

UPLAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

August 14, 2012

The special 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, 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. John Jay Wills, Special Solicitor was also present.

Ms. Leslie Kravichenko from the Delaware County Times, Chief John Easton of the Upland Borough Police Department, and approximately 19 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.

Out of the Normal Order of Business

Mr. Mitchell suspended the normal order of business. Mr. Mitchell handed the meeting over to Mayor Ciach. Mayor Ciach performed the duty of swearing in part-time officer, Officer Shane Coyle. Chief John Easton requested to address Council. He mentioned that Officer Ocasio will present Officer Coyle his release from training. Officer Ocasio stated that he had the opportunity to train Officer Coyle, for which he commended him to be an additional asset to the Police Department. Officer Ocasio officially presented Officer Coyle with his release letter, from training.

Mr. Mitchell stated that Council had invited Ms. A. Jean Arnold, Chairman, Education Committee of the Chester Branch of NAACP and Mr. Stephen Edwards, VP of the Parent Teacher Organization of Main Street School to the meeting. Ms. Arnold addressed Council and thanked President Mitchell, and wished to thank some wonderful people in the office, when she previously visited the Borough Hall. She was very thankful to Mrs. Shirley Purcival and stated if she missed anyone from the office, she apologized. Ms. Arnold stated that last year the Chester Upland School District was going through a lot of pain and trauma because we had learned of some severe cuts within our district's budget. Someone had notified her that CUSD was having hearings; she attended and spoke about the "little people". After she spoke at the hearing, she wondered who would take this ball further. She looked around the room and it was quite emptied. So she stepped up to the plate and the next thing she knew she was a NAACP member and Chairwoman to the

committee. At this point in time, it is critical that she build a committee to properly better educate our children. Therefore, she placed a call to three (3) townships; Upland, Chester and Chester Township. She addressed the other boards and asked them how she can reach people who reside in your community and ask for help they needed. She stated she was so very thankful for Upland Council, to give her time this evening to come in and make her request to all.

She had prepared a couple of documents that would give a look at the CUSD from her point of view. She did inquire as to if the Borough had PowerPoint presentation capabilities and unfortunately was told no. So she came with sheets of paper, as good ole teachers can do that. Also, she made copies for the agenda of the educational component for the NAACP. The state level of NAACP still publishes concerns that they will have four students who will be educated, and that comes down from the national level. The State agenda has seven (7) components on it, for your review later. The reason why she gave that document to everyone is because the State says that we are able to perform at least one of the components if we have enough resources locally. She suggests everyone visit the NAACP website for further information.

She referred to the CUSD document. She mentioned that at the time they gathered the information, the basketball team was ranked #5 in the State. She asked the question - is that all there is... Our basketball team? Is that all we are able to accept? Her answer is no. She addressed her next item which was Distressed School by Law. She explained that when we did those hearings, and looked at the six requirements a school had to fulfill in order to be considered distressed, CUSD, believe it or not, did not meet those requirements. So what we now have is a new law, which makes CUSD considered a distressed school district. So basically we had to pass new laws for CUSD to qualify. Now the State can come in and take us over. The settlement date is Wednesday, August 15, 2012 at 10 a.m. at the Federal Courthouse, Philadelphia, PA, to hear the final settlement details, for the lawsuit CUSD brought against the State. Ms. Arnold can release the new information, that the State will give us more money, as they have agreed to pay the vendors. She has yet to ascertain the list of specific vendors, but can be assured that the monies owed to Charter Schools and Special Ed will be taken care of.

Our district, our superintendent, has decided to reconfigure our schools. Chester High School will be grades 9 -12, Smedley Building will be grades 9-12, Toby Farms will shut down some of the wings and will only hold grades 6-8, Showalter Building which previously held the Science, Discovery and Allied Health School, will now hold grades 6-8. Main Street School will hold Pre-K through 5th grade. The Pre-K will be all day. Stetser, the school near Melseose, will be Pre-K through 5, Columbus will be Pre K-5, and the School of the Arts (CUSA) will be Pre-K through 5. The (3) three schools denoted in bold print on the document will need new principals; Chester High School, Smedley, and CUSA Building. We do not have a response from the State as to what they plan to do. The procedure state when you are declared a distressed school, what they can do is send a recovery officer to the school. The officer is sovereign and has sole-power. We do not have a plan in place, to state what we want. So, at one point she will ask everyone for

their input. She believes in the power of the people and that we can come together and say very clearly what it is that we want and present that. Whoever is in authority will have that item to deal with rather than us saying nothing. So, if we have the response from the State that has yet to come forward, we would not know if we would hear that on Wednesday, or when this person might show up. So far, that person from the State has yet to come to Chester.

We also have, as you may know, a new Charter in town. That is the CUSA School. Chester Upland School of the Arts was started by John Austin from the Chester Children's Choir. That organization applied for charter-ship and the district said no. The charter school appealed and the State said yes. The CUSD will still appeal the appeal. The teachers are supposed to start on August 28th. CUSA is to be located in the old building where The Village used to be housed on Concord Road. The students that attended the Perry Building will be bussed to the Concord Road School. The Perry Building will be emptied. They have a principal for the new CUSA School but still need to find the students to justify the opening of the new school.

Ms. Arnold mentioned about the Widener Technology Center. They did a rapid, wonderful job of adding on a new wing. Her understanding was because the parents of the students were there and expressed the need and desire of the students to stay there and continue their education in the higher grades.

Ms. Arnold is requesting those individuals who are believers, the people that can say "yes we can do it" and those that are willing to help make it happen.

Ms. Arnold mentioned that CUSD does not "really" have a superintendent. At the last school board meeting, the president of the board offered a motion that we extend his contract for another 90 days. Ms. Arnold believes the 90 days is up or will be shortly. Ms. Arnold is unaware of an active search for a superintendent. They have asked for the profile of an ideal candidate and they have yet to see that. They will also request that of the principal's position.

The Springfield Hospital portion of Crozer had spent a lot of money to put in a curriculum and a laboratory which mimic the hospital setting on the second floor of the Smedley Building. They relocated the students from Smedley and placed them to the Showalter Building. Now they are talking about relocating the students back to Smedley. One of the key elements of this program is to have a trained-certified nurse who has the people skills to work with our students.

She asked "What do we want today for our school district?" She states we need a vision. No reason if we can accomplish a one-in-five goal as basketball players, we can achieve one-in-five academically. We need for the students to stretch their minds. She is requesting that everyone stretch their minds for the betterment of the students in the Chester Upland School District. She believes with Council's help, we can make this district rise to the level that everyone will be talking about. Many things have to change; beliefs and structures of all involved need to change. She is requesting help from Council

and others to develop, manage and utilize a firm plan to help boost the school district's ability to help the youth achieve academic excellence.

She extends the invitation for all to help by joining the NAACP to achieve these goals. She informed everyone that there is a Task Force, developed in the City of Chester, whose mission is to achieve these goals. She encourages all to help; she believes in multiple-intelligences. She identified the needs in various areas; computer technology, press releases, corresponding with media, etc. If anyone is interested, she requests they complete a card with their personal information and return it to her. If individuals wish to join the NAACP, she had additional information that needed to be completed and the cost would only be thirty dollars per year. Ms. Arnold ended her request by supplying all with her email address in case anyone had additional questions and/or concerns.

Mr. Mitchell introduced Stephen Edwards, VP of the PTO at Main Street School. Mr. Edwards stated the main thing they needed at Main Street is to have parents involved with fundraisers and gather additional monies to use for the children's extra-curricular activities that are hosted by the PTO. The current fundraising efforts include bake sales every other week, holiday shops and school dances. However, they are dealing with meager funds to hold events for the students. He was seeking resources from Council on how to involve the parents with their child's education and extra-curricular activities.

Mr. Mitchell offered to place information on Upland Borough's website. He requested that Mr. Edwards provide information directly to the Borough Manager, Shirley Purcival, so she can direct it to Ms. Crawford to place on the website.

Mrs. Peterson stated that while she can appreciate trophies and Valentine's Day dances, even though she does not have children in the school district, she has a great concern. This is a concern that prompted her to write to the superintendent and anyone that would listen to her. The concern being a major road, 6th Street, that people drive on, like it is Interstate 95 and the bad habits of the parents who cross their children at the top of the hill. It has not happened for a very long time but a child was killed on that road. We currently have a crossing-guard that is not fully trained, and personally witnessed children almost being struck by vehicles. There is also another corner that was to have a crossing-guard but did not have one the entire year. Mrs. Peterson asked why isn't the parent's focus on the children's safety. Mr. Edwards replied that the parents have been addressing the issue. He stated that all school crossing guards are supposed to go through one-week training and it is offered through AAA. Mr. Edwards asked if the police officers can help. Mrs. Peterson stated that they do what they can, but as parents, safety should be the first priority. If nothing is done about this, then someone's child is going to be hurt. Mr. Edwards did state that there is no parent involvement; therefore, he is unable to address the safety issue or the PTO situation. He stated he has addressed the problem with the principal and she stated that was not her problem.

Mr. Mitchell proposed to Mr. Edwards and Main Street School to get together with Ms. Arnold and find out what it is that we need to do to be supportive so everyone is on the same page to make this work. It will not do us any good if only one person is working on

this. After they meet, Mr. Mitchell requests they contact Shirley Purcival, Borough Manager, to set up when to re-address this issue at Council. Mr. Mitchell assured that Council will do as much as they can to help. Please keep in mind that it is two different governmental bodies but they are our kids. They are our kids and we do care about them in the safety aspect as well as the educational aspect, Mr. Mitchell stated.

Mr. Mitchell responded to Ms. Arnold and Mr. Edwards to contact Shirley Purcival, Borough Manager, if they needed to have information posted on the Borough's website.

Mr. Mitchell addressed the next item on the agenda, the ordinance pertaining to and the discussion on Delaware Valley Regional Finance Authority Loan for the new fire apparatus. He asked Council if anyone had a comfort level on the actual ordinance. Mr. Peden and Ms. Crawford stated they had a comfort level on this ordinance. Mr. Mitchell then introduced Special Counsel, John Jay Wills, Esquire.

Mr. John Jay Wills approached the podium and addressed President Mitchell, Council, and staff. He stated that earlier this year, Borough Council identified two capital improvement projects they wished to pursue to improve public safety here in Upland Borough. One of those projects was the purchase of the fire truck and the second project, was building an addition to the existing Upland Borough Fire Company. Both projects clearly are to improve public safety here in the Borough. The Borough then authorized his office to pursue funding proposals to fund those two capital improvement projects. It is estimated that the cost of those two projects will be approximately one million dollars. It is estimated that the cost of the fire truck, the cost of the necessary equipment to place on the fire truck and some ancillary equipment that the fire company needs will be approximately \$ 750,000.00. It is further estimated that it will cost approximately \$ 250,000.00 to build an addition onto the fire company. This is an addition that will house various offices. It is a bare-bones addition that will not include all the bell and whistles. An addition, none-the-less, the fire company critically needs. His office went out and entertained several proposals from various financing companies in southeastern Pennsylvania.

Today, Mr. Wills offers his recommendation and requests Council's serious consideration to adopting an ordinance which will authorize the Delaware Valley Regional Finance Authority to provide loan funding to the Borough for the purposes of providing capital for those two projects. Delaware Valley Regional Finance Authority is a public authority; it is entrusted to provide financing of municipalities such as Upland Borough. The Delaware Valley Regional Finance Authority provides loans for municipalities in Delaware, Bucks, Chester and Montgomery counties. This particular ordinance that is before Council's consideration today will authorize the incurrence of non-electoral debt in the amount of one million dollars. It would accept the loan quote of Delaware Valley Regional Finance Authority, as again, it will provide funding in the amount of one million dollars. This loan proposal is a loan amortization which will be over the course of twenty (20) years. Now, this particular proposal as it currently stands, has a variable interest rate. All the loans that are funding by the Delaware Valley Regional Finance Authority are initially offered with a variable-rate interest. This particular loan does in

fact have the variable rate interest and a maximum interest rate of fifteen (15) percent. However, I caution you that within 24-hours of the closing of this particular loan, the Borough can request a loan conversion to a fixed-rate by completing a conversion request. It is proposed that the Borough would go to closing on September 17, 2012, if Council authorizes the adoption of this ordinance. The following day, the Borough will be prepared to authorize a loan and fixed-rate conversion request. I have provided the Borough Council with the current interest rates today. If we were to close on that today, the fixed interest rate for a 20-year term, for a one-million dollar loan, would be between 2.1 and 2.2 percent. Again, this is money that is very, very attractive in relation to some of the other proposals that we have received. In fact the next best proposal that we received would double the proposed interest rate. The next proposal rate would be in the neighborhood of 4.3 to 4.5 percent, so we are looking at loan money here at 2.1 and 2.2 percent. Again, we would initially close on this loan at a variable rate of interest and the following day, we would lock in with a fixed rate of interest for over a 20-year period. He has provided Council with an Amortization Schedule which indicates that the monthly principal and interest payment on an interest rate of 2.1 percent would be approximately \$ 5,106.33. He provided this example for budgeting purposes as Council approaches their budgeting season, as to what type of amortization and debt service the Borough would be looking over a 20-year period. Mr. Wills stated he would entertain any questions concerning the ordinance that is currently before Council for their consideration.

Mr. Mitchell stated, before he addresses Council for any questions, he wanted to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Wills and his team, staff, as well as Dan Smith and the Fire Company, Shirley and Council, Moira, everyone involved, as you have done an excellent job. We had many, many meetings regarding this matter. Two-point-one percent is an outstanding rate at closing, considering four years ago we were looking for money to build the Police Department. There were no monies out there and the interest rate, he believes at that point, was 4.5 percent. So, he extended kudos to all involved. Mr. Peden wanted to thank Mr. Wills and his office, as every time Council had a question, they provided us with unending quantities of papers from where Council can retrieve the answer. That had satisfied all his needs. There were no questions.

Mr. Wills stated a motion would be in order, to adopt this ordinance this evening. Tomorrow, Mrs. Purcival, the Borough Manager, will forward the copies of the signed ordinance and other ancillary documents to the Delaware Valley Regional Finance Authority as we will be prepared to close on this loan on September 17, 2012. On September 18, 2012, we will go to a fixed rate conversion which once again, he expects to be in the neighborhood 2.1 to 2.2 percent. At that point, within the next 10 days, we should obtain funding for this particular loan. Our debt service will start on November 1st or December 1st. Monthly debt service will be approximately \$ 5,100.00. President Mitchell wanted Mr. Peden to address Ordinance No. 12 while Mr. Wills was still present. Mr. Peden received reassurance by Mrs. Purcival that the ordinance was properly advertised.

Mr. Peden read Ordinance No. 12 of 2012 into record and requested that Ordinance No. 12 of 2012 be passed and adopted as presented. Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. Dan Smith abstained from the vote while all other Council voted Aye on the motion.

Mr. Wills asked to be excused from the remainder of the meeting. Mr. Mitchell granted his request.

Back to the Normal Order of Business 8:01 p.m.

5. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only

Mr. Mitchell asked if anyone wanted to address Council on the agenda items only. No one wished to address Council at this time.

6. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

A-1 Council Meeting Minutes - July 10, 2012

Ms. Crawford made a motion to pass the July 10, 2012 meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Peden seconded the motion. Council unanimously voted Aye on the motion.

A-2 Bid Opening Minutes for Emergency Generator - July 20, 2012

Ms. Crawford made a motion to pass the Bid Opening Minutes for the Emergency Generator from July 20, 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.

A-2 Income Statement

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

8. Auburn Village Report - Christine Peterson

Mrs. Peterson mentioned that one project that has been budgeted has begun. It is the painting of the stucco on the Auburn Village homes. Mrs. Peterson stated the painter is doing an excellent job. Also, she mentioned that due to some unfortunate unforeseen events, we had no personnel in Auburn Village maintenance. We relied on the skills of one of the Highway personnel to lay a tile floor in one of the units; therefore making the unit available to rent.

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

A -1 Fire Marshall's Report

Mr. Peden read the Fire Marshall's Report into record. He also mentioned that Mr. Favinger has attended school for training and that the business inspections will be completed by the end of August.

A-2 Fire Company's Report

Robert Covey presented the report. There was 1 fire incident, 7 non-fire incidents, 30 mutual aids, 3 drills for a total activity of 41. There were 28 assists for fire, 2 cover assignments, 1 electrical fixture, 4 fire alarms, 2 good intent calls, and 1 vehicle fire. 24.3 hours in service; 19 daytime, 22 nighttime, with average runners of 8.

Mr. Mitchell asked how membership has been. Mr. Covey replied that they have 4 individuals voted in; with one upcoming this month. The fire company will be attending Millville's Fire Competition.

A-3 Code Officer's Report

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

10. Building & Grounds Report - Sandra Miazza

Mrs. Miazza offered a brief report. She stated that we had new carpet in the vestibule area and in the inspector's area. On Friday, they will be laying carpet in the main office area. We issued another permit for Fall softball league. The cost was \$200.00.

11. Finance & Insurance Report - Moira Crawford

A-1 Approval of General Fund Bills - \$ 155,175.06

Ms. Crawford made a motion to approve the General Fund bills for the month of July 2012 in the amount of \$155,175.06. Mr. Peden seconded the motion. Council voted Aye on all the items except for the following: Mrs. Peterson abstained from check #s 28395, 28417 and 28477. Mr. Hunter abstained from check # 28378.

A-2 Approval of Auburn Village Bills - \$ 36,402.35

Ms. Crawford made a motion to approve the Auburn Village bills for the month of July 2012 in the amount of \$ 36,402.35. Mr. Peden seconded the motion. Council unanimously voted Aye on the motion.

A-3 Motion to Contract e-Collect to Collect Delinquent EIT Taxes

Ms. Crawford made a motion to contract e-Collect to collect delinquent EIT Taxes. Mrs. Peterson seconded the motion. Council unanimously voted Aye on the motion.

A-4 Approval of Seagrave Fire Apparatus, LLC Contract

Ms. Crawford made a motion to approve Seagrave Fire Apparatus LLC's Contract for the new fire truck. Mrs. Peterson seconded the motion. Dan Smith abstained from the motion while all other Council voted Aye on the motion.

12. Ordinances & Resolutions Report - Harold R. Peden

A-1 Motion to Pass and Adopt Ordinance No. 10 of 2012
- *Amending Chapter 120 "Mobile Homes"*

Mr. Peden made a motion to pass and adopt Ordinance No. 10 of 2012 as presented and advertised. Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. Council unanimously voted Aye on the motion.

A-2 Motion to Advertise Ordinance No. 11 of 2012
- *Amending Article IX Entitled "Zoning Hearing Board"*

Mr. Peden made a motion to advertise Ordinance No. 11 of 2012 for passage in September. Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. Council unanimously voted Aye on the motion.

- A-3 Motion to Adopt Ordinance 12 of 2012
- Delaware Valley Regional Finance Authority Loan documents

Mr. Peden made a motion to pass and adopt Ordinance No. 12 of 2012 earlier in the meeting.

- A-4 Motion to Advertise Ordinance No. 13 of 2012
- Creating Chapter 110 "Unlawful Loitering"

Mr. Peden made a motion to advertise Ordinance No. 13 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 July 2012. The website had 3,108 page views with 1,259 visitors; with an approximate of 41 visitors per day. The Photo Bucket account had 16,084 file views with 925 album visits.

13. Streets & Equipment - Christine Peterson

Mrs. Peterson wanted to update everyone about a recent incident that involved the Highway Department. The Highway Department was cutting back the trees on Eighth Street. Following proper and normal safety precautions, they blocked off the streets between Mulberry and Upland Avenue with barriers. Three of our Upland residents and a pizza delivery guy decided to go onto the sidewalk around the barriers, took the barrier guard off the horses and put it on the ground. One of the ladies that went through the barriers, backed up and then put her car in drive and almost hit one of our Highway guys. Now this is through the barriers, a trash truck, a bucket truck and the other Highway truck.

14. Community Affairs - Sandra Miazza

Mrs. Miazza updated everyone that the Community Affairs Committee received a donation of \$250 from the Upland Athletic Club. The Blue Rocks event is scheduled for this Friday. There are still some tickets available so please inform those that may have children. September 22nd is the Spaghetti Dinner from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. and tickets are on sale now. October 8th is the Senior's Trip to Shady Maple for lunch and shopping.

15. Use & Occupancy Report - Shirley Purcival

Mrs. Purcival read into the record the Use and Occupancy Report for the month of July 2012.

16. Mayor's Report - Michael Ciach

Mayor Ciach reported for the month of July 2012, a total of 227 citations were issued. Total amount of fines equal \$ 39,424.00 with \$ 1,857.10 received from the District Justice Court. Year-to-date citations are 1,234. There were 10 parking tickets issued, 7 motor vehicle accidents, accident reports copied were 5, total calls answered were 176 with 33 assists.

17. Solicitor's Report - Robert O'Connor

Mr. O'Connor updated everyone in regards to the Bastian/Race Street easement. We have recorded the easement with some help from Mr. Catania's office. Also, we finalized the draft of the generator contract. And lastly, we have done a little work to arrange for a planning meeting which is scheduled for one week from tonight, Tuesday, August 21, 2012 at 7 p.m. at the Borough Hall. At this meeting, we will be addressing Ordinance No. 11 of 2012. Mr. O'Connor reminded Council to review the confidential portion of his report. This portion is protected under the Sunshine Act, for which was massively revamped again this month.

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

A-1 Bid Recommendations for an Emergency Generator

Mr. Catania stated that on July 20, 2012 we took bids on the emergency generator for the municipal building. We had three bids and the low bidder was Charles A. Higgins and Sons, Inc. of Media Pa. The bid price was \$ 35,476.00 and that was about twenty percent under of what we estimated. Mr. Catania recommends we award the contract to Mr. Charles A. Higgins and Sons.

Mr. Peden made a motion to award the contract to Charles A. Higgins and Sons. Mrs. Peterson seconded the motion. Council unanimously voted Aye on the motion.

19. Old Business

Mr. Peden stated he wanted to address, for quite a while, that some of Council may have heard him talk about training of BCO and Code inspector. At this time, we only have one person exposed to that position and he believes it would be good to have a back-up person. We have been considering, for a while, using Mr. Ferguson's son Jeff and introducing him to that job. Jeff has been approached by his father and by Mr. Peden and he is very interested in this position. Mr. Peden thinks it would be a great help to us and if there is no objection to continue that process. Nothing formally needs to be done at this time. Mr. Peden mentioned Jeff has a great personality, nice fellow to work with, honest to a fault, and he believes he would make a really good BCO someday.

Mr. Mitchell asked if there were any questions. No response from members. Mr. Mitchell stated that he believes the general consensus of Council, as we all heard and we need to do to move forward in a progressive manner. Mr. Peden stated he may approach Council, at a later date, to approve some training for Jeff. Mr. Mitchell agreed and stated that would be a good idea.

20. New Business

A-1 Cancel Second Meeting of the Month

Mrs. Peterson made a motion to cancel the August 28, 2012 meeting. Ms. Miazza seconded the motion. Council unanimously voted Aye on the motion.

Mrs. Miazza stated that she would like to make a motion to add another \$ 2,500.00 to the fireworks this year. Mrs. Peterson seconded the motion. Mr. Hunter was absent for the moment, but all other Council voted Aye on the motion.

21. Floor Open to the Public

Dan Daley approached Council on behalf of his mother, Phyllis Daley of Hill Court. Katie Kloepfer from 1 Hill Court also was present at the podium. He asked for an update on the program to extend 11th Street through Hill Street then beyond through the Armory.

Mr. Mitchell stated that one of the issues we wanted to identify and address over the years is when there is a flood or now it is becoming more so with traffic, someone coming down Mulberry Street, an ambulance trying to get to the hospital, you cannot get out on Eighth to Mulberry and you cannot get onto Kerlin Street. Just for traffic sake, if there is a flood, everything is just flooded out there. There is just no way for anybody to get from the lower end or west of Main Street to get to the hospital. There is no way for anyone to come around, it is even

getting harder to get down Edgmont Avenue into Chester coming that way. If the road is open from Mulberry Street, if you know where the cut in is, up to Hill Street, then that opens up an access route to getting traffic up there, through the shopping center, bypassing the low-lands of Kerlin Street Bridge area and getting the people into the emergency care that they need. The Borough has just purchased the property coming from 24th Street running down, and it stops approximately 300 hundred feet prior to getting to Hill Street, which is not the Borough's. Hopefully in the upcoming years, as we expand the property, once the Armory comes under the ownership of the Borough, then we would like to open up the road, it would give us direct access to that property. And continue on with that emergency route. Mr. Daley asked what road he was talking about? Mr. Mitchell stated there were two roads we are talking about. One going from Mulberry to Hill Street and then from Hill Street over to 24th Street.

Ms. Kloepfer addressed Council and asked to clarify. She wanted to know, realistically, how long does it take a car to travel the current way to get to Crozer in case of an emergency. Mr. Mitchell stated it could be as long as it takes the tide to go down, and that could be anywhere from 6 to 8 to 10 hours to 2 days. However long the tide and the emergency last. Mr. Daley stated she was referring to the method of traveling up to Chester area to access the hospital. Ms. Kloepfer stated she understood the need to redirect traffic. Mr. Mitchell explained that the cut out on Mulberry Street existed already and the curbing is already there. That was laid out years ago, something the Borough never had the money to finish. And that was part of that development project, his guess it was back in the late 50s or early 60s. Mr. Mitchell explained the need to express how minutes and seconds count when you need to get over to the hospital when you have a problem and you have an elder in the back of the van. Or even if you are driving yourself, a mother-to-be, whatever the emergency is, time is of the essence.

Mr. Daly asked if that would it be an open road. Mr. Mitchell stated it would be an open road. Mr. Mitchell stated that he should really stop and look at it, it's a pain and if you're in area with no emergency at all and there is no traffic. If it was an emergency it wouldn't get you any further then if you came down Upland Avenue. But if it was flooded, you would need to get into the shopping center, with the upper bank.

Mr. Mitchell stated that our main goal is to get to the hospital. We don't want to get back down to the intersection; we want to bypass it for whatever reason. Mr. Daly asked if he knew if they planned to expand the road on Hill Street. Mr. Mitchell stated they were not planning because it was already a wide road. Mr. Daley asked if Mr. Mitchell knew the time frame would be for this project? Mr. Mitchell stated that whenever the County releases the funds. Mr. Catania stated that whenever CDBG released the funds, we have the plans ready to go. We will probably be taking bids within a month or two, hopefully get construction done before cold weather sets in. Mr. Daley asked if it was possible as part of that, to put at the top of the hill a small section of where the Kloepfer's live, a "dead end"

sign. We can place a dead end sign now since it is already a dead end. Their concern was because a 5 year old girl was killed in that area. Someone thought there was an outlet and the "dead end" sign really did not help. The little girl was dragged about 50 feet. Mr. Mitchell stated that we have a 90 foot street over here and had a kid killed. It not the width of the street that does it. Mr. Daley asked if he had a concern, who could he address? Mr. Mitchell stated to contact the Borough Manager, as she is here all day long.

Mr. Daley stated that once they open that road up, he feels as if that portion of Hill Street is very narrow and have constant traffic. He personally stated that if he was driving up Mulberry, he would rather go up and down the row homes on Hill Street then on the little stretch of Mulberry Street that they are talking about. We will now have major traffic on Hill Street now. Mr. Mitchell stated to keep in mind it will be open for the general public all the time. Now picture someone on Mulberry Street just trying to get out at 8th Street and Mulberry into traffic, and fight that to Kerlin Street trying to get to the hospital. There is just no way in this world you can do that quickly. There is no place for anyone to get out of the way, there is no room. But if they had an access route to go up and jump across the parking lot, they would be at the hospital already. Mr. Catania stated they would have the width expanded to accommodate 2 cars.

Ms. Kloepfer stated if she was to come up Hill Street to go to her house, and someone else is coming down the street, she has to wait. Mr. Mitchell stated that everyone will just need to extend a personal courtesy to each other and emergency vehicles we will need to let them pass through. Budget wise, we will concentrate on the extension of 11th Street, then later down the road, we will concentrate on the 24th Street project. Mr. Catania stated it is a very important piece of street to be constructed, by the way. Mr. Mitchell asked them if they had any further questions and they didn't.

Mr. Craig Moralis, of 22nd street, lives across the street from the diner. He stated we are having problems with parking. The people, who work at Crozer and their patients, are parking on that street. It is taking away from where the residents can park. He feels it is unfair to the residents that they built all those parking lots for the workers and patients, but they will not use them. He asked if there was anything we can do about that? He suggests going to Media for residential zoning.

Mr. Mitchell stated our Crozer liaison, Mayor Ciach, will address this situation. Mr. Mitchell asked Mr. Craig Moralis to leave his contact information with the borough Secretary; we can provide a progress report.

Mr. Moralis stated he had one other concern. The residents from 21st street they are tearing up our grass in the back, and the trees in the rear of his property. The residents are walking through his property to get to the shopping center and/or the diner. The trespassers are quick to state they are not violating nor trespassing.

Mr. Mitchell stated that situation would call for an immediate 911 call. Our guys will help.

23. Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Purcival
Borough Manager/Treasurer/Secretary

Shannon Strigle
Recording Secretary