

UPLAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

January 10, 2012

The regular 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 Mr. Leland Hunter, Ms. Moira Crawford, Mrs. Georgianna Cassidy-Hicks, Mrs. Sandra Miazza, Mr. Harold Peden, Mayor Michael Ciach, Mr. Robert O'Connor, Esq., and Mr. Charles Catania, Sr., P.E., and Mrs. Shirley Purcival, Borough Manager/Treasurer/Secretary.

Mr. Ken Stark, consultant for Upland Borough, Ms. Leslie Kravichenko from the Delaware County Times, Chief John Easton of the Upland Borough Police Department and Mr. Dan Smith, Fire Chief from the Upland Fire Company along with many police officers and approximately 15 residents were in attendance.

President Mitchell welcomed everyone and wished all a Happy New Year. He proceeded to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a moment of silence followed by roll call.

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Out of the Normal Order of Business

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President Mitchell turned the meeting over to Mayor Ciach. Mayor Ciach relayed a letter composed by Chief John Easton.

“Notwithstanding the enormous responsibilities incumbent upon contemporary police officers; we as American Citizens are aware that; at times the police are summoned to perform duties that we many not personally observe them performing.

It takes a special person to know what his/her duty requirements are and an exceptionally devoted person to go beyond those requirements in order to Protect and Serve our Borough. I wish at this time to recognize our Investigator Steven Jackson for his efforts which I consider Above and Beyond.

The Borough has experienced two major, forcible felonies within a month’s time. Investigator Jackson was assigned the duties of investigating both incidents. These Crimes against Persons include the ‘A’ Burglary-Rape-Robbery Case and a Robbery-Homicide Case.

Investigator Jackson attacked these investigations as he refused to stop, he refused to go home and he refused to rest until he collected all the evidence, conducted all the necessary interviews, identified all the perpetrators of the heinous crimes and arrested all the criminals responsible for committing these atrocities against our Community.

Your Chief of Police and your Borough Council agree as we recognize Investigator Jackson for an incredibly outstanding display of perseverance, professionalism and tremendous concern for the well-being of community.

We present Investigator Steven Jackson with The Upland Borough Exceptional Service Award, whereas he has performed his job...Above and Beyond the Call of Duty which insures the health, welfare and security of Upland.”

Investigator Jackson was the recipient of a round of applause, many congratulatory remarks and pictures were taken for our website and for the newsletter. Mayor Ciach also wanted to announce the recommendation to promote Investigator Jackson as Borough Detective.

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Back to the Normal Order of Business  
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President Mitchell called the meeting back to order at 7:05 p.m.

5. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

A-1 Council Meeting Minutes - December 13, 2011

Mrs. Hicks made a motion to pass the December 13, 2011 meeting minutes be passed as presented. Mrs. Miazza seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the motion.

A-2 CDBG Hearing Minutes - December 13, 2011

Ms. Crawford made a motion to pass the CDBG Hearing Minutes from December 13, 2011 to be passed as presented. Mr. Peden seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the motion.

A-3 Reorganization Minutes - January 3, 2012

Ms. Crawford made a motion to pass the Reorganization Minutes to be passed as presented. Mrs. Peterson seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the motion.

6. Treasurer's Report

A-1 Treasurer's Report

Mrs. Peterson made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report to be accepted as presented and Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. Council unanimously voted Aye on the motion.

A-2 Income Statement

Mrs. Peterson made a motion to accept the Income Statement as presented and Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. Council unanimously voted Aye on the motion.

7. Auburn Village Report - Christine Peterson

Mrs. Peterson reported that we finished up the parking spaces in the Senior Areas. The outcome is nice as well as the trees were planted beside the newly paved areas. The first payment was submitted to the contractor.

8. Code Official Report/Public Safety Report - Harold R. Peden

A -1 Fire Marshall's Report

Mr. Peden relayed the report provided by Fire Marshal David Favinger.

Mr. Peden also noted there were several letters issued by the Code Official, Mr. Hunter, to property owners for debris around their properties. Mr. Peden mentioned that only one property owner has been difficult. This situation is being handled by the Code Official. During the month, the Highway Department was called out a couple of times for road conditions due to inclement weather.

A-2 Fire Chief's Report

Fire Chief Dan Smith relayed his report for December 2011 and then presented his yearly report for 2011.

Mr. Hunter mentioned a newspaper article regarding the Fire Company and their most recent award. Mr. Mitchell offered his congratulatory comments.

Chief Smith asked Council if they could have the highway maintenance crew check the signs along Main Street. Over the summer, when the kids walked by

the signs, they push on them and the signs begin to lean into the street. Chief Smith stated it is difficult to get the fire engine up the street with the leaned signs. He mentioned that they had clipped the sign twice on the eastbound side of 900 block of Main Street. Per Chief Smith's request, Mrs. Peterson confirmed they will take care of the problem.

Mr. Mitchell asked Chief Smith how the new doors are working. Chief replied they are functioning well and he offered his gratitude for Council's assistance in that matter.

Mr. Mitchell asked if there was anything they needed? Chief Smith said no.

9. Building & Grounds Report - Sandra Miazza

Mrs. Miazza noted progress.

10. 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 December 2011, in the amount of \$ 97,943.93. Mrs. Miazza seconded the motion. Council voted Aye on the motion with exception of abstention for the following: Mr. Peden for check number 27488, Mrs. Peterson for check numbers 27468 and 27563, and Mr. Mitchell for check number 27474.

A-2 Approval of Auburn Village Bills

Ms. Crawford made a motion to approve the Auburn Village bills for the month of December 2011 in the amount of \$12,727.00. Mr. Peden seconded the motion. Council voted Aye on the motion with exception of abstention from Mr. Mitchell for check number 5030.

11. Ordinances and Resolutions Report - Harold Peden

A-1 Motion to Pass and Adopt Ordinance No. 1 of 2012

Mr. Peden read the proposed Ordinance No. 1 of 2012 then made a motion to pass and adopt Ordinance No. 1 of 2012 as advertised and presented. Mrs. Peterson seconded the motion. Council voted Aye on the motion with exception of Mrs. Hicks who voted Nay.

## A-2 Motion to Advertise Proposed Ordinance No. 2 of 2012

- Mr. Peden a motion to advertise Ordinance No. 2 of 2012 as presented. Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. Council unanimously voted Aye on the motion.
12. Research & Development - Moira Crawford

Ms. Crawford offered a brief report for the month of December 2011. The website had 2,877 page views. The Photobucket account had 7,775 views with 557 album visits. We have added the reorganization photos to the website, as well as information for many of the 2012 community events that Mrs. Miazza provided to her.

13. Street & Equipment - Christine Peterson

Mrs. Peterson reported on the new trash company; B & L Disposal. Initially we had a few problems. Mrs. Purcival called the representative at B & L Disposal and reported how the Borough had normally performed the trash pick-ups. Mrs. Peterson is glad to report that this week all seems to be going well. Also, Mrs. Peterson reminded everyone that Christmas trees will be picked up tomorrow, December 11, 2012.

14. Community Affairs - Sandra Miazza

Mrs. Miazza announced the winners of the community Holiday House Decorating contest. The winners are 418 Willow Way (Kozlowski), 38 Upland Avenue, 1103 Mulberry Street. It was suggested to have a few more winners next year as there are so many wonderfully decorated houses and it is really hard to pick winners.

Mrs. Miazza announced a few of the the next community event scheduled is on Saturday, February 25, 2012. This is the All-You-Can-Eat Soup & Salad Dinner; various soups, salad mixture, chili, and chicken dumplings will be served. On Monday, March 19, 2012 there is a free Ham & Cabbage Luncheon for all the seniors in Upland, age 62 and older. April 7, 2012 is the Easter Bunny Breakfast that follows the Easter Egg Hunt at 9am.

15. Use & Occupancy Report

Mrs. Purcival read in the record the Use and Occupancy Report for the month of November 2011.

16. Mayor's Report

Mayor Ciach reported for the month of December 2011, a total of 75 citations were issued, total amount of fines equal \$19,368.50 with \$1,408.38 received from the District Justice Court. There were 15 parking tickets issued, 5 motor vehicle accidents, accident reports copied were 2, total calls answered were 207 with 16 assists. Year-to-date citations written were 1,666.

Mayor Ciach will coordinate with Fire Chief the next ID Day with Fire Company's next training day. Hopefully this will draw some interest for the local children. Tentative dates are January 30th and February 6th, however he will confer with the Chief to confirm dates.

17. Solicitor's Report

A-1 Minsec Update

Mr. O'Connor reported that he has reached out to Minsec's legal counsel, Adam Marcus. However, Mr. O'Connor regrettably informed all that there have not been any recent updates regarding Minsec. As soon as he receives new information, he will pass onto Council as soon as possible.

18. Engineer's Report

Mr. Catania reported in regards to the Race Street Storm Sewer, a CDBG funded project. He received information from ORB Industries that they will sign the easement. We should be getting clearance from the County to advertise for bids, hopefully sometime after the 15th of February. Therefore, we can begin taking bids sometime in March, and hopefully start the job in the spring.

19. Old Business

Mr. Mitchell wanted to mention an update pertaining to the current litigation situation with the charter school. He affirmed that we cannot have access to what we need to do because of this situation; whether the school is a go or not. We will wait a little longer to see what is going on regarding this matter. Mr. Mitchell asked if anyone knew when the hearing will be regarding the Charter School, even though it is a zoning question. Mr. O'Connor stated he has not received anything from Mr. Wills but assures he will let us know of any update. Mr. Mitchell addressed Dan Smith regarding the sprinkler system. Dan Smith replied he will be meeting with Dan Rubina to go over the fire department connection, the talk of the fire hydrant to be placed on the property and confer regarding the evacuation plans. Mr. Mitchell stated he wanted to set up a meeting for a

committee that would include the Finance and Public Safety Committees. They need to work on the proper procedures if this project should be approved. Mr. Mitchell will keep all informed of any meetings and/or updates regarding the status of the charter school.

20. New Business

A-1 Cancel Second Meeting of the Month

Mrs. Peterson made a motion to cancel the second meeting of the month. Mr. Peden seconded the motion. Council unanimously voted Aye on the motion.

A-2 State of the Borough Report

Mrs. Purcival presented her State of The Borough Report. She mentioned how well the Borough is performing financially as well as highlighted the many enhancements; those visible and those behind the scenes.

A-3 Approve General Code Microfilm of Minutes \$4,015.00

Ms. Crawford made a motion to approve General Code to microfilm the minutes in the amount of \$4,015.00. Mrs. Miazza seconded the motion. Council unanimously voted Aye.

Mrs. Purcival also mentioned that we had already purchased a fire-proof and water-proof cabinet to house the minute books and the microfilm.

A-4 Delcora Brochure

Ms. Crawford mentioned that she received today a brochure from Delcora "Disconnecting & Redirecting Your Sump Pump & Downspouts". Copies of the brochure will be available at the Borough Office as well it will be scanned onto the website. Mrs. Purcival mentioned that the brochure will also be hand-delivered to Borough residents.

A-5 Friends of the Caleb Pusey House

Mr. Peden updated everyone on the progress of CDBG Historic Grant applications previously submitted to the County in the last four years for the log house. The old log house on the Pusey Plantation has been deteriorating because of its age and its exposure to the floods in that area. The exterior walls need some work as well as log replacement. We have a proposal for the repairs that total approximately \$ 70,330. The Friends of the Caleb Pusey House are trying to raise the funds independently through the community. The grant application to the County is for \$ 70,330. Part of the grant package includes a letter from the Borough to Mr. John Pickett, Director of the Delaware County Office of Housing

and Community Development noting that Council is in favor of the application. Mr. Peden ensures that the CDBG grant monies he is seeking for the historical project is different from what the Borough is seeking for community projects.

21. Floor Open to the Public

Mr. Steigerwalt of Oak Lane addressed Council. There is a high rate of traffic on Main Street, excess high speeds in the morning, the police have been out a couple of times and deters the speeders a few days, then the speeders return. He requests that the police look into some passive speed displays with LED lights. Mrs. Peterson stated she would look into this equipment.

Mr. Smith of Seventh Street addressed Council with his remarks about being highly disappointed in the latest Ordinance pertaining to the sewer lateral project.

Mrs. Smith from Clearwater Lane addressed Council and mentioned how disappointed she is because she thought the ordinance was tabled previously and now it has resurfaced.

Donna Haney from West Chelton Road addressed Council regarding rumors on some recent break-ins in the area of Church Street and Chelton Road. Has there been any increase of police patrol on Chelton Road. Mayor Ciach replied that there have been increased patrols in that area.

Janice Geraghty from Church Street addressed Council to state she is in agreement with the homeowners and their dismay regarding the sewer lateral ordinance. She also mentioned about the increase of criminal activity in her area. Mrs. Peterson and Mr. Mitchell did state there has been increased activity and the police have increased their rounds in that area. Ms. Geraghty asked if solicitors were allowed in the area. Mr. Mitchell stated solicitors were not allowed in the borough.

Donna Gray from Fourth Street addressed Council to respond to the issue with solicitors. She described her experienced an incident with proposed Comcast workers. The incident was very odd as the individuals came to her house after 8 p.m. Mr. Mitchell and other members of Council advised Ms. Gray and the entire public to call 911 if anything should appear odd or out of the norm.

Ms. Gray asked if there was a potential project in the wooded area behind Kent Lane; she seen surveyors in the area. Mr. Mitchell announced that Council is

requesting that area including the Carriage House to 6th St be deeded back to Upland. The surveyors are currently taking a tree count; viewing and analyzing the trees; hopefully the revitalization project to convert back to the way the Crozer family utilized the space as a walking trail and a garden.

22. Adjournment

Vice-President Peterson made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Miazza seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Purcival  
Borough Manager/Treasurer/Secretary

Shannon Strigle  
Recording Secretary