

REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OCTOBER 16, 2023

Mayor Chegwidden called the meeting to Order.

Mayor Chegwidden read the Open Public Meeting Statement.

Roll Call

Mayor Chegwidden requested Roll Call:

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

Also in attendance were Administrator Joseph Kovalcik Jr., Attorney Roman Hirniak and Deputy Borough Clerk Cheryl Muzzillo.

Flag Salute

Mayor Chegwidden led those present in the Salute to the American Flag and a moment of silence for Bob Heslin, a longtime Postmaster in Wharton.

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

Councilman Yeager introduced O-14-23, “An Ordinance to amend and supplement the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Wharton, Chapter 3, Article III, Subsection 3-13 (H) (8)”, on first reading, by title only.

Mr. Kovalcik explained most municipalities charge a 20% administrative fee and \$200-\$300 for vehicles. We don’t currently charge for vehicles and are at 10% for the administrative fee. This will bring us to 15% and we will charge \$50 for a vehicle.

A motion was made by Councilman Yeager and seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to adopt O-14-23 on first reading.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA: 5	NAY: 0	ABSENT: 1	ABSTAIN: 0
MOTION CARRIED			

Mayor Chegwidden set the date of October 30, 2023 for second and final reading.

Discussion

2024 Meeting Dates – Ms. Muzzillo advised that she provided the Mayor and Council with potential meeting dates for 2024. The meeting dates are looked at now so they can be included in the calendar, and then voted on at the Re-Organization meeting in January to formally set them. Everyone was okay with the proposed dates.

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: Approve all bills referred to the Finance Committee			
R-131-23 Police - Outside Detail Management			
R-132-23 Authorization to Purchase Property Block 703 Lot 35			
R-133-23 Police Vehicle Purchase Resolution			
R-134-23 Refund for Overpayment - Block 201 Lot 25 Qualifier C093A			
R-135-23 Refund for Overpayment - Block 1801 Lot 17			
A motion was made by Council President Binkoski and seconded by Councilman Yeager to approve all items listed on the Consent Agenda.			
ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA: 5 NAY: ABSENT: 1 ABSTAIN:			
MOTION CARRIED			

Correspondence

- **Notice of Ordinance 23-23 – Rockaway Township**
- **Morris County Planning Board Minutes**
- **Dept. of the Army – Notice of Test Plan at Picatinny Arsenal**
- **NJDOT – Route 15NB, Bridge Over Abandoned Mt. Hope Mineral Railroad**
- **NJDOT – Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Deployment**
- **Rockaway Township Notice of Hearing – DISH Wireless**

Council Reports

Council President Binkoski: He advised the Committee held the initial meeting for signs and lighting regulations on Main Street.

Councilwoman Hayes: She reported Mr. Kovalcik is 90% done with next year’s budget.

Councilman Norton: No report

Councilwoman Vasquez: Attended the Rabies Clinic at the DPW. It was very well organized and ran smoothly. She thanked all involved.

Councilman Yeager: He attended a League of Municipalities meeting. Mr. Cerra was there talking about some of his programs. It was very informative.

Mayor Chegwidden’s Report: He thanked Ms. Muzzillo for organizing a successful rabies clinic. It ran very smoothly. He let everyone know there are preliminary plans for Sterling Street Park in the Council room. He indicated Mr. Kovalcik should have a Redevelopment Plan for the first meeting in November.

Mr. Kovalcik indicated everything was moving forward. He will have a meeting with Ascend during week to set timelines on the project. He advised the town purchased Block 703 Lot 35 from Mr. & Mrs. Hemenetz. He indicated he had met with Mr. Hopka.

Open to the Public

Mayor Chegwidden opened the meeting to the public.

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 seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to close the meeting. This motion was approved by voice vote.

October 16, 2023

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

ATTEST:

**_____
WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN,
MAYOR**

**_____
Cheryl Muzzillo,
Deputy Borough Clerk**