

MINUTES
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 25, 2017

Mayor Chegwidden called the Meeting to Order

Mayor Chegwidden read the Open Public Meeting Statement

Mayor Chegwidden requested Roll Call:

Council President Binkoski
Councilman Corbett
Councilwoman Hayes
Councilwoman Veres
Councilwoman Wickenheisser – Absent (Excused)
Councilman Yeager – Absent (Excused)

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

Mr. Bill Skewes from 120 E. Central Ave. stated that he was upset that he did not receive notification of the road opening on his street. He was also upset that the Morris County Sheriff’s officers were on site for traffic control and there were no officers in the vehicles to assist him. Councilman Binkoski advised Mr. Skewes that NJ Natural Gas did not notify the Town that the road work was being done, thus they could not have notified the residents. Lt. Young explained that NJ Natural Gas had contracted out the Morris County Sheriff’s officers. Mayor Chegwidden said he would contact the Sheriff regarding that issue.

Mr. Ed Kehoe from 179 So. Main St. stated that he has been concerned for over a year now that the neighbors by his home as well as other residents from Town are not keeping up with property maintenance. He had photos to show the Mayor and Council members. He recited Wharton’s property maintenance Ordinance to the Mayor and Council and asked for a resolution to this problem.

Mike Obremski from JCP&L came to advise the Mayor and Council that they are working on connecting service to the new Wharton Water Tower.

Mayor Chegwidden closed the meeting to the public.

Ordinance

Council President Binkoski presented O-13-17, “An Ordinance Providing for the Registration and Regulation of Taxicabs Engaged in the Business of Carrying Passengers,” 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.

Motion by Council President Binkoski and seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to adopt O-13-17 on second and final reading.

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| ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA:4 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 2 ABSTAIN: 0 |
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Ordinance

Councilwoman Hayes presented O-14-17, “An Ordinance Amending Chapter 315, Article III, Section 17 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Wharton, County of Morris, State of New Jersey,” on second reading, by title only.

Mayor Chegwiddden opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments on this Ordinance only.

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

Motion by Councilwoman Hayes and seconded by Councilman Corbett to adopt O-14-17 on second and final reading.

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| ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA: 4 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 2 ABSTAIN: 0 |
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Ordinance

Councilwoman Veres introduced O-15-17, “An Ordinance Amending Chapter 231 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Wharton, County of Morris, State of New Jersey,” on first reading by title only.

Motion by Councilwoman Veres and seconded by Councilman Corbett to adopt O-15-17 on first reading.

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| ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA:4 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 2 ABSTAIN: 0 |
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Mayor Chegwiddden set the date of October 16, 2017 for second and final reading.

Resolution

Leah Sandbank from McManimon, Scotland & Baumann, LLC came to advise the Mayor and Council about the Resolution below. The Mayor and Council need to approve the transfer so that the agreements can continue.

Councilwoman Hayes introduced R-128-17, “Resolution of the Borough of Wharton, County of Morris, New Jersey Consenting to the Transfer of Certain Property Subject to the Terms of an Agreement for Payment in Lieu of Taxes with the Borough and to the Assignment and Assumption of the Agreement by Avanath Centennial Court, LP.”

Motion by Councilwoman Hayes and seconded by Council President Binkoski to adopt R-128-17.

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| ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA:4 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 2 ABSTAIN: 0 |
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Appointment

Council President Binkoski introduced R-129-17, “Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Police Officer.”

Motion by Council President Binkoski and seconded by Councilman Corbett to adopt R-129-17.

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| ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA:4 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 2 ABSTAIN: 0 |
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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 September 11, 2017

**Resolutions: R-130-17: Salary Resolution
R-131-17: Award Bid Oxford/Cambridge Roadway Improvements**

Approve Facility Application from Girl Scouts for Betty Poyer Field on 10/15/17 from 2-5 p.m.

Approve Road Closure Request of Cutler Street between South Main St. and Ford Ave. for Annual Car Show on 10/14/17 from Noon-8 p.m.

Motion by Council President Binkoski seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to approve all of the items listed on the Consent Agenda.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA:4 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 2 ABSTAIN:

Correspondence

- DEP Permit Application-Replacement of West Central Avenue Bridge
- RVRSA Meeting Minutes
- Copy of Resolution from Hanover Township

Council Reports

Council President Binkoski: Stated on September 13th he attended the Wharton Job Fair. He said it was a nice event and showed how we are a strong community. He stated he had a meeting with the Chief and Lt. regarding raising awareness of pedestrians in the crosswalks. Wharton Police have been noticing that there are many pedestrians not crossing in cross walks. He stated that the Wharton Police had put up two digital signs on Main Street for drivers to be cautious. He stated that on September 16th he attended the opening day of soccer and that he kicked out the first ball of the season on the Mayor's behalf. He stated that on September 21st he attended the funeral for Mike Weiks, owner of the W. Central Pub. Very sad loss for our Town. He stated that on September 24th he attended the 5K Camo Color Run. He said it was a great event with a good turnout.

Councilman Corbett: Stated that on September 14th he attended the RVRSA meeting. The trial date is set for October 23rd and the attorneys for the trial had met. He stated that September 20th he attended the Morris County League of Municipality dinner. Nice event and guest speaker was good. He stated that on September 22nd he attended the finance meeting for the RVRSA. He stated that on September 23rd he attended the clam bake at the American Legion Post 91. He stated that on September 24th, four generation of Corbett's participated in the 5K Camo Color Run. They threw color and handed water to the runners.

Councilwoman Hayes: Stated that on September 12th Mayor Chegwiddden, Jon Rheinhardt, Councilwoman Wickenheisser and she had all met with our Borough Planner to plan the next meeting with the public. She stated that on October 16th she attended the opening day of soccer. She also attended the 8th grade car wash at the school. She stated that on September 20th she attended the Morris County League of Municipalities dinner. There was a discussion at the dinner about how well Morris County College is doing. She stated that Sheriff Gannon was at the event

and spoke to everyone about the opioid epidemic that we are facing. There were 65 deaths from overdose this year so far. There were 35 deaths in 2016. Sheriff talked about the Hope One Mobile Unit and the Hope One Wing at the correctional facility. She stated that on September 24th she attended the 5K Camo Color Run and it was a great event. She also stated she had attended Mike Weiks funeral. Very big loss for our Town.

Councilwoman Veres: Stated that on September 19th she attended the Library Board of Trustees meeting. She stated that on October 7th the Library will be holding their Gala. Tickets are available at the library. The monies raised from the Gala will hopefully go towards buying new audio visual equipment. She stated that on September 24th she helped with registration and then ran in the 5K Camo Color Run.

Councilwoman Wickenheisser: - Absent (Excused)

Councilman Yeager: - Absent (Excused)

Mayor Chegwiddden's Report: Stated that he attended the 5K Camo Color Run on September 24th. He wished to thank the U.S. Army National Guard for coming with their rock climbing wall, personnel, vehicles, and running the obstacle course. He wished to say "Thank You" to our Wharton Public Works, Wharton Police Department, Wharton Fire Department and the American Legion Post 91. He said he appreciated all the volunteers who helped out and everyone who attended. He stated that on September 13th he attended the Wharton Job Fair. It's always a good event for the Town. He stated that he spoke with many of the employers there and some had hired people from last year's job fair who are still working for their companies. He stated that the Freeholders Board kept the cost for dispatching services the same as last year.

Open to the Public

In accordance with Local Ordinance O-18-03, "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 Chegwiddden opened the meeting to the public.

Mr. Bill Skewes commented about the sale of Centennial Court. He stressed that Mayor and Council should encourage the new owners to consider the treatment of the residents who live there to be the main priority.

Mayor Chegwiddden closed the meeting to the public.

Closed Session

Council President Binkoski introduced R-132-17 to close the meeting to the public for discussion on Litigation.

Motion by Council President Binkoski seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to approve R-132-17.

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| ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA:4 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 2 ABSTAIN: 0 |
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Motion by Councilman Corbett seconded by Council President Binkoski to return to open session. This was approved by voice vote.

Adjournment

Motion by Council President Binkoski seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to close this meeting.