

Upland Town Council Minutes: February 6, 2024

Unsafe Building Committee : Tabled for the month of February

Opening Remarks :

The Town Council of the Town of Upland met in a regular session on February 6, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Council President, Ron Sutherland.

In attendance were Ron Sutherland, Amy McCrea, Shawn Sizemore, and Michael Harbin. Brian Hunt was absent.

Opening Business:

Councilman Sutherland asked for a motion to approve the January 16, 2024 Council Meeting minutes. Motion was made by Shawn Sizemore, seconded by Michael Harbin. Minutes were approved by a vote of 4-0.

Department Reports:

❖ **Upland Police Department, Marshal Andy Cassidy**

- Marshal Cassidy reported that Officer LaBarr is currently at the academy and is doing well.
- January Report: 643 Calls, 355 business checks, 18 Traffic stops, 5 accidents.
- Councilman Sutherland stated that he had received complaints from residents concerning speeding on Main Street. Marshal said they will step up stops on Main Street

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

❖ **Upland Town Attorney, Adrienne Rines Hammond**

- Attorney Hammond presented a first draft of the proposed Solid Waste Ordinance 2-2024 for 1st reading. Motion was made to approve the 1st reading was made by Michael Harbin, seconded by Amy McCrea. The 1st reading was approved by a vote of 4-0.
- Attorney Hammond presented the first draft of the proposed Nuisance Ordinance 3-2024 for 1st reading. This ordinance outlines a more detailed process for enforcement. Ordinance includes noise, weeds, trash and unkept buildings. Councilman Sizemore asked what court violations would be filed? Could Attorney Hammond reach out to judge to make sure that they will accept our complaints?
A motion was made by Shawn Sizemore to approve the 1st Reading of Ordinance 3-2024, seconded by Amy McCrea. Approved by a vote of 4-0.
- Attorney Hammond continues to work on the annexation. She will be preparing a voluntary annexation petition to be sent to property owners.

❖ **Upland Clerk-Treasurer, Mary Fletcher**

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- Clerk-Treasurer Fletcher presented the updated water rate study with a 100% proposed increase in rates. Council discussed whether it would be better to increase rates all at once or if it would be better to increase them over a 3 year period. Town Manager Perez recommended implementing the increase right way and Clerk-Treasurer Fletcher stated that it would be easier on our residents to increase rates over 3 years. Councilman Sizemore stated that his vote would be to do the increase all at once and “rip the bandaid off” and Councilman McCrea agreed. Councilman Harbin asked when infrastructure planning would be able to begin if rates were increased all at once. Clerk-Treasurer Fletcher referred them to the last page of the rate study that shows the projected fund balance over the next 5 years.
- ❖ **Upland Town Manager, Jonathan Perez-** See Town Manager Report
 - Mr. Perez reported that we received 9 bids for the South Street Extension project.
 - An updated timeline was received from INDOT on the SR22 project. This will be released to the public as soon as possible. There are some questions about the Phase 2 timeline.
 - Mr. Perez asked the council if they would be in favor of a rededication event for the new Wastewater Plant. The council is in favor of this.
 - It was reported that we will need to upgrade our water meters. We are looking into options.
 - IFA announced the CCMG equivalent for utilities. To apply, it would require an uptodate housing study. We are working with Gas City and Marion to do the study together to save money.
 - Title IX, ADA Plan Update was presented to the council for their signatures. This is updated annually and needs to be updated for CCMG submissions. Councilman Sutherland asked that this document be sent to each council member for their records.

Action Items:

Public Comments:

- ❖ Dale Korpral, 1545 University Blvd., stated that work needs to be done on University Blvd. Mr. Perez said that this is a problem area and that it is on the list to be worked on. Mr. Korpral also asked why there can't be stop signs every 2 blocks on Joyce Ave. instead of every block? Councilman Sutherland asked Marshal Cassidy to look into this.

Council Reports:

- ❖ **Amy McCrea-** Nothing to Report
- ❖ **Shawn Sizemore-** Nothing to report
- ❖ **Michael Harbin –** Nothing to report
- ❖ **Brian Hunt -** Absent

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- ❖ **Ron Sutherland-** Mr. Sutherland announced that there will be a Town Hall on April 30 to talk about the Taylor University's Main Street Mile Grant and annexations.

ADA/Title 6 Concerns: Nothing to report

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

The next regular Council Meeting will be held February 20, 2024 at 7:00pm at Upland Town Hall.

ATTEST:  SIGNED: 
Mary Fletcher (Clerk Treasurer) COUNCIL PRESIDENT