

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**MAYOR AND COUNCIL**  
**MAY 21, 2018**

Mayor Chegwiddden Called the Meeting to Order

Mayor Chegwiddden read the Open Public Meeting Statement

Mayor Chegwiddden requested Roll Call:

Council President Yeager- Present  
Councilman Binkoski- Present  
Councilman Corbett- Absent, Excused  
Councilwoman Hayes- Present  
Councilwoman Veres- Present  
Councilwoman Wickenheisser- Present

**Flag Salute**

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

**Presentation**

Denise Lanza, Assistant Deputy Director of the Morris County Park Commission, Executive Director the Morris Park Alliance and Quan Ly and Jeffery Ludwig of the Nomad Group presented the Mayor and Council with their findings from the Wharton Phase of the Morris County Park Commission's Connect to Walk Park Connector Suitability Study. They went over current parks and trails and made suggestions about connectivity and other improvements. The Mayor and Council gave feedback and additional information to the group throughout the presentation. Everyone thanked them for their efforts.

**Discussion**

- Update on Grant for Morris Canal Lock 2 East: Mr. Rheinhardt and Mr. Manna presented the Mayor and Council with an update on the restoration project of the Morris Canal Lock 2 East. They explained the history of the project and how successful the Borough has been in receiving grants to complete the project. Thus far the Borough has only spent approximately \$7,000 on the restoration. Now, there is a potential for a shortfall in funding for the current part of the project, which is Phase 2 of the Lock 2 East Restoration and the Lock Tender's House restoration. The Borough has received a TAP Grant from the NJDOT for \$1,796,000 for these portions of the project, but the estimated cost is \$755,740 over that amount. By removing some items, we can lower the shortfall to an estimated \$289,240. As a part of the grant, the Borough would need to commit to funding the shortfall. We will have a better idea of the exact number once the bids for the project are received. We can utilize Open Space funds for this money if it is necessary. After some discussion, the Mayor and Council agreed that we have an opportunity to give the Borough a historic destination and we have committed to this restoration for many years now with very little financial buy in from the Borough. Everyone agreed that this would show the Borough's commitment to the project for further grant applications.

Council President Yeager made a motion to approve committing up to \$300,000 for the project, depending what the bids come in as. We will revisit the exact amount when we know if there is a funding shortfall and how much it is once the bids are received. We can also look into other funding sources if necessary. Councilman Binkoski seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-5 NAY-0 ABSENT-1 ABSTAIN- 0

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Chegwidden thanked Mr. Manna for all of his hard work on this project.

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.

Susan Davis, 39 Ford Ave.: Ms. Davis thanked the Mayor and the Department of Public Works for the new storm drain on Orange St.

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

Ordinance

Councilwoman Hayes introduced O-09-18, “An Ordinance to Provide for a Water Utility Capital Project Enumerated within for the Borough of Wharton, County of Morris and to Provide for the Funding Thereof,” on first reading, by title only.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Hayes and was seconded by Council President Yeager to adopt O-09-18 on first reading.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-5 NAY-0 ABSENT-1 ABSTAIN- 0	MOTION CARRIED
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Mayor Chegwidden set the date of June 11, 2018 for second and final 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 5/07/18	
Resolutions: R-83-18: Cancel Unexpended Balance Water Utility Capital Improvement Authorization R-84-18: Approve Refund Tax Overpayment Block 1709 Lot 10	
A motion was made by Council President Yeager and was seconded by Councilman Binkoski to approve all items listed on the Consent Agenda.	
ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-5 NAY-0 ABSENT-1 ABSTAIN- 0	MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Rheinhardt advised that the architect in charge of the Canal project has received permission from the State to do a pre-qualification of bidders due to the historic and specialized nature of the project. There will be a public hearing about it at the second meeting in June due to a 20-day advertising requirement.

### Correspondence

- Monthly Report from Treasurer
- Notice of Ordinance from Mine Hill

### Council Reports

**Council President Yeager:** He attended the Planning Board meetings about CCKK and they will be coming back for a third meeting, where they will hopefully wrap things up.

**Councilman Binkoski:** He met with the Police Chief and the Lieutenant. They are planning on doing trainings at the house in Memorial Park before it is demolished. Livingston is one of their training partners and they have asked if they can also use it for a training. They have their own insurance and our department will be there to monitor it. Everyone agreed that was fine. The Fire Department is also going to be doing a training there. They will need to close the road behind the house during the training so they can park their apparatuses there. The Police are doing a survey at Sterling St. Park. They are monitoring use and parking on Columbia St. and Sterling St. The Committee for the Memorial Park redesign is scheduled to meet on the 30<sup>th</sup> of May.

**Councilman Corbett:** Absent

**Councilwoman Hayes:** The Finance Committee met several times about the ordinance which was introduced this evening. She thanks Mr. Rheinhardt for working with them.

**Councilwoman Veres:** No Report

**Councilwoman Wickenheisser:** No Report

**Mayor Chegwidden's Report:** He also attended several Planning Board Meetings about CCKK. The issue being discussed is that there was a wall that was built without being put on the plan or the permits. The problem is, it is sitting on our right-of-way, where our water, sewer, and natural gas lines go through. They have been working with them. His suggestion is requiring the wall to be moved back out of the right-of-way. He was on an interesting conference call with the NJ Conference of Mayors where they discussed proposed legislation about changing liquor licensing laws allowing more for restaurants, but with a tax component in order to compensate the existing owners of licenses. He attended an event at the Morris County Vo-Tech, because he is on an advisory committee for them. He attended the Wharton Board of Education meeting, where the Police Chief presented to the Board about road safety near the school. They also discussed security at the school and putting an armed guard at the school. They will discuss this more at future meetings. He'd like to remind everyone that this upcoming Saturday is the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at the American Legion and Monday is the Memorial Day Parade.

### 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

A motion was made by Councilman Binkoski and was seconded by Council President Yeager to close this meeting.

May 21, 2018

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

**ATTEST:**

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**Gabrielle Evangelista,  
Borough Clerk**

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**WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN,  
MAYOR**