

UPLAND BOROUGH COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
October 14, 2014

The meeting of the Upland Borough Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Edward Mitchell. The meeting was held in the Upland Municipal Building.

Present were President Edward Mitchell and Vice President Christine Peterson. Council members present were Ms. Moira Crawford, Mr. Harold Peden, Mrs. Sandra Miazza, Mr. Leland Hunter, Mr. Daniel Smith, Mayor Michael Ciach, Mr. Charles Catania, Sr., P.E., Mr. Robert O'Connor, Esq., and Shirley Purcival, Borough Manager/Secretary/Treasurer.

Mr. Ken Stark, Reporter, Ms. Leslie Krowchenko, Reporter from the Delaware County Times, Police Chief Nelson Ocasio, and approximately seventeen residents/guests were also in attendance.

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

Out of Normal Order of Business at 7:03 p.m.  
Swearing in of Part-Time Police Officer Stephen Mengini

Mayor Ciach performed the swearing in of part time police officer Stephen Mengini. Council and the audience provided a round of applause and photographs were taken. Mr. Mitchell mentioned all family and friends in attendance may leave if they wish.

Mayoral Proclamation  
In Celebration of Charles J. Catania, Sr., P.E. - 50 years in business

Mayor Ciach read the Mayoral Proclamation into record; recognizing Mr. Catania with an award for his 50 years in business.

Mr. Mitchell spoke about Mr. Catania. He wanted to offer a few words to honor Mr. Catania. He stated "the records also need to say, as Michael did a nice job on the presentation, it's not too often when a community has an outstanding employee but more importantly Chuck has been a friend to the community more than an employee." "He never missed a meeting, as long as he can recall." Mr. Mitchell continued "When you look at the millions of dollars that he has brought into the community for any number of projects from the flood projects, for those that live up in the 10th Street area, to the Crozer, Lukens, Maris Runs flooding, to Auburn Village; we come out of the old cinder block city to what we have today." "Any number of projects that Chuck and Catania Engineering brought to us, it speaks volumes for Council and our ability to maintain and keep the right people in the right place to do the right things. It's a pleasure dealing with people that we have here. And more importantly, Chuck, you have been a shining star. That is what you gave in a speech 10 years ago. You were looking for a shining star. And you are it." Mr. Mitchell continues "We are looking for another 15, 20, 30 years of progress in our community. Good job, Chuck." Mr. Catania replied "Thank you very much." Everyone offered a much deserved round of applause.

Normal order of business resumed at 7:10 p.m.

5. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only

No one responded.

6. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

A-1 Council Meeting Minutes - September 9, 2014

Ms. Crawford made a motion to accept the Council Meeting Minutes of September 9, 2014 as presented. Mrs. Miazza seconded the motion. All Council voted Aye on the motion.

7. Treasurer's Report

A-1 Treasurer's Report

Mrs. Peterson made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented and Mr. Peden seconded the motion. All Council voted Aye on the motion.

A-2 Income Statement

Mrs. Miazza made a motion to accept the Income Statements as presented and Mr. Peden seconded the motion. All Council voted Aye on the motion.

8. Auburn Village Report - Christine Peterson

Mrs. Peterson stated she only had one thing to update. She is happy to report that we are down to one empty unit. Mr. Mitchell replied "Very good."

9. Public Safety Report - Harold R. Peden

A -1 Fire Marshall's Report

Mr. Peden read the Fire Marshall's Report for September 2014 Report into record.

A-2 Fire Company's Report

Mr. Peden requested Dan Smith to read the September 2014 report for the Upland Fire Company. Mr. Smith read the report. They had 0 fire incident, 12 non-fire incidents, 18 mutual aid; for total incidence of 30; with 2 drills for a total activity for the month of 32. They had 17 assists for fire, 1 cover assignment, 1 ambulance assist, 1 gas leak, 1 appliance, 2 fire alarms, 5 good intent, 2 assists to police. They had 29.8 hours in service hours for the month; 20 day time and 12 night time, with an average runner of 7. Mr. Peden thanked Mr. Smith. Mr. Peden stated "That is all we have tonight, Mr. President." Mr. Mitchell replied "Very good, Dan."

---

10/11. Safety/Code Committee and Code Officials Report

Mr. Mitchell stated the next item was a combination of both agenda items. Mr. Hunter read the September 2014 report into record. Mr. Mitchell replied "Very good. Pretty busy there buddy."

12. Building & Grounds Report - Sandra Miazza

Mrs. Miazza stated the utility closet is almost complete, the water and all should be hooked up next week by Tom Kennedy. The door on the Pavilion is fixed. The plumbing inspector is going to winterize the Pavilion next week. Mrs. Miazza asked the Police Chief Ocasio about the Pavilion door. Did they get the kids that caused the damage? Chief Ocasio stated they are actually going through the juvenile system as we speak. The information from the Borough Office has been passed up to the District Attorney's office. Mrs. Miazza replied "Thank you." Chief Ocasio replied "You're welcomed."

Mr. Hunter mentioned they had a trip to Shady Maples on October 9, 2014. "We got a full busload of people." Through discussion, it was mentioned that everyone had a good time. Sandy Miazza thanked Mr. Hunter for doing part of her report.

13. Finance & Insurance Report - Moira Crawford

A-1 Approval of General Fund Bills

Ms. Crawford made a motion to approve the General Fund Bills for the month of September 2014 in the amount of \$ 204,524.31. Mr. Peden seconded the motion. Mrs. Miazza abstained from check number 31814 and Yes for everything else. Mrs. Peterson abstained from check number 31785 and Yes on everything else. Mr. Mitchell abstained from check numbers 31790 and 31874 and Aye on the remainder. All other Council voted Aye on the motion.

A-2 Approval of Auburn Village Bills

Ms. Crawford made a motion to approve the Auburn Village Bills for the month of September 2014 in the amount of \$ 18,576.34. Mrs. Miazza seconded the motion. All Council voted Aye on the motion.

Ms. Crawford stated "That is it, Mr. President." Mr. Mitchell replied "Very good Moira."

14. Ordinances and Resolutions Report - Harold Peden

A-1 Motion to Approve Resolution No. 14 of 2014  
- Promotion of Officer Michael Curran to Detective with Yearly Stipend  
of \$ 2,000.00

Mr. Peden read Resolution No. 14 of 2014; Promotion of Officer Michael Curran to Detective with Yearly Stipend of \$ 2,000.00. Mr. Peden made a motion for Resolution No. 14 of 2014 to be passed and adopted as presented. Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. Mrs. Peterson abstained from the motion, while all other Council voted Aye on the motion.

- A-2 Motion to Approve Resolution No. 15 of 2014  
- Authorize the Treasurer Transfer Funds

Mr. Peden read Resolution No. 15 of 2014; Authorize the Treasurer Transfer Funds. Mr. Peden made a motion for Resolution No. 15 of 2014 to be passed and adopted as presented. Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. All Council voted Aye on the motion.

- A-3 Motion to Approve Resolution No. 16 of 2014  
- Accept Roadway Extension of Eleventh Street and to Add Street Extension to the Official Map of the Borough of Upland

Mr. Peden read Resolution No. 16 of 2014; Accept Roadway Extension of Eleventh Street and to Add Street Extension to the Official Map of the Borough of Upland. Mr. Peden made a motion for Resolution No. 16 of 2014 to be passed and adopted as presented. Mrs. Miazza seconded the motion. All Council voted Aye on the motion.

- A-4 Motion to Advertise Ordinance No. 4 of 2014  
- Amending Chapter 126-4 Noise, Prohibited Acts; Subsection B; Item 7; Construction Work or Activities

Mr. Peden read Ordinance No. 4 of 2014; Amending Chapter 126-4 Noise, Prohibited Acts; Subsection B; Item 7; Construction Work or Activities. Mr. Peden made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 4 of 2014 be approved for advertisement and considered for passage on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November 2014. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. All Council voted Aye on the motion.

- A-5 Motion to Advertise Ordinance No. 5 of 2014  
- Amending Chapter 48-2, Definitions; Animal Control

Mr. Peden read Ordinance No. 5 of 2014; Amending Chapter 48-2, Definitions; Animal Control. Mr. Peden made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 5 of 2014 be approved for advertisement and with intent of passage on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November 2014. Mrs. Miazza seconded the motion. All Council voted Aye on the motion.

#### 15. Research & Development - Moira Crawford

Ms. Crawford stated the website, in August 2014, had 3,700 page views, as well as 1,441 visitors and had an approximate of 37 visitors per day. For the month of September, there were 3,773 page views with 1,518 visitors, with 51 visitors per day. Ms. Crawford stated they added photos for the Youth Magic Show, Labor Day Fireworks and the Spaghetti Dinner. Also, our website and email have been changed by PSAB to its' own designated server. So, we should be moving a little bit quicker now on the website.

Mr. Mitchell stated "Very good. Moira, at the last County Borough's Association Meeting, we had three different communities, telling how well our website appears and they are going in there and stealing our resolutions and our ordinances." After some brief lighthearted comments, how we should charge for someone to use our stuff and about how we obtain our ordinances, Mr. Mitchell stated "But anyhow Moira, it wasn't humorous when they were saying it, it was actually complimentary."

Ms. Crawford stated that she may be changing the design of the website. Mr. Mitchell stated "Very good."

16. Streets & Equipment - Christine Peterson

Mrs. Peterson stated "We will probably, with all the storms we have had, be starting leaves by the end of the month. And also, everyone has in front of them, the brine discussion. And it is a little bit much and we may not be able to put it into the budget this year but it is something to look at, you know, for the future." According to what she understands from it, putting the brine down first before the salt would save us some manpower time, some salt and things like that. So maybe it is something to look at." Mr. Mitchell stated "Very Good. Do we need a committee to look at that, the financials? Send it to the Engineer. Let him give us a break down on it?" Mrs. Peterson stated "I think for right now, we can just discuss it. Maybe try to find out how much it might save us. We really need to look at the budget this year, and see first for our wishlist." Mr. Mitchell replied "Moirra finally got to you, right?" Mrs. Peterson stated "Moirra is talking sensible, so we should probably look at the budget first because this is an add-on item. So this may not be considered."

17. Community Affairs - Sandra Miazza

Mrs. Miazza stated that Lee already gave my report for Shady Maples. "The Halloween Party for the kids is October 25, 2014, and it starts at 4:00 p.m. Also, at noon time until 4 p.m. on October 25th, is the Caleb Pusey Houses' Welcome Day; they will also have hotdogs and sodas and baked goods for sale. There are all kinds of good things going on that day. So if you can make it, I am going to try to go. And, November 15th, the Holiday Seniors' Dinner at 6 p.m., November 28th is the Tree Lighting and the Christmas Party for Kids. The forms are already out and they can be in no later than November 7th, no exceptions." Mrs. Miazza explained she does her shopping then.

Mrs. Peterson stated "It will probably be put into the newsletter a big "no exceptions". Mrs. Miazza stated that Mr. Stark usually puts it in. Mrs. Miazza stated again "They need to register by November 7th. That is the last day." Mr. Smith asked Mayor Ciach where they were for the kid's identification badges. Chief Ocasio replied "We have all the employees set and the Police Department. The next option is to work on the kids. So for there, basically we would have to set up, maybe the Christmas Tree Lighting, it will be at one of those events." "We will need to have a form to obtain permission from the parents." Mr. Smith replied "I just know we have, between the holiday and the Christmas party, we have a lot going on with the kids." Mrs. Miazza and Ms. Crawford both replied that it is too busy after those events. Mrs. Purcival suggested "Maybe after the New Year." Chief Ocasio stated that they will come up with something. Ms. Crawford and Mrs. Miazza agreed.

Mr. Mitchell asked Mrs. Miazza if she had anything else, as it is pretty busy. Mrs. Miazza indicated she did not.

18. Use & Occupancy Report - Shirley Purcival

Mrs. Purcival read into record the Use and Occupancy Report for the month of September 2014. Mr. Mitchell asked if anyone had any questions of the Borough Manager. No one responded.

19. Mayor's Report - Michael Ciach

Mayor Ciach mentioned before he began the report for the month of September, he wanted to let all know that we will be observing Halloween will be on Friday, October 31, 2014 between the hours of 6 p.m. to 8

---

p.m., strictly enforced. For everyone's safety, keep it within the 2-hour window. Mr. Mitchell asked if that was a big letter item too, for Ken? Mr. Stark replied that our next newsletter addition comes out on November 1, 2014. With confirmation from Shirley Purvical, Borough Manager, he can include it in the newsletter. Mr. Mitchell stated to give a Robo-Call and call the Charter School and Main Street.

Mayor Ciach reported for the month of September 2014, a total of 66 citations were issued; total amount of citation fines \$ 10,925.00; the amount received from DJ Court was \$ 2,309.29. Year to date citations totals 855. We had 53 parking tickets issued, amount of tickets, reports paid, and restitution was \$ 2,071.22; 37 tickets were sent to the district court. We had \$510.00 in tow releases; 4 motor vehicle accidents, 1 accident report copied, and total of 398 answered calls for the month with 48 assists; year to date total of calls at 3,618.

Mayor Ciach had Chief Ocasio read the supplemental report into record; copy on file.

Chief Ocasio explained about the Traffic Study. Chief Ocasio stated "Speed is a big concern in the Borough. I know, in numerous places within the Borough, we get a lot of complaints of everyone speeding. Myself, with the assistance of Detective Curran, Officer Dougherty and the Highway Department, we have started to deploy one of these speed signs that we have at the intersection of Upland, just prior to Sixth Street. By doing that, we actually printed out data from a study just for a week done of tracking vehicles that are in the Borough and the speeds they are doing. That was one of the problem areas where we received the complaints from. There is a lot of data in here but I will pretty much go into the end part of it." Chief Ocasio read the record into record. In summation, for that area which is 25 miles per hour, we had over 10,000 vehicles that entered the Borough of Upland down that roadway and then they are timed.

Basically, this system can generate many different reports. Chief Ocasio reported on the total vehicles with the range of speed. In summation, there were: 362 that did 5-10 mph, 2,538 at 11-15 mph, 8,278 at 16-20 mph, 4,364 at 21-25 mph, 994 at 26-30, 127 at 31-35 mph, 9 at 36-40 mph, 3 at 41-45 mph, 1 at 46-50 mph, and 2 at 56-60 mph.

Chief Ocasio has been trying to look up the price for this certain speed sign. Chief Ocasio stated that Chris had purchased some approximately 3 years ago. Chief Ocasio is looking for a way to receive the funds, he is trying to work with PennDot, Aggressive Driving and grants of the sort.

Ms. Crawford asked when the police started to use the speed signs again. "Was it just for this study?" Chief Ocasio replied that it began probably around September. That is when he started the study. At one point they had one permanently mounted down at Main Street, but for some reason, they had to take it down. And recently, within the last couple of months, we put them back out. His hope is to get more and leave them out there. Mrs. Miazza asked if we had two of them. Chief Ocasio confirmed they had two, as he has been rotating them. Mrs. Miazza stated that they needed to put one on Upland Avenue coming around onto Sixth Street. Chief Ocasio hopes to get more and place in those high trafficked areas. Mrs. Peterson stated that as we are adding to the minutes; "the Chief went down on Willow Way after several complaints. There are too many kids there, there are no sidewalks and people are just going entirely too fast. It was decided that it was probably beneficial to us to lower the speed limit to 10. So we are going to do that." Chief Ocasio stated he went down there the other day and just himself, as there was no one out there, no one around, and the way those houses are designed and the little different ways you can come out, my suggestion was to take the speed down to 10 miles per hour. Mr. Mitchell stated "Well that is private property. We don't need any ordinance." Mr. Peden asked "Do we have the signs made?" Mrs. Purvical replied "Yes, they are already in the process." Mr. Peden stated "I was going to suggest

that it might be fun to make them 9.” After some laughter, he continued “Logically you will pick that up better than 10.” Many agreed, and Chief Ocasio stated “there was a study done that when they select a speed at 7 or 8 or anything weird like that, people will actually go under that speed as they don’t know how to compute that in their brain.” Mr. Peden stated “Another use for your data would be to help you understand better where to apply enforcement.” Chief Ocasio stated “Everyone has seen the news, and they’re pushing for more municipalities have access to the radar. So, once that comes into play, that is just easy.

Chief Ocasio reported “Officer Meyer is fully a certified as a Fire Arms Instructor. What that means is now that we don’t have to utilize other agencies, outside of the department, for fire arms training. We can control the actual way we want to do the training and we can actually train to what is actually applicable to us.” This training will start taking place sometime around 2015, doing budgeting out all the supplies and such, the pay, hours and he is trying to put it out in a spreadsheet also he can put it together for Council with regards to training.

Chief Ocasio wanted to acknowledge Detective Curran who ran a “5K Run” on behalf of the Borough. The “5K Run” benefitted the Hero’s Run for the Fallen First Responders Family. “Detective Curran did not do that bad; he came in at 24.42, 47<sup>th</sup> out of 136 runners.” All provided a round of applause on behalf of Detective Curran and his accomplishment.

Chief Ocasio explained there was as a secret FBI raid. It was hosted in Upland. That operated within the City of Chester as well as in Upland. Chief Ocasio wrote down some facts that he could share. He could not share all as it is confidential. He can answer as much as he could without going out of the scope of what’s in his paper. On September 26, 2014 around 6 a.m., the Upland Police Department along with 250 other law enforcement officers which included Chester PD, FBI, DEA, ATF, Attorney General’s office, US Marshals, Homeland Security, Upper Chichester Police Dept., the Delaware County District Attorney’s Office, and The Delaware County Drug Task Force conducted over the group known as the Rose and Upland Drug Trafficking Group (DTG). This group is known to sell drugs within the City of Chester, illegally carry firearms, and stash them within various playgrounds within the area. At 6 a.m., this raid took place all at the same time. So every single property was hit at 6 a.m.; there were properties located in Newark, Delaware; there were properties located in North Carolina, and there were properties located in various other places on the East coast. So, at the same time, once 6 a.m. hit, that is when the raid took place. From that raid, a total of 37 people, out of 41 subjects, were arrested. Two subjects were arrested in Upland; one in the unit block of 3rd Street and the other in the 3400 block of Vista Lane. Several details that were discovered were that the two most dangerous subjects that were arrested, were arrested in Upland. Out of 22 of the subjects, some face life in prison. One subject faces 360 years, another subject faces 240 and the other subjects face various sentences. The lowest sentence, out of all of them, is 40 years in prison, in a Federal prison. This is a big thing for us, especially the fact that two of the people were actually arrested within this organization, resided here in the Borough. They do not believe that they were actually selling drugs out of those actual locations but they were definitely transporting back and forth, using Upland as a hideout from their operations within the City.

Chief Ocasio continued “Things like this will continue to happen. You will see more of this stuff and it will be done in the same fashion. I can’t share a lot of information, for protection of you guys and everyone involved, because a lot of it is very sensitive information.” So with that being said, we are going to clean it up, and that is exactly what is going to happen. Speaking with some people that I know already there are still some people passing through that are connected to pretty high things, especially the drug thing. And at the end of the day, that stuff, especially drugs with everything we got going on, if we can hit it in Chester, we can hit it here. It’s all the same area because everything is passing through.”

---

Chief Ocasio asked if anyone had any questions. Mr. Mitchell stated "Good job. There weren't any incidences? Nobody was hurt?" Chief Ocasio responded "No, no one was hurt. The only thing was on Vista Lane. There was a flash rush, but other than that, no one was injured, everyone was safe. I spoke to one of the guys, for which I can't release the identity, but he said that that was the best raid he seen in his 15 years at the Bureau. So it was a very smooth and successful raid and we took care of business, and we are going to continue to take care of business." Mr. Mitchell replied "Very good, good report. Thank you very much." Mr. Peden stated "Thank you Chief."

Mr. Mitchell asked Mayor Ciach if he had anything else. Mayor Ciach indicated he did not.

20. Solicitor's Report - Robert O'Connor

Mr. O'Connor did not have a public report for September 2014. Mr. Mitchell asked if there were any questions of the Solicitor. Hearing no response, Mr. Mitchell moved onto the next item.

21. Engineer's Report - Charles Catania

Mr. Catania stated he had just one item to report. The construction work on Phase II of Eleventh Street, the entrance to the Reese Center, is underway and probably by the November meeting the work should be completed.

22. Old Business

A-1 Kind Donation to the Upland Hurricanes Football/Cheerleading

Mrs. Miazza made a motion to donate of \$ 1,000.00 for the Upland Hurricanes Football team and Cheerleading squads. Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. All Council voted Aye on the motion.

23. New Business

Mr. Smith wanted to inform everyone the next fundraiser for the Firehouse will be starting. Residents should be receiving in their mail a holiday wreath program. So, if the residents can just look for that and help donate to fund for the firehouse, it is a worthy cause. Mr. Mitchell stated "Very good." Mr. Mitchell said you didn't say anything about your barbeque. That was sold out real quick. You guys did good on that. Mr. Smith replied "I think we were kind of shocked and surprised that it went as well as it did. They were a little concerned in the beginning. I think the numbers were like 50 extra ribs were ordered and 30-something extra chicken meals were ordered on top of the ones that were preordered. And they sold out within an hour and a half, I believe. They are looking into doing it again in the spring." Mr. Mitchell asked "Just once?" Mr. Smith replied "We will do it again in the Spring and the Fall." Mr. Mitchell stated "Really good."

A-1 Approval of Resident to Purchase Repository Property of 204 Eighth Street  
- John & Dorothy Collins

---

Mrs. Peterson made a motion for residents to purchase a repository property of 204 Eighth Street, John and Dorothy Collins. Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. All council voted Aye on the motion.

A-2 Motion to Cancel Second Meeting of October 2014

Mrs. Peterson made a motion to cancel the second meeting of October 2014. Mrs. Miazza seconded the motion. Council verbally voted Aye on the motion.

24. Floor Open to Public

No one approached Council.

25. Adjournment

Mrs. Peterson made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. Council verbally voted Aye on the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Purcival  
Borough Manager/Secretary/Treasurer

Shannon Strigle  
Recording Secretary

---