

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**MAYOR AND COUNCIL**  
**AUGUST 13, 2018**

Mayor Chegwidden Called the Meeting to Order

Mayor Chegwidden read the Open Public Meeting Statement

Mayor Chegwidden requested Roll Call:

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

**Flag Salute**

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

**Police Appointments**

Councilman Binkoski presented R-114-18, "Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Police Sergeants."

A motion was made by Councilman Binkoski and was seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to adopt Resolution R-114-18.

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

|                |
|----------------|
| MOTION CARRIED |
|----------------|

Mayor Chegwidden and Councilman Binkoski administered the Oath of Office to Sergeant Fotios Katsigiannis and Sergeant Michael Arroyo. Congratulations were offered by all in attendance. Mine Hill Mayor, Sam Morris, and Members of the Mine Hill Council were also in attendance.

**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.

Alexander McCusker was in attendance who was celebrating his 5<sup>th</sup> birthday. Everyone wished him a Happy Birthday.

**Brian Cronin, 88 W. Dewey Ave.:** Over the weekend Dewey Avenue lost power again, making it 3 times in the last month. He knows it's not the Borough who controls the power company and has called JCP&L, but was wondering if the Borough could also give them a call. Mr. Rheinhardt advised that JCP&L has informed him that they are currently working on a redundant switching program that will automatically move around the dead spot, which should address this problem. More discussion about this followed.

**George Schroll, 141 St. Mary's St.:** Mr. Schroll shared some photos of an empty lot across from his home at the end of St. Mary's St. Along with some neighbors, he has mowed the grass and taken care of the lot for many years now. Last year there were some power lines down in the area and JCP&L parked their trucks there, leaving large ruts that are impossible to mow over. He would continue to mow it if JCP&L

or the lots owner, whom he has never seen in over 30 years, addressed those. He is also concerned that you can't get by on the sidewalk because of piles of concrete and poles that were left there for more than a year. Chief Fernandez advised that most of the poles waiting for transfer are waiting on Verizon. JCP&L does their part and then they sit waiting for Verizon to do theirs. Mr. Rheinhardt advised that we'll figure out who's poles they are and will notify them that they need to address this. Another issue they have been discussing is when they leave wires dangling from the poles. They are looking into whether or not we can pass a local ordinance to compel them to address them. Discussion about who owns the lot Mr. Schroll is referring to followed and Mr. Johnson advised that he believes the owner recently passed away. Councilman Corbett suggested contacting the executor of the estate and giving them a deadline for addressing the issues. If they don't meet it, we can clean it and put a lien on the property.

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

### Ordinance

Councilwoman Hayes presented O-15-18, "An Ordinance Amending Chapter 315, Article II, Section 9 and Article III Section 18 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Wharton, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, 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 Corbett to adopt O-15-18 on second and final reading.

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

MOTION CARRIED

### 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 7/16/18

Approval of Closed Session Minutes from 6/13/16, 9/12/16, 2/6/17, 3/27/17, and 3/12/18

Resolutions: R-115-18: Award Bid Baker Avenue  
R-116-18: Requesting Approval of Items of Revenue and Appropriation- Municipal Alliance Supplemental  
R-117-18: Approve Grant Agreement- Morris County Historic Preservation Trust Fund for Morris Canal Lock 2 East- Construction Administration  
R-118-18: Tax Sale Redemption TSC 2017-009  
R-119-18: Set Fee for Law Enforcement Officer Application

Approve Waiving Application Fee for Temporary Food and Drink License for Girl Scout Troop 96214 for Canal Day

Concur with NJDOT replacement of traffic signal controller cabinets with generator adapted controller cabinets

Approve FD Application- Salvatore Vitellaro

A motion was made by Councilman Corbett and was seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to approve all items listed on the Consent Agenda.

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

MOTION CARRIED

### Correspondence

- Memo re: Clothing Bins- Councilman Corbett asked whether or not the measurement was from property to property or from where the fuel is stored. Ms. Evangelista advised that she believes it was from the property, and the issue was not with Young's but with the gas station on Main Street right across from the Recycling Center. We will ask Mr. Hutchins to do a formal measurement, just to be sure.
- Notice of Grant Award- Morris County Historic Preservation Trust Fund
- Letter re: Modifying Affordable Housing Laws
- NJLM Annual Audit Statement
- Notice of Resolutions from Denville, Hanover, Mendham
- Notice of Ordinance from Roxbury
- Monthly Reports from Clerk and Construction

### Council Reports

Council President Yeager: Absent

Councilman Binkoski: He was on site when they landed a helicopter at Robert Street Park to respond to a traffic accident nearby because it was the closest place they could land safely. They had to coordinate between multiple towns and to have it be controlled and safe was impressive. Our Fire Department did a great job setting up the landing field for them. He also commends Mr. Hutchins and the DPW on their work on the water main break on Main Street. That was a major operation including support from the County.

Councilman Corbett: Unless Mr. Johnson knows otherwise, there a decision has still not be made in the Jersey City/RVRSa litigation. Mr. Johnson advised that he recently had a conference call with all of the attorneys, but they still have not heard anything about a decision coming in from the judge. They are working on contingency plans in case they are necessary. Councilman Corbett continued that he attended the RVRSa Infrastructure meeting and they are almost finally done with the project caused by Hurricane Irene. He wanted to bring everyone's attention to the report by the NJ Economic & Fiscal Policy Workgroup that was recently released. The plan includes recommendations about merging school districts, new tolls on roads, and changing the PILOT tax program. The PILOT changes include recommendations to call back previous payments to redistribute them, which would be a hardship for us. We will need to keep an eye on this because it could have an impact on our budget.

Councilwoman Hayes: No Report.

Councilwoman Veres: On July 17<sup>th</sup> she attended the Library Board Meeting. On July 20<sup>th</sup> she volunteered for the library's lunch program, which was fun. Tomorrow night, at Chipotle Mexican Grill they are doing a fundraiser for the library. If you go there and dine between 4-8 p.m. and mention the Wharton public library 33% of your meal goes to the library.

**Councilwoman Wickenheisser:** She'd like to remind everyone that Canal Day is on Saturday and volunteers are always needed for that event. She also wants to commend the DPW on their work on that water main break. It was a tough job and they all work so well together.

**Mayor Chegwidden's Report:** One of the Borough's Crossing Guards, Penny Moraga, passed away last week. He thanks her for her service to the Borough and condolences to her family.

Coming up in September is our 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> Job Fair. It will be September 20<sup>th</sup> at the American Legion and there will be many companies there. Construction is moving along at Port Oram Village, most of the footings are in. There is a lot of movement with different properties in town. Refresco has new owners and other new owners in that area are looking to purchase additional land. He will keep everyone informed as things progress. He can also announce that the Wharton Woods project has been sold and they will be coming back in front of the Planning Board for density. He has spoke with the neighbors in that area about the flooding that is occurring and they are trying to address it. One of the problems is that the roads aren't in so the actual drainage system itself isn't getting water yet. The owner has spoke with many of the residents and is trying to take care of it. Not until the roads are in will the drainage system function properly. Of course, the crazy amounts of rain that we have been having lately doesn't help either.

Councilman Corbett advised that a former Commander of the American Legion, Bob Katalinas, also recently passed away.

**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 Councilman Corbett and was seconded by Councilman Binkoski to close this meeting.

August 13, 2018

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gabrielle Evangelista,  
Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

\_\_\_\_\_  
WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN,  
MAYOR