

UPLAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 12, 2010

The regular meeting of the Upland Borough Council was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President Edward M. Mitchell. The meeting was held in the Upland Municipal Building.

Present were President Edward M. Mitchell. Present were Council members Mr. Leland Hunter, Mrs. Sandra Miazza, Mr. Ray Peden, Mrs. Georgianna Hicks, Ms. Moira Crawford, Mayor Michael Ciach, Mr. Charles Catania, Sr., P.E., Mr. Robert O'Connor, Esq. and Mrs. Shirley Purcival, Borough Manager/Treasurer/Secretary was present. Vice President Christine Peterson was absent due to illness.

Mr. Ken Stark from the Delaware County Daily Times was present along with approximately 11 residents.

President Mitchell led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a moment of silence followed by a roll call.

At this time President Mitchell suspended the normal order of business and turned the meeting over to Mayor Ciach who presented a Proclamation to Fire Commissioner Jim Johnson for his service with the talks between the Borough Council and the Upland Fire Company.

Mayor Ciach also read the City of Chester's Mission Statement.

At this time President Mitchell, on behalf of Upland Borough Council, told Fire Commissioner Johnson he played a significant role in helping Council and the Fire Company understand each other and because of his efforts both parties can sit down together and talk instead of being at odds with each other.

President Mitchell also thanked Chester City Council for allowing Fire Commissioner Johnson to come out and assist us with the talks.

Fire Commissioner Johnson thanked everyone on Council and the Mayor for this proclamation.

At this time President Mitchell returned to the normal order of business

5. Approval of Previous Minutes

Mrs. Hicks made a motion to approve the September 14, 2010 meeting minutes. Mrs. Miazza seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the motion.

6. Treasurer's Report

A-1 Treasurer's Report

Mrs. Miazza made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the motion.

A-1a) Income Statements

Mrs. Hicks made a motion to approve the Income Statements. Mrs. Miazza seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the motion.

7. Auburn Village Report – Shirley Purcival for Christine Peterson

Mrs. Purcival reported the Auburn Village windows are in the process of being installed. There was a slight delay because the contractor had to obtain shingles and siding to match the building.

The entrance and storm doors are ongoing and the project should be completed around the 8th of November.

The first six heads have been replaced on the street lights and the next six have been ordered and we are waiting for delivery.

8. Code Official Report – Leland Hunter

A-1 Fire Marshall's Report – Dave Favinger

President Mitchell asked if everyone reviewed the Fire Marshall's report and asked if there were any questions. There were none.

President Mitchell asked if Chief Dan Smith received a copy of the Fire Marshall's Report. Chief Smith replied he has not received any of the reports. President Mitchell stated he wanted Chief Smith to receive the reports in the future and Mrs. Purcival stated she would see that Chief Smith received a copy of it.

A-2 Fire Chief's Report – Dan Smith

For the month of September there were 0 fire incidents, 12 non fire incidents, 17 mutual aid for a total incidents of 29, 2 drills for a total activity of 31. There were

15 assists for fire, 2 cover assignments, 1 ambulance assist, 6 fire alarms, and 5 good intents. We had 32 hours of service for the month, 21 day time, 10 night time and the average runner was 7.

Chief Smith reported they answered 28 calls in a 24 hour time period. He also thanked the Tincum Fire Company and the City of Chester Fire Company with their assistance in evacuating people from the flood. Brookhaven Fire Company also assisted with a person who drove around the barricades and submerged his car in the water as they were trying to evacuate people at 3rd and Upland Avenue.

President Mitchell commended the Fire Company personnel on their skill and teamwork with the cleanup efforts. He stated he was very impressed and asked if there was anything they needed? Chief Smith said no.

Chief Smith wanted President Mitchell and Council to know how much he appreciated the teamwork between Mrs. Purcival, the Highway Department and the Fire Company. From the first phone call starting at 2:15 a.m. they were all in constant phone contact which allowed things to transition smoothly.

Chief Smith thanked Mrs. Purcival and the Highway Department for their hard work.

Mr. Ray Peden expressed gratitude to the Upland Fire Company for their efforts saving the Pusey House antiques which they loaded into a closed trailer at 2:30 in the morning. By the time they finished loading the last of the furniture, they were up to their wastes in water. The water rose up so fast, they narrowly got the truck out in time.

Chief Smith announced that Monday, October 18, 2010 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. is Fire Prevention Open House and everyone is welcome.

At this time Mr. Hunter read a letter from the Upland Fire Company requesting permission from Council to block off the street from 6th & McClintock Drive for the Open House.

9. Public Safety Report - Leland Hunter

Mr. Hunter made a motion to give the Fire Company permission to block off the street for the open house. Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the motion.

Mr. Hunter reported on a house in bad shape, leaking gas and electrical problems. The Fire Marshall was contacted and the house was posted uninhabitable. A contractor was contacted and the necessary repairs were made.

There is a house which has been abandoned by the residents and pigeons are living in the house. Mr. Hunter expressed concern over the possibility a pigeon could pick up a lit cigarette and put it in the nest and cause a fire. The Fire

Company has deemed this house unsafe to enter and in the event of a fire they will not go inside. This problem is being worked on by the Borough Inspectors and the Fire Marshall.

Mr. Mitchell pointed out the dilemma the Borough faces when residents let their homes fall into disrepair and the home is not safe to live in and asked Mr. O'Connor what could be done to get the people out of there and told Mr. O'Connor we need to have a comprehensive plan.

Mr. Peden pointed out the Borough does not want to condemn the house because they don't want to own it, they want it fixed.

Mr. Peden stated it is his understanding you can have a person out of a dangerous property without condemning the property because we have a responsibility to public safety.

President Mitchell wanted a meeting set up with Mr. O'Connor, Ray Peden, Joseph Ferguson, Lee Hunter and President Mitchell also invited Fire Chief Dan Smith. Mr. Peden will coordinate with everyone.

10. Building & Grounds Report - Sandy Miazza

Mrs. Miazza reported we are having new flowers planted around the Borough signs for the fall.

The port a potties and benches in the ball park are being removed and stored due to mischief in the park.

Up in MacQueen Hall the drain pipe was clogged and had to be repaired. The sewers are leaking inside the Borough Hall walls and that problem will be taken care of by the end of the month.

11. Finance & Insurance Report - Moira Crawford

A-1 Approval of General Fund Bills - \$ 109,065.18

Ms. Crawford made a motion to approve the September General Fund Bills in the amount of \$ 109,065.18. Mrs. Miazza seconded the motion. Council approved the motion with President Mitchell and Mr. Peden abstaining.

A-2 Approval of Auburn Village Bills - \$ 20,555.41

Ms. Crawford made a motion to approve the September Auburn Village Bills in the amount of \$ 20,555.41. Mrs. Miazza seconded the motion. Council approved the motion with President Mitchell abstaining.

12. Ordinances & Resolutions Report - Ray Peden

A-1 Motion to approve Resolution No. 17 - Fee Increase

After reading Resolution No. 17 - Fee Increase, Mr. Peden made a motion to accept Resolution No. 17. Mrs. Miazza seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the motion.

13. Research & Development - Moira Crawford

For the month of September we had 567 hits, approximately 19 hits a day. Since the inception of the web site there have been 10,112 hits to the website. The Photo Bucket account had 11,033 file views for the month of September with 1,237 album visits.

Ms. Crawford reported we have added the flood photos to the web site courtesy of George Patterson.

The Spaghetti Dinner and Labor Day Fireworks photos were added courtesy of Brock Peterson.

14. Streets & Equipment - Christine Peterson

Mrs. Peterson was absent, there was no report.

15. Community Affairs - Sandra Miazza

Mrs. Miazza reported the Spaghetti Dinner was held and we didn't have a very good turn out this year.

The Halloween party is scheduled for October 30, 2010 starting at 4:00 p.m.

The outing for the Bates Motel has been cancelled.

The Christmas Tree Lighting is set for the Friday after Thanksgiving.

The employee Christmas Party is set for December 11, 2010.

16. Use & Occupancy Report - Shirley Purcival

Mrs. Purcival reported for the month September there were six certificates issued. A total of three units failed their inspection and one unit received a temporary. A total of \$ 1,025.00 was deposited into the General Fund Account for Use & Occupancy.

17. Mayor's Report - Michael Ciach

Mayor Ciach reported for the month of September there were 214 total citations issued. The total citation fines were \$ 24,129.50 half of which is the Borough's share. The citations year to date are 1,344. There were 9 parking tickets issued, 6 motor vehicle accidents and 25 accident reports. The amount received from the DJ court is \$ 2,300.84. The total calls answered were 293 and there were 37 assists.

18. Solicitor's Report - Robert O'Connor

Mr. O'Connor had no public report, but asked Council to review the confidential portion of his report.

19. Engineer's Report - Charles Catania

A-1 Discussion on Bond for Phantom Fireworks

Mr. Catania reported we did the inspections for the improvements at the site. All of the improvements have been completed in accordance with the paragraph 4 of the addendum agreement which has been recently executed. It recommended the Borough release the developer performance bond delivered to secure the performance of the requirements of that bid.

Ms. Crawford made a motion to release the performance bond. Mr. Peden seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the motion.

20. School Board Representative

Mr. Mitchell said that Mr. McClintock has not been officially appointed as of yet, that is why he is not here.

21. Old Business

There was no old business at this time.

22. New Business

A-1 Cancel the second meeting of the month

Mrs. Hicks made a motion to cancel the second meeting of the month. Mrs. Miazza seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the motion.

A-2 Recommendation of Upland Borough Planning Commission - Re: Twin Homes on Ninth Street

Mrs. Miazza made a motion to approve the recommendation of Upland Borough Planning Commission - Re: Twin Homes on Ninth Street. Mr. Peden seconded the motion.

President Mitchell stated it was moved and seconded with the amended changes from 2x4 to 2x6 construction throughout the exterior walls and two added porches.

Council unanimously approved the motion.

A-3 Estimate for Water Detection - Temperature Monitoring System

Ms. Crawford made a motion to approve the Estimate for Water Detection - Temperature Monitoring System. Mrs. Miazza seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the motion

A-4 Upland Fire Company - request for street closure

This was approved earlier in the meeting

23. Floor Open to the Public

Chief Dan Smith was the first to address Council. He spoke about a woman on Upland Avenue who had to have electrical work done due to the flood. It was the weekend and the homeowner contacted an electrical contractor who was hired to replace the panel box. The contractor charged the woman three to four times the amount he should have.

Chief Smith feels some sort of procedure needs to be put in place to educate the residents so they are not taken advantage of.

The Borough Manager stated she talked to the contractor and he lowered the cost of the job for the resident and the Electrical Inspector was told of this problem.

24. Adjournment

There being no further business at this time Ms. Crawford made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Miazza seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Purcival,
Borough Manager

Linda Saylor,
Recording Secretary

