

REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MAY 22, 2017

Opening Items

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
Councilman Corbett – Present
Councilwoman Hayes- Present
Councilwoman Veres- Present
Councilwoman Wickenheisser- Present
Councilman Yeager- Present

Also in attendance were Administrator Jon Rheinhardt, Borough Clerk Gabrielle Evangelista, and Attorney George Johnson.

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, the Mayor or Council President shall have the discretion to terminate any 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

Councilman Corbett presented O-05-17, “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 Councilman Corbett and was seconded by Council President Binkoski to adopt O-05-17 on second and final reading.

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

Council President Binkoski presented O-06-17, “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 Council President Binkoski and was seconded by Councilman Yeager to adopt O-06-17 on second and final reading.

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

Councilwoman Hayes introduced O-07-17, “An Ordinance Amending Chapter 330, Section 20 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 Councilwoman Hayes and was seconded by Councilman Corbett to adopt O-07-17 on first reading.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-6 NAY-0 ABSENT-0 ABSTAIN- 0	MOTION CARRIED
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Mayor Chegwidden set the date of June 12, 2017 for second and final reading.

Ordinance

Councilman Yeager introduced O-08-17, “An Amending Chapter 40, Section 7 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 Councilman Corbett to adopt O-08-17 on first reading.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-6 NAY-0 ABSENT-0 ABSTAIN- 0	MOTION CARRIED
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Mayor Chegwidden set the date of June 12, 2017 for second and final reading.

Resolution

Council President Binkoski introduced R-82-17, “Resolution Approving a Second Amendment to the Interlocal Services Agreement with the Township of Mine Hill to Provide Police Coverage.”

Mayor Chegwidden thanked Council President Binkoski, Mr. Rheinhardt, and Chief Fernandez for all of their hard work on this contract. We’ve had this contract for 14 years now and this will continue it. Councilwoman Hayes thanked the Mayor for his contributions as well. Council President Binkoski noted that Chief Fernandez deserves recognition for the amount of work he has put in to make sure that this relationship and contract will continue long after he retires. Mayor Chegwidden agreed that the Chief has done a great job of weaving Mine Hill into the Wharton Police Department.

A motion was made by Council President Binkoski and was seconded by Councilman Yeager to adopt R-82-17.

Discussion

1. **Ordinance regarding false fire and burglar alarms:** Council President Binkoski advised that the Fire Department in particular has been getting a lot of call outs on repeated false alarms in certain businesses, often resulting from an automatic alarm. We don't have an ordinance in place for any kind of penalty for allowing these repeated false alarms to continue instead of the business fixing the issue that is causing them. He has met with the Chief and other members of the Fire Department along with the Mayor, Mr. Rheinhardt, and Mr. Johnson about this. A lot of surrounding towns have a similar ordinance so they were able to use those a model. Councilwoman Veres asked if the alarms were due from a mechanical issue. Deputy Fire Chief Cole was asked to explain further. Deputy Chief Cole advised that most of these calls are for a low water pressure alarm and the system will tell them which head is low. What they have been finding when they go to examine them is that the head is faulty and needs to be fixed or replaced, which they advise the business owners of. The problem occurs when they don't fix them because there is no consequence if they don't. After more discussion, everyone agreed that the ordinance could be on the next agenda for first 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.

Approval of Minutes from May 8, 2017 Meeting

**Resolutions: R-83-17: Municipal Alliance Supplemental Application
R-84-17: Approve Refund for Tax Overpayment**

Approve Fire Fighter Application for Alex Ortiz

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

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

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Chegwidden thanked the Council for their continued support of the Municipal Alliance

Correspondence

- **Notice of Public Hearing from County of Morris**

Council Reports

Council President Binkoski: He met with the Fire Chiefs who are working on creating an official 5 year plan for the Department. They also were able to take a tour and inspect the vehicles which he appreciated. He also met with the Police Chief and Lieutenant about staffing.

Councilman Corbett: On 5/20 both he and his wife got their cars washed by the 8th graders at the MacKinnon School. On 5/11 he was at the RVRSA and was informed that the Judge had decided the summary judgement motions in the Jersey City case. They were only informed when Jersey City filed a motion to reconsider. The attorney for the RVRSA referred to the decision as extraordinarily positive for the RVRSA. They have been in litigation with Jersey City since 2007. The judge's ruling was almost entirely positive for the RVRSA. The trial will probably take place in the fall, although Mr. Johnson advised that he received a noticed that it will be starting in August. At this point the contract is still valid and Jersey City is still required to make their payments. At issue still is what should and shouldn't be considered as a capital project. At this point no one expected this to be as good of a decision as it was.

Councilwoman Hayes: She attended the re-grand opening of Mendoza Tile. They are a very nice family and it's great that they are expanding their business. She wishes them well. She was out of the country when Pop's Chicken opened but she wishes them well also.

Councilwoman Veres: On 5/10 she attended the Board of Health Meeting. On 5/16 she attended the Library Board meeting at which the American Legion presented a check for \$2500 for the Summer Reading Program which is great. The Library will also be a site for free lunches for qualifying Wharton students during the summer. They can accommodate about 100 children who can come in prior to the Summer Reading Program and get a free lunch every day. The program is run by the Community Food Bank.

Councilwoman Wickenheisser: She'd like to remind everyone about the Alliance and FOP Carnival on June 8-11. They are still in need of volunteers if anyone wants to sign up to do so. She thanks Ms. Evangelista and Ms. Ghebreal for their help with interviewing for the Summer Recreation Program. Interviews are complete and offers have been sent out. She attended the Grand Opening for Pop's Chicken and wishes them and Mendoza Tile the best.

Councilman Yeager: He attended a Tenancy Review Board meeting where Mendoza Tile came in about their sign. They will need to go before the Board for that. Also at the meeting a builder came in about a lot on Clarence who may need to come to a future meeting to discuss his plans. More discussion about this followed. He also attended the 8th Grade Car Wash. He thanks Dave and Liz Young for planting at Memorial Park. It looks great.

Mayor Chegwidde's Report

He also wants to wish Pop's Chicken well they do a great job at their other business and are very good to the town. The owner probably wouldn't want him to mention this but he asked the Senior Bus to stop at the new restaurant and he fed them all lunch on the house.

He'd like to remind everyone that at the next meeting on June 12th the Planning Board will also be attending to talk about economic development and our Planner will present some things.

June 3rd is Wharton Clean Community Day. We get the same volunteers year after year and their help is much appreciated. He hopes to see some new faces this year. Also upcoming is the Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony which will be in the school in case of rain.

Council President Binkoski had one more topic to discuss. He recently met with the owners of Wharton Pharmacy and they pointed out to him that the Senior Bus schedule doesn't have a specific stop for some of the local stores. Councilwoman Hayes will talk to Mr. Hutchins and the Bus Driver to make an update to the schedule.

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

No further business to attend to this evening Councilman Corbett, made a motion to adjourn this meeting. This was seconded by Council President Binkoski. This motion was approved by a voice vote.

May 22, 2017

ATTEST:

**Gabrielle Evangelista,
Borough Clerk**

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

**WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN,
MAYOR**