

REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 13, 2023

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 Joseph Kovalcik Jr., Attorney Roman Hirniak, and Borough Clerk Gabrielle Evangelista.

Flag Salute

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

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.

Ordinance

Councilwoman Hayes presented O-01-23, “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 Councilwoman Hayes and was seconded by Councilman Yeager to adopt O-01-23 on second and final reading.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA: 6	NAY: 0	ABSENT: 0	ABSTAIN: 0
MOTION CARRIED			

Ordinance

Councilman Yeager introduced O-02-23, “An Ordinance Amending Chapter 3, Section 13D of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Wharton, County of Morris, State of New Jersey on first reading, by title only.

A motion was made by Councilman Yeager and was seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to adopt O-02-23 on first reading.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA: 6	NAY: 0	ABSENT: 0	ABSTAIN: 0
MOTION CARRIED			

Mayor Chegwidden set the date of February 27, 2023 for second and final reading.

Ordinance

Council President Binkoski introduced O-03-23, “An Ordinance Amending Chapter 315 Article III, Section 19 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Wharton, County of Morris, State of New Jersey on first reading, by title only.

A motion was made by Council President Binkoski and was seconded by Councilman Yeager to adopt O-03-23 on first reading.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA: 6	NAY: 0	ABSENT: 0	ABSTAIN: 0
MOTION CARRIED			

Mayor Chegwiddden to set the date of February 27, 2023 for second and final reading.

For Discussion and Possible Action

- **Ordinance:** “An Ordinance Amending Chapter 315, Article II, Sections 7A and 8 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Wharton, County of Morris, State of New Jersey.” Chief Young advised that this ordinance is concerning updates to parking in some areas on Main Street, Luxemburg Avenue, and High Street. Relating to the Main Street updates they spoke with the business owners in the area where changes are being made and they were all receptive to the changes. For the other area, after the last discussion, he went with the Fire Chief and DPW to see about the issues the fire trucks and garbage trucks are having. The recommended changes are based on what can allow the trucks to be able to turn up the streets. Everyone agreed this can be put onto the next agenda.

Consent Agenda

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

Approval of Bills: Approve all bills referred to the Finance Committee
Approval of Minutes: 1/23/23
R-47-23: Appoint Fire Sub Code Official
R-48-23: Tax Overpayments Applied
A motion was made by Council President Binkoski which was seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to approve all of the items on the Consent Agenda.
ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA: 6 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0
MOTION CARRIED

Correspondence

- Morris County Planning Board Minutes

Council Reports

Council President Binkoski: No report.

Councilwoman Hayes: No report.

Councilman Norton: No report.

Councilwoman Vasquez: The Library is continuing working on hiring a new director.

Councilwoman Wickenheisser: No report.

Councilman Yeager: No report.

Mayor Chegwidden's Report: He attended a meeting with the new owner of the former Air Products site. They are proposing an industrial building that meets everything it needs to. They will eventually come to the Planning Board. Assemblywoman Dunn recently held a Mayors meeting. He asked Mr. Kovalcik to attend on his behalf to bring up certain issues and Councilwoman Wickenheisser also attended. They discussed with Assemblywoman Dunn's office a letter the Police Chief had sent relating to issues with the turn off of Rt. 15 and asked with their help with resolving the issue. They also discussed plans the state has for some reimbursement to those participating in the State Health Benefits Plan and why would it not include towns like us who participate in a HIF. He attended the Re-Org meeting at the library. They are continuing discussion on how to best hire a new director.

Open to the Public

Mayor Chegwidden opened the meeting to the public.

Gene Caulfield, Wharton Fire Department: Chief Caulfield advised that the department responded to a structure fire over the weekend and he thanks the DPW and Police Department for their assistance.

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

Adjournment

A motion was made by Council President Binkoski and was seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to close the meeting. This motion was approved via voice vote.

February 13, 2023

ATTEST:

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN,
MAYOR

Gabrielle Evangelista,
Borough Clerk