

Upland Town Council Minutes: December 12, 2023

Opening Remarks :

The Town Council of the Town of Upland met in a regular session on December 12, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Council President, Ron Sutherland.

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

Opening Business:

Councilman Sutherland opened by thanking the three members of council that are transitioning off the board at the end of 2023. Thank you to Matt Voss, Heath Slain, and Warren Ross for their service to the community. Matt Voss and Heath Slain were presented with Proclamation of Gratitude for Service and Warren Ross was also presented with a Key to the Town of Upland for his many years of service on council.

Meeting minutes from the November 21, 2023 Council Meeting were presented for approval by the clerk-treasurer. Motion to approve made by Heath Slain, 2nd-Brian Hunt, Approved with a vote of 4-0 with Matt Voss abstaining.

Department Reports:

- ❖ **Upland Police Department, Marshal Andy Cassidy**
 - Marshal Cassidy presented the year end report (through 12/10/23). Report shows that the average number of traffic stops per month was 42.
 - Councilman Ross thanked Officer Kenny Duncan for his years of service as he will be retiring in the spring of 2024.

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

- ❖ **Upland Town Attorney, Adrienne Rines Hammond - Not Present (Illness)**

- ❖ **Upland Clerk-Treasurer, Mary Fletcher**
 - Clerk-Treasurer Fletcher presented the November APV Register and Payroll Allowance Docket for approval. A motion to approve was made by Warren Ross, seconded by Brian Hunt, motion approved by a vote of 5-0.
 - The 2024 Salary Ordinance was presented to the council for the 2st reading. This ordinance includes a 4% cost of living raise for all town employees including the town manager and clerk-treasurer and increase for council members to \$5,500. Also, the employee's portion of the health insurance premium will be increased from \$7/week to \$10/week. A motion to approve was made by Heath Slain and seconded by Brian Hunt. The 2024 Salary Ordinance was approved with a vote of 5-0.
 - Ordinance 5-2023- Ordinance for Additional Appropriations were presented to Council for Approval. Motion to approve was made by Brian Hunt and seconded by Heath Slain. The ordinance was approved by a vote of 5-0. The following additional appropriations were requested and approved:
 - MVH - \$25,000

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- LRS - \$118,100
- MVH Restricted - \$195,000
- LIT- Economic Dev- \$95,400
- Riverboat- \$34,000
- Meijer Opioid Fund- \$27,200
- CCD - \$43,056.74
- Resolution 3-2023 - Resolution authoring transfer of appropriations within the General Fund was presented to council. Motion to approve by Brian Hunt and seconded by Matt Voss. Resolution was approved by a vote of 5-0.
- Resolution 6-2023 - ARPA Plan Document was presented to council. This document outlines councils plans to use ARP Funds. Motion to approve made by Brian Hunt and seconded by Matt Voss. Resolution was approved by a vote of 5-0.
- Resolution 4-2023 - Resolution authorizing the transfer of appropriation from the ARPA Fund to WW Fund, Trash Fund and Stormwater Fund to balance the funds was presented to council. A motion to approve was made by Heath Slain and seconded by Warren Ross. The resolution was approved by a vote of 5-0.
- Resolution 5-2023- Resolution authorizing the transfer of funds from the ARPA Fund to the Water Operating Fund was presented to council. A motion was made to transfer \$150,000 to the water fund by Matt Voss and seconded by Brian Hunt. Resolution was passed by a vote of 5-0.
- Clerk-Treasurer invited the council members to the employee Christmas Luncheon on December 15 at the Community Building.

❖ Upland Town Manager, Jonathan Perez

- Mr. Perez gave a report on going projects.
 - READE 2.0 grant application has been turned in and accepted.
 - The second call for the Community Crossing Grant is January 2, 2024. Our submission will include the resubmission for South Street road infrastructure from 8th Street to 11th Street. 2nd Street from Jefferson Street to North Street, 3rd Street from South Street to Indiana Ave, 4th Street from South Street to North Street and 5th Street from Indiana Ave to North Street.
 - Stump Insurance Claim is being re-evaluated by the insurance company.
 - Grant County Asphalt has quoted \$10,658.75 to reseal, mill and repair parking lots. Councilman Ross asked if the ballpark parking lot could be included. Mr. Perez stated that he can look into that.
 - The INDOT SR 22 project is slated to begin in the Spring, 2024.
- Jeremy Hardy, Commonwealth Engineering
 - Mr. Hardy is requesting the approval of additional funds for valves needed to tie into the existing water mains. This expense has been sent to INDOT to add to the project grant but if that gets denied, the town will have to be willing to pay for this expense. These valves are needed to avoid major water shutdowns. The cost will be \$117,570. A motion to approve this expense was

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made by Matt Voss and seconded by Brian Hunt. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

- Commonwealth is working on the EPA Lead Service Line inventory. EPA will likely issue a mandate that all lead service lines must be replaced within the next 10 years.
- Mr. Perez presented the 2024 Cender Dalton contract. The contract states that Cender Dalton will bill per hour not to exceed \$11,000. A motion to approve the contract was made by Heath Slain and seconded by Warren Ross. The motion was approved by 5-0.

Action Items:

- ❖ The Town of Upland has received 3 bids for a 2 year contract for trash service. Bids were received from Best Way, GFL and Waste Management. Waste Management was the cheapest bid but their service in the past year has been unacceptable with weekly issues. It is the recommendation by Town Manager and Clerk-Treasurer to accept the bid by Best Way at a rate of \$18.88 per month per resident. Even though Best Ways bid is slightly higher than GFL, their references and customer service model confirmed that they will be a better fit for our residents. A motion was made to accept the bid from Best Way by Warren Ross and seconded by Heath Slain. Bid was accepted by a vote of 5-0.

Public Comments:

- ❖ Scott and Patti Wood, 278 W. Jefferson Street, sent an email to Clerk-Treasurer Fletcher to read to the council concerning damage to their property due to drainage issues and the response from our insurance company. Mrs. Fletcher read the email to the council. Council will look into the issue.
- ❖ Helen Rhoades, 789 S. 8th Street, Thank you to Warren Ross for being a servant leader for the Town of Upland and for serving the community for the past 25 years. Thank you for being a voice for the community.
- ❖ Larry Stump, 120 W. Washington Street - Mr. Stump expressed his concern with our current insurance company and their response to his claims. Councilman Sutherland said that conversations are being had by the council concerning this.

Council Reports:

- ❖ **Brian Hunt** - Thank you to Matt Voss, Heath Slain, and Warren Voss for their service.
- ❖ **Matt Voss**- Thank you for allowing him to serve over the past 1.5 years. He is excited about the future of Upland.
- ❖ **Heath Slain** – It has been an honor to service the Town of Upland over the past 8 years. He will continue to serve in a different capacity.
- ❖ **Warren Ross** - Our Town Upland did a great job organizing the tree lighting ceremony. Thank you to the community, police department, fire department, clubs, service groups and past council members for their service to our community.
- ❖ **Ron Sutherland**- Nothing to report

ADA/Title 6 Concerns: Nothing to report

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Meeting was adjourned at 8:04 PM.

The next regular Council Meeting will be held January 2, 2024 at 7:00pm at Upland Town Hall.

ATTEST: Mary Fletcher
Mary Fletcher (Clerk Treasurer)

SIGNED: Robert B. Jones
COUNCIL PRESIDENT