

TOWN OF UPLAND, INDIANA, AUGUST 8, 2012

The Town Council of the Town of Upland met in regular session on the above date. All members were present. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Charles Jagers. There was a motion by Bonham seconded by Schwartz to approve the minutes from the July 25, 2012 meeting with the following correction. On July 25, 2012 there was a motion by Schwartz seconded by Bonham to appoint Jagers as President and Bonham as Vice-President of the Council. Those voting aye: Bonham, Carmin, Schwartz, Ross. Nays: No one. Abstain: Jagers. Those voting aye: Bonham, Carmin, Jagers, Schwartz, Ross. Nays: No one.

COMMUNITY DOG PARK: Heath and Ashley Slain were at the meeting to discuss with the Council the possibility of a dog park. Heath expressed that it would be a good place for the community to come together, a place for dogs to exercise and play with each other. Ross responded that he had contacted Travis Lemaster from the Sweetser Town Council for information about their park. He would like to make some more phone calls and he and Chip visit the park in Sweetser. The rest of the Council was in favor of Ross pursuing gathering information.

DRAINAGE PROJECT: Chip Long reported that the drainage project is finished in the Lakeview Addition. The paving now needs to be scheduled.

EMPLOYEE TERMINATION: Employee Martin Thompson has been on sick leave due to back problems since April. He returned from a Dr. appointment on August 7th with permanent restrictions. Due to his restrictions, he is not able to perform his job duties. There was a motion by Bonham seconded by Carmin to terminate with regret Martin Thompson due to his medical restrictions. Those voting aye: Bonham, Carmin, Jagers, Schwartz, Ross. Nays: No one.

BURN BAN: The Burn Ban for the Town of Upland has been lifted as of noon on Sunday, August 5th.

TOWN ATTORNEY: Jim Forcum gave the Council sample ordinances on abandoned vehicles, water shortage and sidewalks/trees responsibility. Mr. Forcum asked the Council to review and if the Town wants to pursue these ordinances he will draw up ordinances to meet the town needs.

FUNERAL LEAVE POLICY: Motion by Jagers seconded by Ross to approve Ordinance No. 6-2012 an ordinance amending the current funeral leave policy to include step-parents, grandchildren and step-grandchildren. Those voting aye: Bonham, Carmin, Jagers, Schwartz, Ross. Nays: No one.

MATERNITY/PATERNITY LEAVE: Jagers is working on a policy for maternity/paternity leave for town employees. The policy would allow for three days off with pay for the birth or adoption of a child by either the mother or the father. If more time is needed, the employee would then be required to use sick or vacation time.

SELF STUDY SUMMARY: A report was given by Jagers on the recent self study.

CHARETTE FOLLOW-UP: Jagers made a special announcement to the Council. He expressed that the challenges of the Charette were leadership and lack of money. A lot of people have been working behind the scenes to try to make things happen. Jagers said that Taylor University had been instrumental in getting the Depot back. They would now like to fund another project. They would like to give the town money to place trees from the curve north of town to the blinking light at 26. Jagers expressed a big thank you to Taylor University for the magnitude of this donation.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION: Jagers would like to revisit the Historic Preservation ordinance. He will e-mail a copy for Council review.

PARKING TICKETS: Carmin has done some investigating on collecting unpaid parking tickets. Forcum responded that we can run them through Superior Court but felt that we need to increase the fine. Carmin said another alternative is to work with Taylor University Security in helping the town collect the fine of tickets issued to Taylor students.. It was the consensus of the Council to have Mr. Forcum proceed with increasing the ordinance violation and Jagers to contact Taylor University and make an official request for them to help us collect the fine.

TOWN CLEAN UP: Carmin expressed that he would like to see the property at the town garage be cleaned up. Also, the walkway between the 2nd St. bridge and the park needs to be trimmed and the brush cleaned up.

ANIMAL CONTROL: Police Department will check with animal control to see if a contract is required to pick up stray animals or will they pick them up and charge on each individual call.

MAINTENANCE OF ALLEYS: Carmin would like to see the town schedule maintenance on alleys.

OUR TOWN UPLAND: Bill Wiley gave an report to the Council on what Our Town of Upland is doing. They currently have 18 projects with leaders right now. They have 17 voting members and a second membership list that receive e-mails when there are projects to do. They are always looking for new members of all age groups. Jagers asked Mr. Wiley to convey to the group the Town's gratitude for what they have accomplished. There is so much momentum because of what volunteers are doing. Jagers asked what the town can do to help them. They would like help keeping the plants watered and when they receive their new pots have town employees help them to place them.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting will be Wednesday, August 22nd at 7:00 p.m. There will be an executive session at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel.

ATTEST:  SIGNED: _____
JANE E. ROCKWELL, C.T. COUNCIL PRESIDENT