

UPLAND BOROUGH COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
September 8, 2015

The meeting of the Upland Borough Council was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by President Edward Mitchell. The meeting was held in the Upland Municipal Building.

Present was President Edward Mitchell. Council members present were Mr. Harold Peden, Ms. Moira Crawford, Mr. Leland Hunter, Mr. Charles Catania, Sr., P.E., and Mr. Robert O'Connor, Esq. President Mitchell stated Vice-President Christine Peterson, Councilman William Dennon, Councilwoman Sandra Miazza, and Mayor Michael Ciach were all excused. Borough Manager/Secretary/Treasurer Gregory Grillone was excused and Ms. Shannon Strigle, Recording Secretary, was present.

Mr. Ken Stark, Reporter, and approximately nine (9) 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.

5. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only

No one responded.

6. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

A-1 Council Meeting Minutes – August 25, 2015

Mr. Peden made a motion to accept the Council Meeting Minutes of August 25, 2015. Mr. Hunter seconded the motion. Ms. Crawford abstained as she was not present for the meeting on August 25, 2015. All Council present voted Aye on the motion.

7. Treasurer's Report

A-1 Treasurer's Report

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

A-2 Income Statements

Ms. Crawford made a motion to accept the Income Statement as presented and Mr. Peden seconded the motion. All Council voted Aye on the motion.

8. Auburn Village Report/ Streets & Equipment - Christine Peterson

Mr. Mitchell reported progress.

9. Public Safety Report – Harold R. Peden

A-1 Accept Resignation of Part-Time Police Officer

Mr. Peden made a motion to accept the resignation of Stephen J. Mengini, Jr. from the Upland Police Department. Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. All Council voted Aye on the motion.

A -2 Fire Marshal's Report

Mr. Peden read the Fire Marshal's Report of August 2015 into record.

A-3 Fire Company's Report

Mr. Peden asked members of the Upland Fire Company if the report was available. The report was not available.

10. Code Officer's Report - Leland Hunter

Mr. Hunter read the August 2015 report into record.

Mr. Mitchell asked if the property at 2 Seventh Street was liened as it is an eyesore. It was confirmed that the property was liened. Mr. Hunter stated that they also have had many issues and problems with 9 Seventh Street. Mr. Mitchell asked Mr. O'Connor to look into this problem property as it has broken windows and a caved in roof. Mr. O'Connor stated he would.

11. Building & Grounds Report – Sandra Miazza

Mr. Mitchell reported progress.

12. Finance & Insurance Report –Moirra Crawford

A-1 Approval of General Fund Bills- **\$ 262,630.09**

Ms. Crawford made a motion to approve the General Fund Bills for the month of August 2015 in the amount of \$ 262,630.09. Mr. Peden seconded the motion. Mr. Peden abstained from check number 33373 and Aye on all the rest, Mr. Mitchell abstained from check number 33317 and Aye on the remainder. All other Council voted Aye on the motion.

A-2 Approval of Auburn Village Bills - **\$ 3,897.74**

Ms. Crawford made a motion to approve the Auburn Village Bills for the month of August 2015 in the amount of \$ 3,897.74. Mr. Peden seconded the motion. All Council voted Aye on the motion.

13. Ordinances & Resolutions Report - Harold R. Peden

- A-1 Motion to Pass & Adopt Resolution No. 14 of 2015  
 - Public Disaster Assistance Grant Program: Designation of Agent

Mr. Peden read Resolution No.14 of 2015, Public Disaster Assistance Grant Program: Designation of Agent, into record. Mr. Peden made a motion to pass and adopt Resolution No. 14 of 2015. Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. All Council voted Aye on the motion. Mr. Peden wanted to let everyone know that the Borough's agent is the Borough Manager, Greg Grillone. Mr. Mitchell asked Mr. Peden and Ms. Crawford to sign the resolution where indicated.

- A-2 Motion to Pass and Adopt Resolution No. 15 of 2015  
 - Recognize the Funding Requirements for the Police Pension Plan and Make Provisions for Budget Year 2016

Mr. Peden read Resolution No. 15 of 2015, Recognize the Funding Requirements for the Police Pension Plan and Make Provisions for Budget Year 2016, into record. Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. All Council voted Aye on the motion. Refer to Minimum Municipal Obligation Budget for 2016 attached to the minutes.

- A-3 Motion to Pass and Adopt Resolution No. 16 of 2015  
 - Recognize the Funding Requirements for the Non Uniformed Pension Plan and Make Provisions for Budget Year 2016

Mr. Peden read Resolution No. 16 of 2015, Recognize the Funding Requirements for the Non Uniformed Pension Plan and Make Provisions for Budget Year 2016, into record. Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. Council voted Aye on the motion. Refer to Minimum Municipal Obligation Budget for 2016 attached to the minutes.

14. Research & Development – Moira Crawford

Ms. Crawford reported for the month of August 2015, the website had a total of 4,868 page views, with an average of 157 per day. It was doubled from last month. There were a total of 2,108 visitors with an average of 68 per day; doubled the amount for last month.

She reported photographs from the Children's Magic Show, the Fire House Cow Pie Bingo and the Labor Day Fireworks were added to the website along with a video of the fireworks by resident Matt Steigerwalt.

15. Streets & Equipment / Auburn Village Report - Christine Peterson

Mr. Mitchell reported progress.

16. Community Affairs – Sandra Miazza

Mr. Mitchell reported progress.

17. Use & Occupancy Report – Shannon Strigle for Gregory Grillone

Ms. Strigle read into record the Use and Occupancy Report for the month of August 2015.

18. Mayor's Report – Chief Ocasio for Michael Ciach

Mr. Mitchell wanted the record to reflect that when the Mayor is not here, the President of Council is to take the Mayor's spot and the Vice-President should take the President's spot. Since both are not here, Chief Ocasio will read the report into record.

Chief Ocasio read the report for August 2015 into record. Chief Ocasio mentioned that the Police website is up and launched as we speak. The web address is [uplandpolice.org](http://uplandpolice.org). Hopefully there are no bugs in the site. If there are bugs, they will be corrected and the website will be fully launched next week.

Officer Dougherty addressed Council. He asked for their permission to have PennDot perform a traffic study on Upland Avenue, near West 22<sup>nd</sup> Street. The police have seen an increase in vehicular and pedestrian traffic over the years, especially with an increase in Crozer's traffic. Officer Dougherty foresees a problem in that area in the near future.

Mr. Mitchell asked what Council needed to do to request this service. Officer Dougherty replied that a letter or an email requesting PennDot to perform the study would suffice. Mr. Mitchell asked Mr. Peden if this is something that Public Safety would handle.

Mr. Peden recommended a motion to petition PennDot to do a traffic study along with Officer Dougherty providing Mr. Peden with the boundaries of the study. Ms. Crawford seconded the motion. Mr. Mitchell stated that before he called for a roll call, he wanted to know if the police generally have a speed trap set up by the Borough Engineer in that area. Officer Dougherty replied yes. Mr. Mitchell asked if any of that would be changed. Office Dougherty replied "No, it shouldn't." Mr. Mitchell then asked for a roll call. Council voted Aye on the motion.

Mr. Mitchell asked "Sean, you are traffic, right?" Officer Dougherty replied "Yes." Mr. Mitchell asked "How'd you find time to write 200 tickets? Is that one month?" Officer Dougherty replied "They are mostly Crozer and the Shopping Center."

Mr. Mitchell asked "Are you guys aware that we have given the fire company permission to ticket up there?" No one seemed aware of this as permission was granted to the fire company a while ago. It could have helped with their revenue.

Mr. Mitchell asked Mr. Peden to fill in everyone about the new stop signs. Mr. Peden explained that we have ordered approximately 10 stop signs that fold down and will be placed in the intersections where there is electric traffic control. Now, and in the event of a weather disaster, like we had in June, the employees can now go around and place the stop signs in those areas. The stop signs are designed for a four-way stop and can be quickly done. The stop signs were approved and ordered.

Mr. Mitchell thanked Officer Dougherty as it is a lot of tickets he writes up. Mr. Peden asked Officer Dougherty to explain to everyone about electronic ticketing. Officer Dougherty explained that Chief

Ocasio has a portable printer that will automatically generate the ticket at the site of the offense. The ticket will include the GPS location of offense, pictures of the car and license plate. “You pretty much cannot dispute the ticket.”

Chief Ocasio reported that the first batch of online credit card payments for tickets was \$ 810.00 and that was included with the ticket totals reported this evening for the Mayor’s Report.

19. Solicitor’s Report - Robert O’Connor

Mr. O’Connor read his report for August 2015 into record.

Mr. O’Connor offered a recap of the Planning Commission Hearing meeting a couple of weeks ago regarding 1103 Woodside Avenue. The Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval of the applicant’s application subject to a few contingencies. Mr. O’Connor asked permission to have legal representative for 1103 Woodside Avenue, Mr. George, approach Council. Mr. Mitchell authorized this action.

Mr. O’Connor wanted to confirm the legal representatives from both parties were on the same page. In summation, the applicant still needs to go in front of the zoning hearing board, follow-up with Chester Water Authority and sort out a last issue.

This issue will then be readdressed at the October Council meeting.

20. Engineer’s Report - Charles Catania

Mr. Catania reported that he had two (2) items. The first was just discussed and resolved. The second issue, as soon as the contracts are executed for 36 Upland Avenue are available, they will start demolition. This will probably take place in about one (1) month’s time and we will have this house down.

Mr. Mitchell raised concern about the resident that resides next to 36 Upland Avenue. Mr. Catania and Mr. O’Connor were both in agreement is to make the demolition known to resident to make sure they are safe during the demolition.

21. Old Business

A-1 Request for Kind Donation – Marine Corps League

Ms. Crawford read the request into record. Ms. Crawford made a motion to provide a donation of \$2,500.00 to the Marine Corps League. Mr. Peden seconded the motion. Mr. Peden wanted to clarify that part of the donation of \$2,500.00 will be converted in the form of “kind” donation. Example of how the picnic tables were being made and how they will be delivered. Therefore to clarify, a check will not be cut in this amount as the amount will include services also provided to the Marine Corps League. Council voted Aye on the motion.

## 22. New Business

Mr. Mitchell advised everyone that Upland has an elected school board member that resides in town. Mr. Mitchell wanted to put back on the agenda, as in the past, to invite the school board member or anyone from the school board, to attend Council meetings.

He would like to extend the invitation to the member or anyone as there may be updates they can provide to all as well as answer any questions from public. Mr. Mitchell mentioned the school taxes total approximately 2.78 million per year, for less than 110 children in Upland. This is a lot of money we are paying for a handful of children. Mr. Mitchell stated "If Council has no objections, we will reestablish that old policy." There were no objections. Mr. Mitchell stated he would get the list to the Recording Secretary.

## 23. Floor Open to Public

Mr. Paul Michalkiewicz, Ivy Lane resident and member of Upland Fire Department, wanted to thank Upland Borough Council and the Police Department for their help with their Cow Pie Bingo fundraiser as well as the use of the pavilion that was held on Sunday, September 6, 2015.

Ms. Crawford made a motion to cancel the second meeting of the month. Mr. Peden seconded the motion. All Council verbally voted Aye on the motion.

## 24. Adjournment

Ms. Crawford made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Peden seconded the motion. Council verbally voted Aye on the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory Grillone  
Borough Manager/Secretary/Treasurer

Shannon Strigle  
Recording Secretary