

Upland Town Council Minutes: March 21, 2023

Opening Remarks:

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

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

Meeting minutes from March 7, 2023 were approved. 1st- Warren Ross, 2nd- Heath Slain; Approved with a vote of 5-0.

Department Reports:

❖ Upland Police Department, Marshal Andy Cassidy

- Marshal Cassidy reported on the incident on the Greenway Trail involving a man and a Taylor University student. A suspect has been identified and served with a Criminal Trespassing violation and the case has been referred to the prosecutor. Marshal Cassidy mentioned that a Police ATV/UTV for use on the trails would be helpful.
- He also reported the several storage units in Upland and Gas City have been broken into and the suspects have been apprehended.
- Councilman Ross asked if the suspect in the trail incident should be ban from all parks? Does the town need to invest in better lighting and/or cameras?
- Marshal Cassidy encouraged the public to always report suspicious activity.

❖ Upland Volunteer Fire Department- Not Present

❖ Upland Town Attorney, Adrienne Hammond

- Ms. Hammond presented two proposed agreements with Central Railroad of Indianapolis. These agreements are clarifying items for the OCRA grant. Motion to approve the signing of these agreements made by Heath Slain, seconded by Brian Hunt, Motion approved by a 5-0 vote.

❖ Upland Clerk-Treasurer, Mary Fletcher

- Mrs. Fletcher presented the February, 2023 APV Register and Allowance Docket for approval. Motion to approve by Warren Ross, seconded by Matt Voss, Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.
- She also reported that she will be out of the office March 28- April 2.

❖ Upland Town Manager, Jonathan Perez

- Mr. Perez reported that he has been working with INDOT on some right away agreements. The current agreement at the trailhead does not show the pavilion at trailhead as a structure and they are working on getting that included in the plans.

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- It was reported that the updated bid on our portion of the SR22/Main Street project is \$70,000 more than originally planned. Mr. Perez suggested using MVH Restricted funds to cover this increase. A motion was made by Heath Slain to approve this use of funds, seconded by Matt Voss. Motion was approved by a vote of 5-0.
- Mr. Perez asked for a favorable recommendation, pending a review by the town attorney, by the Town Council to use \$61,000 of ARPA funds to hire to administer the OCRA grant project. Motion was made by Warren Ross, seconded by Heath Slain, Motion was approved by a vote of 5-0.
- The SR22 Project updated timeline was provided. The project has been delayed due to the coordination with utility companies. Road work may now be delayed until Spring, 2024. There will now be no issues with traffic for Taylor University graduation.
- Ronnie from Country Mark gas station presented a check for \$5,000 to the Town of Upland as a donation. Their intention is to make this an annual donation.
- Councilman Ross said that he was contacted by Guy Duckwall. Mr. Duckwall is asking if there has been any discussion about the town using his driveway as a right away for the sewer project. He said Jasper had spoken with him about this. Jonathan responded that he did not have any knowledge of any discussions concerning this matter but will check with the contractors to see if this will be necessary.

Public Comments:

None given

Action Items:

N/A

Council Reports:

- ❖ **Brian Hunt-** Mr. Hunt reported that there has been ongoing discussion at the Area Plan meetings concerning AirBNB properties. There are two proposals on how we can handle AirBNB properties. One would be an annual fee of \$20 and the other would be a flat fee of \$150 to the property owners.
- ❖ **Matt Voss-** The Park Board met on March 14. Erin Wolf reported that the board approved the construction of a new storage building at the ballpark. This building will be paid for by the Ballpark Board.
- ❖ **Heath Slain** – Thank you to Cardinal Oil and Country Mark for the generous donation.
- ❖ **Warren Ross**
 - Mr. Ross reported that he toured the new fire truck. The firetruck will be ready to use in 4-6 weeks. This truck cost approximately \$485K which was paid for by Jefferson Township.

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- Fire Chief Bruce Howard is still working on getting bids on the work that needs to be done at the fire station.
- Councilman Ross asked Mrs. Hammond if there has been any progress made on the ATV/UTV ordinance. Mrs. Hammond responded that is something she will be working on with the Town Manager and Police Marshal.

❖ **Ron Sutherland-**

- Taylor University's Graduation ceremony will be held on **May 20, 2023**. Could the road between Reade Ave. and Hodson Lane be closed off from 8am-2pm for the graduation traffic? Both Mr. Perez and Marshal Cassidy have no issues with authorizing this again this year.

ADA/Title 6 Concerns: Nothing to report

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm

The next regular Council Meeting will be held April 4, 2023 at 7:00pm at Upland Town Hall.

ATTEST: 
Mary Fletcher (Clerk Treasurer)

SIGNED: 
COUNCIL PRESIDENT