

Upland Town Council Minutes: October 3, 2023

Opening Remarks :

The Town Council of the Town of Upland met in a regular session on October 3, 2023 following the Unsafe Building Meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM by Council President, Ron Sutherland.

In attendance were Ron Sutherland, Warren Ross, Health Slain, Matt Voss and Brian Hunt.

1st Hearing of the 2024 Budget

Clerk-Treasurer, Mary Fletcher gave a synopsis of the proposed budget for 2024. There has been an increase in the MVH budget due to the Wheel Tax distribution that began in 2023. Also, police and fire expenses have been separated into different budget lines to help track expenses more easily in future.

Councilman Sutherland asked if the council has any questions concerning the proposed budget. There were no questions.

Councilman Sutherland asked if the public had any questions or concerns about the proposed budget. There were no questions.

The 1st hearing was closed by council.

Opening Business:

Meeting minutes from the September 19, 2023 Council meeting were presented for approval by the clerk-treasurer. Motion to approve made by Warren ross, 2nd-Brian Hunt, Approved with a vote of 5-0.

Department Reports:

- ❖ **Upland Police Department, Marshal Andy Cassidy**
 - Marshal Cassidy reported that a 5th officer has been hired and the officer has completed the 40 hours Pre-basic training class. The new officer will attend the Police Academy in January. Officer Duncan has agreed to stay in his position until Officer Labarr completes the academy .
 - Marshal Cassidy gave a report of September calls.

- ❖ **Upland Volunteer Fire Department- Not Present**

- ❖ **Upland Town Attorney, Adrienne Hammond -**
 - Attorney Hammond presented Ordinance 3-2023- Vacate of Public Alleyways and Streets.
 - Portion to vacate is Indiana Avenue from 8th Street to 10th Street.

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- Owners of properties that will be affected have been notified by certified mail.
 - Motion to approve Ordinance 3-2023 was made by Heath Slain, 2nd by Brian Hunt, Ordinance was adopted by a vote of 5-0.
- Clerk-Treasurer and Attorney Hammond are currently working on an RFP for our trash service.
- Councilman Voss asked if recycling will be added to our trash service. Yes, we will be looking for a provider that can provide recycling services.

❖ Upland Clerk-Treasurer, Mary Fletcher

- Clerk-Treasurer Fletcher reported that the Digital Sign should be installed the week of October 16, 2023.

❖ Upland Town Manager, Jonathan Perez

- Mr. Perez reported the following:
- Clerk-Treasurer Fletcher and Mr. Perez continue to work with Comcast for new phone and internet service. The lead time for all locations is relatively short. It will take a little longer for Town Hall due to us opting to use fiber optic service. The internet service is needed to effectively live stream our meetings.
- Mr. Perez reported on ongoing utility projects:
- The sewer project continues to be under budget and ahead of schedule. He is working on a rededication ceremony.
 - Bunn has been on site working on the Jefferson Street Stormwater Project and has promised to stay onsite until the project is complete. Property owners have been contacted with a timeline for the repairs of their properties.
- Brad Felver will be at the annual utility conference October 17-October 18.
- UTVs have been delivered and street tires are being installed on the smaller UTV so this vehicle can be used for meter reading.
- Sincer the sewer project is under budget, we are considering purchasing a mini excavator with the extra funds.
- The Stempark Grand Opening is October 10 at 4:30pm. Grant County is looking at adding funds to the Stempark project. Mr. Perez encouraged the council to consider adding funds as well.
- Councilman Ross reported that 8 new trees for Jefferson Park are being donated and planted by Dana Richmond.

Action Items:

- ❖ Chris from Commonwealth Engineers presented a few items for council's consideration.
 - Notice of Award to Brackney, Inc. for the North Lift Station project. A motion to accept and sign this document was made by Heath Slain, 2nd-Warren Ross, Approved by a vote of 5-0

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- Notice to Proceed on the North Lift Station Project. A motion was made to accept and sign this document was made by Brian Hunt, 2nd- Matt Voss, Approved by a vote of 5-0.
 - Agreement between Brackney, Inc. and the Town of Upland for the work on the North Lift Station. A motion was made by Warren Ross to approve this agreement pending the addition of the approved Bid Schedule to the agreement. 2nd- Matt Voss, Agreement was approved by a vote of 5-0.
 - An Amendment to the Task Order between Commonwealth Engineering and the Town of Upland for additional engineering services which would include the engineering and inspection of the North Lift Station project. The amended amount is \$355,300. Motion to approve this amendment was made by Heath Slain, 2nd by Brian Hunt, Amendment was approved by a vote of 5-0.
 - Restoration of residents' properties which have been affected by the Jefferson Street Stormwater project has begun.
- ❖ Council approved the proposed Trick-or-Treating hours for the Town of Upland of October 31 from 5:00pm - 8:00PM

Public Comments:

- ❖ Alex Reno, Parks Board President
- The Parks Board is working on the Fall Festival details. The Fall Festival will be held on October 13, 4:00pm - 7:00pm. There will be a Movie Night following at 7:30 pm. The Parks Board would like to do more movie night in the summer.
 - The Parks Board has approved the addition of a Disc Golf Course to the park.
- ❖ Larry Stump, 120 W. Washington Street
- Mr. Stump presented Upland maps for the Sewer and Water Systems which were found in his father-in-law's home.
 - Mr. Stump reported that an insurance claim was made against the Town of Upland's insurance policy because of damage done to his home due the water main break that took place on June 15. Damage included water in the crawlspace which came through the air ducts into his home and damaged flooring. The insurance company agreed to pay \$600 for lawn repairs and the cost of their 1 night hotel stay. This is not acceptable to Mr. and Mrs. Stump.
 - Mr. Stump reported that he has had problems with water in his crawl space for many years due to issues with the stormwater system near his home. He has asked for the town to repair this issue many times in the past 13 years.
 - Mr. Stump proposed that the town credit him for \$18,200 on his utility bill to reimburse him for damages and repairs..
 - Councilman Sutherland asked 2 council members to meet with the town manager and clear-treasurer to come up with a plan and response to Mr. Stump's proposal. He asked Matt Voss and Brian Hund to take on this

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task and come back to the council with a recommendation on how to proceed.

Council Reports:

- ❖ **Brian Hunt** - Mr. Hunt reported that he has had complaints about underage drivers driving golf carts and UTVs around town. Marshal Cassidy said he had not had any reports of this but would keep an eye out for underage drivers. Mr. Hunt also reported that the BZA turned down the variance request by JGB Real Estate despite the Council's approval at the September 18 meeting.
- ❖ **Matt Voss**- Reminded the council and public that they are invited to the Grand Opening Ceremony for the Stempark on October 10 at 4:30pm.
- ❖ **Heath Slain** – Nothing to report
- ❖ **Warren Ross** - Our Town Upland will be meeting on October 4 at 6:30pm. Councilman Ross asked if we have heard anything about the Community Crossing Grant application? Mr. Perez has not yet received any communication on our application.
- ❖ **Ron Sutherland**- Nothing to report

ADA/Title 6 Concerns: Nothing to report

Meeting was adjourned at 8:02 pm

The next regular Council Meeting will be held October 17, 2023 at 7:00pm at Upland Town Hall.

ATTEST:


Mary Fletcher (Clerk Treasurer)

SIGNED:


COUNCIL PRESIDENT