

REGULAR MEETING- HELD VIRTUALLY
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MAY 18, 2020

Mayor Chegwidden called the Meeting to Order

Mayor Chegwidden read the Open Public Meeting Statement

Mayor Chegwidden requested Roll Call:

Council President Binkoski- Present
Councilwoman Hayes- Present
Councilman Norton- Present
Councilwoman Vasquez- Present
Councilwoman Wickenheisser- Present
Councilman Yeager- Present

Also in attendance were Administrator Jon Rheinhardt, Borough Clerk Gabrielle Evangelista, and Attorney Roman Hirniak.

Flag Salute

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. If you wish to be heard, please click the "Raise Hand" button, and we will be notified of your request to talk. Mayor Chegwidden will recognize you, and your microphone will be un-muted to allow you to speak. Once you have completed speaking your mic will be re-muted.

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

Ordinance

Council President Binkoski presented O-09-20, "An Ordinance Amending Chapter 165, Section 86 of the Revised General Ordinances 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 Binkoski and was seconded by Councilman Yeager to adopt R-70-20.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-6 NAY-0 ABSENT-0 ABSTAIN-0

MOTION CARRIED

Discussion

- Ordinance updating no stopping and standing zones on Dewey Ave:

Ms. Evangelista explained that the County has requested that the areas currently designated as “No Parking” on Dewey Ave. be changed to be designated as “No Stopping and Standing.” They will be changing the signs to reflect the updated designation. No one had an issue with the proposed changes. Council President Binkoski made a motion to approve O-10-20 on first reading, by title only, which was seconded by Councilwoman Hayes.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-6 NAY-0 ABSENT-0 ABSTAIN-0

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Chegwidden set the date of June 8, 2020 for second and final reading.

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.

Approve Minutes from 5/4/20

Resolutions: R-78-20: Support A3971 and S2475

R-79-20: Endorse TWA Permit Application for Equinet Properties, LLC for Block 1212 Lot 14

R-80-20: Resolution Encouraging Funding for Morris County from the CARES Act

Council President Binkoski made a motion to approve the items on the Consent Agenda which was seconded by Councilwoman Hayes.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-6 NAY-0 ABSENT-0 ABSTAIN- 0

MOTION CARRIED

Correspondence

- Notice of Resolution from Hopewell Township
- Notice of Resolution from Long Hill Township
- Monthly Report from Treasurer

Council Reports

Council President Binkoski: The DPW has returned to their regular work days and have been doing staggered shifts. We recently sent out a message about yard waste pick up reminding everyone of the procedure, since there has been a large increase lately. There has also been a large increase in the amount of garbage out. He appreciates the great job the DPW has been doing with both of those increases.

Councilwoman Hayes: The Finance Committee has had a few meetings about the Budget.

Councilman Norton: He spoke with the President of Wharton Area Little League and their parent organization has set a tentative start date of July 15th, which is dependent on the restrictions by the State. Due to the late start of the season, they have eliminated the lower levels for this year. He spoke with the President of Jr. Knights and they currently do not have a good feeling about their season being played. They have decided that we are going to be unable to offer an in-person Summer Rec. program this year. Instead we are putting together a virtual program. He asked Ms. Ghebreal to discuss the virtual program, but there were technical difficulties and we are going to try to bring her in later in the meeting.

Councilwoman Vasquez: No report.

Councilwoman Wickenheisser: No report.

Mayor Chegwiddden thanked Councilwoman Wickenheisser and Councilman Norton for joining the Wharton Pharmacy who recently brought ice cream over to the Police Department. He thanks Wharton Pharmacy for their donation.

Councilman Yeager: No report.

Mayor Chegwiddden's Report: He spoke with Chief Young about how there has not been an increase in Police calls during this difficult time. They appreciate the residents who have been doing the right thing. For COVID-19 cases, as of today, we

are at 154 positive cases with 95 people having been released and 5 deaths. Our application to the Local Finance Board for the Redevelopment Bond was approved for \$225,000. The developer will be paying it back. Memorial Park will be ready by Memorial Day. He attended a meeting on trails with the Borough's landscape architect. He has been appointed to the committee on recovery and they have been meeting via conference call every Wednesday. He has also been participating in the White House briefings about COVID-19. He thanks nurses and doctors and everyone in the food supply chain for all that they have been doing. He also thanks our DPW, Police and Fire Departments, and Town Hall employees for maintaining services for our residents.

At this point Ms. Ghebreab was able to be brought into the meeting. She discussed some of the ideas for virtual Summer Rec. She also discussed that we have been in contact with and are waiting to hear from the Community Food Bank about still being able to offer the free breakfast program for kids. The Library normally uses the same program to offer free lunch for kids and are looking into whether or not they can as well. Ms. Ghebreab is also looking into planning a drive-in movie as a Summer Event in July.

Open to the Public

Mayor Chegwiddden opened the meeting to the public.

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

Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilman Yeager and was seconded by Councilman Norton to close this meeting.

May 18, 2020

ATTEST:

Gabrielle Evangelista,
Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN,
MAYOR