

REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MARCH 25, 2019

Mayor Chegwidden Called the Meeting to Order

Mayor Chegwidden read the Open Public Meeting Statement

Mayor Chegwidden requested Roll Call:

Council President Corbett- Present
Councilman Binkoski- Present
Councilwoman Hayes- Present
Councilwoman Veres-Absent, Excused
Councilwoman Wickenheisser- Present
Councilman Yeager- Present

Also in attendance were Administrator Jon Rheinhardt, Borough Clerk Gabrielle Evangelista, and Attorney Matthew Petracca.

Flag Salute

Prior to the Flag Salute, Mayor Chegwidden asked to observe a moment of silence for the passing of Councilwoman Veres' mother.

Mayor Chegwidden led those in attendance with the salute to the American Flag.

Open to the Public

In accordance with Local Ordinance O-18-03, "Persons making public comment at the first public portion shall be limited to five (5) minutes. During the second public portion repetitive, irrelevant or excessive public comment in the interest of permitting all members of the public time to speak on any governmental issue and completing the public business within a reasonable period of time."

Mayor Chegwidden opened the meeting to the public.

No one wishing to be heard, Mayor Chegwidden closed the meeting to the public.

Ordinance

Council President Corbett presented O-06-19, "An Ordinance Fixing the Salary of Certain Officers and Employees of the Borough of Wharton, County of Morris, State of New Jersey," on second reading, by title only.

Mayor Chegwidden opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments on this Ordinance only.

No one wishing to be heard, Mayor Chegwidden closed the meeting to the public.

A motion was made by Council President Corbett and was seconded by Councilman Yeager to adopt O-06-19 on second and final reading.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-5 NAY-0 ABSENT-1 ABSTAIN- 0

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance

Councilman Yeager introduced O-07-19, "An Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a CAP Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)," on first reading, by title only.

A motion was made by Councilman Yeager and was seconded by Councilwoman Wickenheisser to adopt O-07-19 on first reading.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-5 NAY-0 ABSENT-1 ABSTAIN- 0

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Chegwiddden set the date of April 8, 2019 for second and final reading.

2019 Municipal Budget

Council President Corbett introduced R-73-19 – the 2019 Municipal Budget.

A motion was made by Council President Corbett and was seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to adopt the introduction of the 2019 Municipal Budget.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-5 NAY-0 ABSENT-1 ABSTAIN- 0

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Chegwiddden set the meeting of April 22, 2019 for the public hearing on the 2019 Municipal Budget.

2019 Special District Budget

Councilwoman Hayes introduced R-74-19 – the 2019 Special District Budget.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Hayes and was seconded by Councilman Yeager to adopt the introduction of the 2019 Special District Budget.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-5 NAY-0 ABSENT-1 ABSTAIN- 0

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Chegwiddden set the meeting of April 22, 2019 for the public hearing on the 2019 Special District Budget.

Discussion

- **Update to Road Opening Ordinance:** Mr. Rheinhardt advised that this issue came up because there have been road openings that keep failing. They would like to update the Ordinance to allow at Mr. Moreno's or Mr. Hutchins' discretion to require the use of flowable fill. This came up because a resident brought to our attention when someone was improperly filling in a road opening. Flowable fill is a sandy concrete mixture that stabilizes the sub base. They are also changing the process so that someone will be watching when a road opening is filled in to ensure that it is done properly and can decide if they think that it requires the use of flowable fill. Everyone agreed this was okay to add to the next Agenda.

Consent Agenda

The following items are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Mayor and Council and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a council member or citizen so requests, in which case, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in a normal sequence on the agenda.

Approval of Bills: All bills referred to the Finance Committee to be paid if found correct.

Approval of Minutes from 3/11/19

Resolutions: R-75-19: Budget Self-Examination
R-76-19: Certify Compliance with Civil Rights Requirements

R-77-19: Amend 2019 Temporary Budget
R-78-19: Authorizing Signing CDBG Grant for Library Bathroom Renovations

A motion was made by Council President Corbett and was seconded by Councilman Yeager to approve all items listed on the Consent Agenda.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-5 NAY-0 ABSENT-1 ABSTAIN- 0

MOTION CARRIED

Correspondence

- Letter from Resident re: concerns
- Letter from Planning Board re: request for parking/traffic review of Washington St., Kossuth St., and Fern Ave.
- RVRSA Meeting Minutes
- Monthly Report Treasurer

Councilman Corbett asked about the letter from the Planning Board. Mr. Rheinhardt advised that he has referred the traffic portion to the Police Department. Councilman Binkoski asked about the parking aspect. We are in the process of looking into doing residential permits for the area in question. Councilman Corbett advised that he believes that they are looking for the Borough to do a traffic study of the area. Mr. Rheinhardt advised that he believes the applicant should be responsible for that, not the town. We will have the Police look into it and see if that is sufficient for the Planning Board.

Council Reports

Council President Corbett: He attended the User Charge Committee meeting of the RVRSA on 3/12. On 3/14 he attended the Finance Committee meeting followed by the regular meeting of the RVRSA. The litigation with Jersey City and the dispute with the Firemen's home are both continuing and neither look like they are going to be resolved in the near future. On 3/23 he attended the American Legion pig roast which was very well attended.

Councilman Binkoski: On 3/20 he had a meeting with the Chief of Police with a follow up on the 22nd. They discussed personnel, the Sergeants test has been completed. The testing went well and they are recommending Gordon Gillen for the Sergeant promotion and will be swearing him in soon as well as the 4 new officers.

Councilwoman Hayes: The DPW has begun working on the fields at Robert Street Park and at the soccer fields. They have been out street sweeping and have repaired 9 storm basins on Mill St., Second St., and Harry Shupe Blvd. They are also continuing to fill pot holes as they see them.

Councilwoman Veres: Absent.

Councilwoman Wickenheisser: She was able to secure a donation of an AED machine for the American Legion from St. Clare's. They are currently testing it and waiting for batteries and then they will be able to present it to them. We have hired two new summer recreation employees, the director and assistant director. We will be meeting with them this week. Last week she attended the soccer meeting which was very well attended and they are up 63% in registration from last season and are planning on their opening day on April 6th. Little League opening day will be the following weekend. We have received 3 field use applications. One was from a team from Jefferson that was looking for a certain sized field that we do not have. Another was from a men's adult soccer league, and she spoke with Mr. Hutchins recently about the need to rest half the soccer field so she does not think that we can accommodate this application. Our current soccer board is working with Mr. Hutchins about scheduling and playing in other places so that the field can be

worked on during the season. The final one is from the American Christian School who are looking to use the softball and Babe Ruth fields, which they allowed last year without a problem. The only issue is this year we do have a Babe Ruth team so if they both have games on the same day our DPW will need to come in to deal with the field in between the games. We would need to charge American Christian School for the overtime to do so. She has advised them of this and they understood. It shouldn't happen too often where they play back to back. Everyone was okay with this.

Councilman Yeager: He attended the Boy Scout Breakfast which was well attended. He'd like to thank everyone who was involved.

Mayor Chegwidden's Report: The grant agreement for the Library bathrooms finally came in so they will begin that project soon. He'd like to get the committee for the dog park together so that we can discuss plans for that at the next meeting. Plans are also moving ahead for Memorial Park so we will be discussing the final plans for that project soon. No work will begin before Memorial Day so we can still have the ceremony there. The Highlands Council is helping to fund our Stormwater Management Plan. He met with the owners of the Senior Building with Mr. Rheinhardt. The company had planned on minimal changes which he said was unacceptable, so they are going to come back with a plan for more renovations. Mr. Rheinhardt advised that they are looking for an extension of their PILOT agreement and our attorney advised us that we are on the low end so if we are going to give them another one, we should bind their hands on completing improvements going forward. They have asked them to improve 10 units a year for 10 years. He also went to view the County budget which looks like a good solid budget, with a minimal increase. He also attended the Boy Scout's breakfast. He received a request from Port Oram Village to be allowed to work on Sundays so that they can catch up because they have been delayed due to bad weather. After a short discussion, everyone agreed to allow them to work on Sundays from 10am-5pm. He received a response to the letter that he sent to Congressman Malinowski about the ongoing issues with the mail. The response pushed him back to the Post-Master, whom he has already spoken with about the issue. The Post-Master had said that he would take care of the problem, but it has not been taken care of. He wrote the Congressman because this is a Federal problem and he encourages residents, if they continue to have problems to call the Congressman's office.

Open to the Public

Mayor Chegwidden opened the meeting to the public.

No one wishing to be heard, Mayor Chegwidden closed the meeting to the public.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Council President Corbett and was seconded by Councilman Binkoski to close this meeting.

March 25, 2019

ATTEST:

Gabrielle Evangelista,
Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN,
MAYOR