the needs of our residents and community as we continue to move Union Beach forward

Plans for 2022:

- Beginning of Phase I Flood Protection Project by The Army Corps of Engineers
- Reconstruction of Father Fitzpatrick Way (Seagate Avenue) from Highway 36 to Sydney Avenue
- Reconstruction of 7th Street from Florence Avenue to Pine Street (Pending release of federal Community Development Block Grant funds)
- Continued upgrades to Borough Hall facilities
- Upgrade to Scholer Park by including a walking path with lighting, benches and some minor amenities around the baseball, T-Ball and softball fields (Pending Open Space Grant Application Approval)
- Drainage improvements and field upgrades to our Soccer fields at Helen Hayes Park (Pending Grant Application Approval)
- Renewed commitment to maintenance and facility improvement upgrades at all of our parks and beachfront

Finally, remember that this is the time to make your preparations for bad weather. Despite our hope for a mild winter, we are sure to get a few snow events. Avoid the last minute rush once snow is in the forecast.

I want to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU to all of our volunteers, first responders, Borough employees, administrative and professional staff and Borough Council members for their hard work and dedication each and every day to make Union Beach the Best Little Town in New Jersey!

God Bless and Be Safe!
Charlie

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The Borough of Union Beach Winter 2022 Newsletter