

UPLAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

April 10, 2012

The regular meeting of the Upland Borough Council was called to order at 7:02 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, Mr. Harold Peden, Ms. Moira Crawford, Mrs. Sandra Miazza, Mr. Daniel Smith, Mayor Michael Ciach, Mr. Robert O'Connor, Esq., Mr. Charles Catania, Sr., P.E., and Mrs. Shirley Purcival, Borough Manager / Treasurer/Secretary.

Mr. Ken Stark, consultant for Upland Borough, and approximately 10 residents/guests were in attendance.

Mr. Mitchell proceeded to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a moment of silence followed by roll call.

5. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only

Mr. Mitchell asked if anyone wished to address Council on any of the agenda items. Mr. Mitchell also reminded everyone to turn off their cell phones. There were no comments.

6. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

A-1 Council Meeting Minutes -March 13, 2012

Ms. Crawford made a motion to pass the March 13, 2012 meeting minutes as presented. Mrs. Miazza seconded the motion. Council unanimously 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 Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. Council unanimously voted Aye on the

motion. Mrs. Purcival asked that all Council members that do not have their microphones on to please have turn them on.

A-2 Income Statement

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

8. Auburn Village Report - Christine Peterson

Mrs. Peterson reported that the shingle project for this year has begun, and the back door project will begin shortly. Mr. Mitchell asked if this will conclude all the roofing skirts. Mrs. Peterson replied these are the last 5 to be completed.

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

A -1 Fire Marshall's Report

Mr. Peden stated everyone has a copy of the Fire Marshall's Report. He then proceeded to relay the report for all.

A-2 Fire Company's Report

Mr. Robert Covey presented the Fire Company's Report. Mr. Covey reported for the month of March 2012 there were 2 fire incidents, 11 non-fire incidents, 12 mutual aid; for total incidents of 25. There were 3 drills for a total activity of 28.

We had 11 assists for fire, 1 cover assignment, 1 motor vehicle accident, 8 fire alarms, 2 good intent calls. They had 21.8 hours of service consisting of 14 daytime calls and 14 nighttime calls and the average runner was 5.

Mr. Mitchell asked if there were any updates on the membership. Mr. Covey replied membership is looking good at the present time.

10. Code Officer's Report

Mr. Hunter provided a report for Council members. He read a synopsis of the report for everyone.

11. Building & Grounds Report - Sandra Miazza

Mrs. Miazza reported the port-a-potties and the picnic tables have been placed at Bristol Lord Field. Mrs. Miazza mentioned the police were already called about the children already horse-playing on the picnic tables. Mr. Mitchell asked what the problems were. Mrs. Miazza mentioned that one night, 19 kids are hanging out in that area after dark. Mrs. Peterson asked if motion detectors were installed yet. There was no definitive answer. However, Mrs. Miazza stated the electrician will be placing additional lights in that area. Mrs. Miazza also mentioned that there was a problem in the pavilion. Two weekends ago, on a Saturday, the hot water heater blew up in the pavilion. She understands the water heater is still under warranty. Mr. Mitchell asked if there was any damage. Mrs. Miazza stated there was none however she was standing there when it happened.

Mrs. Miazza mentioned that the upstairs to MacQueen Hall was completed in its renovations.

Mr. Mitchell re-addressed the situation at Bristol Lord Field. He asked if a bright light would help the situation with the disorderly kids. To rectify the situation, the decision was to place two (2) flood lights in the area of the picnic tables to deter the children playing on the tables after-hours.

12. 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 March 2012, in the amount of \$ 128,273.68. Mrs. Miazza seconded the motion. Mr. Smith abstained from check number 27892 and Mrs. Peterson abstained from check numbers 27865 and 27866, all other Council unanimously 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 March 2012 in the amount of \$ 29,780.41. Mrs. Miazza seconded the motion. Council unanimously voted Aye on the motion.

13. Ordinances and Resolutions Report - Harold Peden

A-1 Motion to Advertise Ordinance No. 4 of 2012
- *Amending Chapter 150 "Sewers"*

Mr. Peden read Ordinance No. 4 of 2012 then made a motion to advertise as presented. Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. Council unanimously voted Aye on the motion.

- A-2 Motion to Pass and Adopt Ordinance No. 5 of 2012
 - *Amending Chapter 140 "Plumbing and Mechanical Standards"*

Mr. Peden read Ordinance No. 5 of 2012 then requested a motion to pass and adopt as presented. Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. Council unanimously voted Aye on the motion.

- A-3 Motion to Pass and Adopt Ordinance No. 6 of 2012
 - *Amending Chapter 158 "Streets and Sidewalks"*

Mr. Peden read Ordinance No. 6 of 2012. Mr. Peden made a motion to pass and adopt as presented. Mrs. Miazza seconded the motion. Council unanimously voted Aye on the motion.

- A-4 Motion to Advertise Ordinance No. 7 of 2012
 - *Repealing All Provisions of Chapter 185 "Borough Zoning Code of 1969, As Amended" and Adopting New Chapter 185 "Upland Borough Zoning Code of 2012"*

Mr. Peden read Ordinance No. 7 of 2012. Mr. Peden made a motion to advertise as presented. Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. Council unanimously voted Aye on the motion.

- A-5 Motion to Advertise Ordinance No. 9 of 2012
 - *Amending Chapter 135 - "Parks and Playgrounds by Amending Section 135-2 to Change the Title of Said Section to Read "Specifically Prohibited Uses and Ball Playing"*

Mr. Peden read Ordinance No. 9 of 2012. Mr. Peden made a motion to advertise as presented. Ms. Miazza seconded the motion. Council unanimously voted Aye on the motion.

- A-6 Motion to Advertise Ordinance No. 8 of 2012
 - *Administrative Code Chapter 34 "Public Participation Regulations"*

Mr. Peden read Ordinance No. 8 of 2012. Mr. Peden made a motion to advertise as presented. Ms. Miazza seconded the motion. Council unanimously voted Aye on the motion.

14. Research & Development - Moira Crawford

Ms. Crawford offered a brief report for the month of March 2012. The website had 3,236 page views. The Photobucket account had 7,361 file views with 630 album visits. Ms. Crawford mentioned she added photos from the Saint Patrick's Day Senior Luncheon, the Easter Egg Hunt and the Breakfast with the Easter Bunny. Ms. Crawford wanted to thank Mr. Stark for supplying some of those photos. She also mentioned since last meeting, she has added a new section on the website, a Public Notice link. This will inform the public of anything new that is happening in the Borough. She will also add an Old Minute Section. Ms. Crawford will add the old minutes periodically, reflecting a theme.

Mr. Mitchell asked if the website is getting 100 hits per day. Ms. Crawford explained that one person can view 5 photos and that would count as 5 hits. She estimated that most likely there are 40 people per day.

15. Street & Equipment - Christine Peterson

Mrs. Peterson made a motion to approve the purchase of the new salt truck through the Co-Stars Program. Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. Council unanimously voted Aye on the motion.

16. Community Affairs - Sandra Miazza

Mrs. Miazza reported that on March 19, 2012, the Committee held the Ham & Cabbage Luncheon for the Senior Citizens. Everyone had a good time and the Seniors danced. Last Saturday, April 7, they held the Breakfast with the Easter Bunny. It was a huge success.

In May, they plan to have the Memorial Day Parade and the Picnic in Lord Bristol Field. Unfortunately, they do not have a date for the carnival yet. It could possibly be in September. Mr. Smith is working on confirming the dates. Mrs. Miazza also mentioned the Fourth of July Celebration in the Ballpark at 10 a.m. Also, after the Picnic, the Police Officers would like to have a kick-ball game with the children.

17. Use & Occupancy Report

Mrs. Purcival mentioned that all Council had a new Council Assignment list on their desks; noting that the new Council person has been placed on several of the committees. Mrs. Purcival read into the record the Use and Occupancy Report for the month of March 2012. She also mentioned that we had our first lateral inspection.

18. Mayor's Report

Mayor Ciach reported for the month of March 2012, a total of 142 citations were issued. Total amount of fines equal \$21,067.50 with \$2,932.12 received from the District Justice Court. Year-to-date citation total now is 325. There were 8 parking tickets issued, 12 motor vehicle accidents, accident reports copied were 11, total calls answered were 247 with 28 assists.

Mayor Ciach also mentioned they began the ID badge program. To date, they issued 6 identification cards. They will conduct another event to issue IDs in the next two (2) weeks. This event will take place at the Borough Hall.

19. Solicitor's Report - Robert O'Connor, Esq.

Mr. O'Connor reported they did the annual audit letter, as they normally do each year about this time. The second item Mr. O'Connor brought to attention was to report that he worked with the Tax Collector on a matter last month.

Mr. O'Connor wanted to remind Council, the confidential portion of the Solicitor's Report, under the Sunshine Law, is always updated. He asked all to review and if any questions, please contact him.

Mr. O'Connor read into record the letter received by Kenneth Schuster, the Chester City Solicitor, regarding Chester-Upland School District Safety Officers.

Many ideas/suggestion/concerns were provided by Mr. Mitchell, Mrs. Peterson, Council members, and Officer Nelson Ocasio. Mrs. Miazza asked if Shirley could place a Robo-Call to all residents mentioning this matter regarding CUSD Safety Officers. Shirley stated she would place the call.

Mr. O'Connor stated he will contact Mr. Hackett, City of Chester to follow-up on this matter.

20. Engineer's Report - Charles Catania, Sr., P.E.

Mr. Catania reported we will have bid openings on May 4, 2012 for Concrete Repairs in Auburn Village Phase II, 2012 Resurfacing Program, Race Street Storm Water Management, and the Auburn village Plumbing Testing. The bid opening will take place at 10 a.m.

21. Old Business

Mr. Mitchell stated that there was no old business to be discussed.

22. New Business

A-1 Cancel Second Meeting of the Month

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

A-2 Upland Fire Company Annual Tag Days

Mrs. Peterson made a motion to allow Upland Fire Company to perform their Annual Tag Days on May 11 & 12, 2012 and September 14 & September 15, 2012. Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. Council unanimously voted Aye on the motion.

A-3 Appoint Mayor Ciach to be Liaison for Crozer Chester Medical Center

Mr. Mitchell explained that the Borough will need to have someone full-time at Crozer. The need is to have someone at Crozer, Monday through Friday, second shift, on a rotating basis. The object is to have someone on hand at Crozer as Police Officers need to stay with individuals that need medical care; therefore, taking that Officer's time from the happenings within The Borough, leaving the borough unguarded.

Mayor Ciach will spearhead a team to meet with Crozer. The objective is to have a good working relationship with them for this project.

A-4 Empower the Civil Service Commission to Test for Ranking of Police Corporal

- TABLED until May 8, 2012

Mr. Mitchell, the Chair, made a motion to table the above subject. Mr. Peden seconded the motion. Council unanimously voted Aye on the motion.

A-5 Discussion on Chester City Scale House

Mr. Mitchell explained that they have opened negotiations with the City of Chester to use their Scale House for weighing trucks. We have a tremendous amount of heavy vehicles coming through Upland This concern is for those

heavily-weighted trucks that use our streets and damage them causing stress on our budget.

A-6 Discussion on New Fire Truck and Addition to Fire Company

Mr. Peden made a motion to send the specification to our Borough Engineer to create the bids and begin the bid process for the new fire truck. Mrs. Peterson seconded the motion. Mr. Smith abstained from the vote, all other Council voted Aye on the motion.

23. Floor Open to the Public

Mr. George Oronzio, Woodside Avenue, wanted to clarify/provide information regarding a few items mentioned during the meeting. If a telephone number is unlisted, the resident could still receive the Robo-Calls. The resident would need to register the Borough's telephone number.

Also, Mr. Oronzio wanted to clarify information regarding the Chester Upland School Safety Officers. If Chester Upland School District calls their officers "Police", then they would have the same authority as a constable under the consolidated statutes. If they are listed as "Safety Officers", they fall under Act 235 and would need to carry a valid card in their possession at all times or it would be a fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per day. Mr. Oronzio stated his knowledge is based on him being a former police officer, a retired deputy sheriff and an instructor for Act 235. Mr. Mitchell thanked him for his information.

Mr. Gary Timmes, Upland Avenue, approached Council. He announced that he recently got involved and took over the football program. They currently have approximately 150 kids involved with the program. Mr. Timmes stated that there were some issues with prior management of funds and equipment. Mr. Timmes addressed Council for their financial help, stating no amount is too small. They have tried to raise money on their own, but they still need help. Mr. Mitchell asked how many Upland children are involved with football. Mr. Timmes responded there are approximately 75 kids from Upland. Mr. Mitchell advised Mr. Timmes to address this matter, in writing, to the Borough Manager, Shirley Purcival. Mrs. Miazza suggested Mr. Timmes talk to Upland Athletic Club. Mr. Timmes already spoke to Donald Kirby, President of AC, and they have stated they would donate \$50 per Upland child. Mayor Ciach suggested Mr. Timmes contact the State Representative.

Mr. Robert O'Connor asked if they are currently bonded. Mr. Timmes stated they are not however, they want to be. Mr. O'Connor stated that maybe if the program was bonded, local businesses would be more likely to donate.

Timothy Nash, previously resident of Hill Street, now residing on 22nd St. He wanted to also mention how much the football team would mean to the kids. They are looking forward to a great season.

Mrs. Janice Geraghty wanted clarification on how to identify an Upland police officer versus a Chester Upland School District safety officer. Mr. Mitchell stated that Upland Police Officers have patches on both arms, one distinctively of the Pusey House. She also wanted to know more about Ordinance No. 8 Public Participation. Council explained that if an item is on the agenda, then the residents can talk about it. If not listed as a topic, the resident needs to contact the Borough Office at least a few hours prior to the scheduled Council meeting. As Mr. Mitchell explained, this would ensure that Council would have the proper information regarding the resident concern.

Mr. Timmes, owner of a real estate company, re-addressed Council on behalf of his clients about his concerns on the Sewer Lateral Ordinance. His clients, as well as himself, are in disagreement with the passed ordinance.

Tom James, Woodside Avenue, approached Council about his driveway. He purchased his property in 2009. In summer 2011, he put white river rock on the driveway. He received a letter in the mail, stating he could not park on the rocks. There was an ordinance that driveways need to be black-topped. Prior to him laying the white rocks, he had been parking on gravel. He now wonders if he removes the white rock, can he park on the original gravel. Mr. Mitchell asked Mrs. Purcival to look into this matter.

24. Adjournment

Mrs. Peterson made a motion to adjourn and Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Purcival
Borough Manager/Treasurer/Secretary

Shannon Strigle
Recording Secretary