

REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OCTOBER 15, 2018

Mayor Chegwidden Called the Meeting to Order

Mayor Chegwidden read the Open Public Meeting Statement

Mayor Chegwidden requested Roll Call:

Council President Yeager- Present
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.

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.

Alice Doblosky, 77 Pine St.: Ms. Doblosky asked if the Borough would consider making a small property that the town owns on Pine Street into parking spaces. Mayor Chegwidden advised that we will look into whether or not it is possible.

Jackie Espinoza, JCP&L: Ms. Espinoza is the Borough's representative from JCP&L and she came to advise the Mayor and Council about the Reliability Plus Plan that JCP&L has filed with the NJ Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) in July. The Plan includes spending 400 million dollars over 4 years to make upgrades to their systems in order to minimize the number of outages that occur from storms. The plan includes a lot that will positively affect Wharton's service area. They are asking the Borough to support the plan via a Resolution that is sent to the NJBPU. This would create a small increase in electric bills of about 26 cents per customer per month. Ms. Espinoza was then asked about a letter that some residents had received about third party suppliers. Without seeing a copy of the letter, it is hard for her to explain so we will provide her with one. The recent issue that was brought up about poles throughout town was then discussed. She has a copy of the list and will work with Verizon on trying to address any issues. There was then a discussion with Ms. Espinoza about moving wires underground on Main Street. Their engineer took a high-level look at the project and estimated it would cost around 6 million dollars. If adjustments are made, like shortening the scope of the project, the cost will change. They can do a more in-depth study, which would cost 20 thousand dollars, if the Borough would like them to. The money would be used as a deposit if the project moves forward. She also suggests contacting Verizon about this because they would need to be involved as well.

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

Ordinance

Council President Yeager presented O-16-18, “An Ordinance Amending Chapter 165, Article XV 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.

A motion was made by Council President Yeager and was seconded by Councilman Corbett to adopt O-16-18 on second and final reading.

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

Councilwoman Wickenheisser presented O-17-18, “An Ordinance of the Borough of Wharton, in the County of Morris, New Jersey Adopting the Main Street Redevelopment Plan for Block 1317, Lots 1 through 22 (Including Former Lot 23),” 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.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Wickenheisser and was seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to adopt O-17-18 on second and final reading.

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

Councilwoman Hayes presented O-18-18, “An Ordinance Amending Chapter 110, Section 3 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.

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

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

Councilman Binkoski introduced R-133-18, “Authorizing the Permanent Appointment of a Police Officer.”

Councilman Binkoski explained that Officer Duffy has reached the end of his one year probationary period and the Chief recommended his permanent appointment.

A motion was made by Councilman Binkoski and was seconded by Councilman Corbett to adopt R-133-18.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-6 NAY-0 ABSENT-0 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 9/24/18

**Resolutions: R-134-18: Approve Alliance Signing Movie Screen Contract
R-135-18: Tax Sale Redemption TSC 2016-015**

A motion was made by Council President Yeager and was seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to approve all items listed on the Consent Agenda.

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

MOTION CARRIED

Correspondence

- Notice of Ordinance from Mine Hill
- Minutes from Morris County Planning Board
- Monthly Reports Clerk, Construction Treasurer

Council Reports

Council President Yeager: He attended the Tenancy Review Committee meeting about apartments on Second Street and Sunset Printing.

Councilman Binkoski: No Report.

Councilman Corbett: On 10/4 he attended the Finance Committee meeting of the RVRSA. On 10/11 he attended the regular meeting of the RVRSA where they introduced the 2019 budget. The operating budget is down .7. They are expecting a decision in the lawsuit with Jersey City potentially by the end of October, but you never can tell. Wharton is working on our 2019 budget and it is almost finished.

Councilwoman Hayes: She was away for the previous meeting so her report includes items from before then. She attended the Morris County League of Municipalities meeting, which had a great program on school safety. She attended the New Jersey Natural Gas meeting with municipalities which was a nice event. The Job Fair was very successful, she personally knows at least 2 people who found jobs there. She also had a chance to see the outdoor classroom that the Wharton Kids First Foundation donated to the school. It is great, and she suggests that everyone check it out if they haven't yet.

Councilwoman Veres: She attended the Library Board meeting on 9/26. This upcoming Saturday is the Library's Gala fundraiser which is a great event. She attended the Board of Health meeting on 10/10. The Town Nurse will be retiring at the end of this year. The Library always has a lot of events going on, right now there are ongoing ESL Classes and on 11/15 they will have the County Clerk's Office in for a passport day.

Councilwoman Wickenheisser: Recreation is going well. HalloWharton is coming up on 10/27 and volunteers are still needed for that event if anyone is available. She thanks the Police Department and the Municipal Alliance for going to the meeting at Centennial Court on 10/11 to discuss prescription safety and phone scams with the seniors who live there. On 11/14 the Municipal Alliance and Police Department are hosting an event on teen suicide prevention at the school. Also upcoming is the Veteran's Day Eve ceremony and parade which will be on 11/11.

Mayor Chegwidden's Report

He attended a retirement dinner for Mayor Frank Druetzler who has been the Mayor of Morris Plains for 34 years and also served on the League of Municipalities Executive Board, among other things. Mayor Druetzler is very well loved and has been a mentor to him throughout his career. He participated in the New Jersey Conference of Mayors meeting via conference call where they discussed upcoming legislation about marijuana.

Open to the Public

Mayor Chegwidden opened the meeting to the public.

Ms. Espinoza advised that JCP&L has a program called the Power Systems Institute in which participants, if they are chosen, can get job training and a two-year degree to become line workers or substation electricians. She will pass the information about the program on so the Borough can share it with our residents.

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.

October 15, 2018

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

ATTEST:

WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN,
MAYOR

Gabrielle Evangelista,
Borough Clerk