

REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
JUNE 12, 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.

Linda Hemenetz, 123 N. Main St. Ms. Hemenetz advised that her and her husband own a home near the new Orchard Mine Park location and wanted to find out about interest from the Borough in purchasing it. Mayor Chegwidden and Mr. Hirniak advised that if there is interest by the Borough, there is a process that needs to be followed. They will be in touch in the future.

Kris Kaufmann, 54 W. Sterling St. Ms. Kaufmann asked if the dry well on Sterling St. could be cleaned. Mr. Quillinan from the DPW advised he will check on it and take care of it.

Paula Aristizabal, 74 W. Dewey Ave. Ms. Aristizabal advised that she had trouble getting the property owner's name updated after a deed change and had an issue with Ms. Ruffo about it. Mayor Chegwidden asked if it had been updated and thanked her for coming in.

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

Ordinance

Councilwoman Hayes presented O-12-23, "An Ordinance to Provide for General Capital Projects Enumerated Within for the Borough of Wharton, County of Morris, and to Provide for the Funding Thereof" 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 Councilwoman Hayes and was seconded by Councilman Yeager to adopt O-12-23 on second and final reading.

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

Discussion

- Request for road closure of Cross St. for a block party on 7/22- Mayor Chegwidden advised that we have received a request from the residents in the area of Garden Ave., Crater Ave., and Cross St. to close Cross St. for a block party on 7/22/23. This is the third or fourth year of this event and we haven't had an issue. Everyone approved the road closure.

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

Approve Minutes: 5/8/23 & 5/22/23

R-91-23: Approve Tax Sale Redemption TSC 2021-001
R-92-23: Approve Police Vehicle Purchase
R-93-23: Accept 2023 Local Recreational Improvement Grant
R-94-23: Request Approval of Items of Revenue and Appropriation- 2023 Local Recreational Improvement Grant
R-95-23: Award Bid Irondale Mountain Trails Phase III
R-96-23: Liquor License Renewals
R-97-23: Approve Tax Sale Redemption TSC 2022-006
R-98-23: Apply Municipal Alliance Grant 2023-2024

Prior to making a motion, Council President Binkoski asked about the pricing difference of the two Police Cars on for purchase. Chief Young advised that there is very little availability now so they had to take what the dealership had, rather than building the car like we normally do. The main difference between these two is one has a V6 engine and one has a V8. They are trying to address some fleet issues.

A motion was then 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

- None

Council Reports

Council President Binkoski: Thank you to everyone who voted for him in the Primary Election. He attended Wharton Pride Clean Community Day and thanks the volunteers who attended. Hopefully they'll get more and more turnout each year.

Councilwoman Hayes: She also attended Wharton Pride Clean Community Day and thanks the DPW for their assistance with setting everything up.

Councilman Norton: He also attended Wharton Pride Clean Community Day.

Councilwoman Vasquez: She also attended Wharton Pride Clean Community Day. Thank you to all of the participants.

Councilwoman Wickenheisser: The Memorial Day Parade and services were very nice this year. She attended an event at a local business and was happy to see 2 members of the Police Department there. It's great to see them out in the community.

Councilman Yeager: Congratulations to all of Wharton's graduates. He also attended Wharton Pride Clean Community Day and the Memorial Day Parade and services.

Mayor Chegwidden's Report: Thank you to the Colonel who did a great job at Memorial Day and he thought that the students from Morris Hills were great. He also attended Wharton Pride Clean Community Day. There was another meeting with the American Legion about a contract for parking and he thanks Mr. Hirniak for his work on it. He spoke with Senator Bucco about the intersection of Rt 15 and E. Dewey and sent him the design and estimate. He is hoping the State will take care of it, but we will if necessary. Thank you to everyone who voted in the Primary Election.

Open to the Public

Mayor Chegwidden opened the meeting to the public.

Chief Young, Wharton Police Department: Chief Young advised that he received notice that the filming that was planned by Apple TV has been pushed back to June 26th.

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 Councilman Yeager to close the meeting. This motion was approved via voice vote.

June 12, 2023

ATTEST:

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

Gabrielle Evangelista,
Borough Clerk

WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN,
MAYOR