

REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OCTOBER 29, 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.

George Schroll, 141 St. Mary's St.: Mr. Schroll asked if we would consider purchasing a digital speed sign for St. Mary's St. Mayor Chegwidden advised that we have a mobile one that we can ask the Police to put on that street. Councilman Binkoski advised that it collects information on the number of cars that are speeding going by it and the times, so that we know better when to do enforcement in that area. If the numbers are really high, we can look into pricing out a permanent option. Mr. Schroll then asked about a missing speed limit sign on Randall Ave. This is in Mine Hill, but we can ask the Chief to talk to them. Mr. Schroll then brought up that he recently noticed one of our police officers collecting information about telephone poles and wanted to know why isn't JCP&L doing that. Mr. Rheinhardt advised that this was in response to the issue that Mr. Schroll had brought to the Council's attention at a previous meeting about problems with the poles in town. He had advised us that JCP&L wasn't being responsive, so we are gathering the information so that we can meet with all of the utility companies about the various issues with the poles.

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

Resolution

Councilwoman Wickenheisser introduced R-136-18, "Resolution of the Borough of Wharton, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, Authorizing the Execution of an Escrow Agreement."

A motion was made by Councilwoman Wickenheisser and was seconded by Councilman Corbett to adopt R-136-18.

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

MOTION CARRIED

Discussion

1. **Best Practices Inventory:** Mr. Rheinhardt presented the results of the Best Practices Inventory which is required by the State. He explained the Borough's score and went over any questions which were "no" or "perspective" answers. Some of the questions are set up to be tricky and some are repetitive. There is also one that asks for an opinion on a perspective bill. He has met with the Division of Local Government Services about some of these issues so they may be making some modifications to this document. The Mayor and Council had no comments or questions about our answers for this document.
2. **Ordinance Change to Special Sales- Christmas Trees:** Councilwoman Hayes advised that our current ordinance only allows for one license to sell Christmas trees, which she would like to amend. It currently is that way due to safety and parking issues that arose in the past. St. Mary's has asked to get a permit and is unable to at this point. After some discussion, edits will be made to the existing ordinance and it will be discussed again at the next meeting. Mr. Johnson advised that in order to address the request from St. Mary's the Council could provide relief to them in the meantime prior to the final ordinance change. The council all approved allowing St. Mary's to conduct their sale this year via voice vote.

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 10/15/18

Resolutions: R-137-18: Authorize Interlocal Services Agreement Mt. Olive- Animal Control and Human Law Enforcement Officer Services
R-138-18: Authorize Project Under Wharton Borough Community Rehab Program
R-139-18: Declaring Support for JCP&L Reliability Plus Plan

Approve Fire Department Application Joseph Nunn

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

- Minutes from Morris County Planning Board

Council Reports

Council President Yeager: No Report.

Councilman Binkoski: He attended the Library Gala which was a great event and a lot of fun. He met with the Lieutenant about a few issues. They are working on finalizing the Class III Officer for the School and have started the process of putting

together the Lieutenant's test in place. The Fire Department is hosting Safe Trick or Treating on Wednesday evening.

Councilman Corbett: He also attended the Library Gala. He has been in contact with the landscape architect about the 9/11 memorial and he has provided us with a concept plan. He wants to point out that we have been enforcing our water system for decades now, which came in very handy for the large fire that recently occurred in Dover. Our Fire Department responded and were pumping out of areas in our town. There is still no decision in the RVRSA lawsuit with Jersey City. He asked if we have followed up with the property on Main Street that the Fire Chief reported was in a dangerous condition? Mr. Rheinhardt advised that yes, Mr. Moreno has been in touch with the owner.

Councilwoman Hayes: No Report.

Councilwoman Veres: She also attended the Library Gala which was an excellent event. They raised a lot of money for the library. She would encourage everyone to check it out next year.

Councilwoman Wickenheisser: A reminder that the Police Department and Municipal Alliance are hosting a free Teen Suicide Awareness event at Duffy School on 11/14.

Mayor Chegwidden's Report: He wants to thank the Wharton Fire Department for their response to the fire in Dover. We were one the first departments to respond, there were over 40 that ultimately responded. Like Councilman Corbett mentioned, because we have been making sure our water system is up to date it certainly helped out our neighboring town. It also will help us if we ever have a fire here.

Open to the Public

Mayor Chegwidden opened the meeting to the public.

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

Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilman Binkoski and was seconded by Councilman Corbett to close this meeting.

October 29, 2018

ATTEST:

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN,
MAYOR

Gabrielle Evangelista,
Borough Clerk