

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**MAYOR AND COUNCIL**  
**JULY 15, 2019**

Mayor Chegwidden Called the Meeting to Order

Mayor Chegwidden read the Open Public Meeting Statement

Mayor Chegwidden requested Roll Call:

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

Also in attendance were Administrator Jon Rheinhardt, Borough Clerk Gabrielle Evangelista, and Attorney Roman Hirniak.

**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.

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

**Resolution**

Councilman Binkoski introduced R-121-19, "Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Police Officer."

A motion was made by Councilman Binkoski and was seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to adopt R-121-19.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-5 NAY-0 ABSENT-1 ABSTAIN- 0</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED</b>
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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.

<p>Approval of Bills: All bills referred to the Finance Committee to be paid if found correct.</p> <p>Approval of Minutes from 6/24/19</p> <p>Resolutions: R-122-19: Approve Tax Sale Redemption TSC 2018-002</p>
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R-123-19: Approve Tax Sale Redemption TSC 2018-013 PC7  
R-124-19: Municipal Alliance Supplemental  
R-125-19: Police Vehicle Purchase  
R-126-19: Award Bid Memorial Park  
R-127-19: Payout Fernandez

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

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-5 (Veres Abstained from Approval of Minutes) NAY-0  
ABSENT-1 ABSTAIN- Veres Abstained from Approval of Minutes

MOTION CARRIED

Correspondence

- Morris County Planning Board Minutes
- CDBG Award Recommendation
- Monthly Reports Clerk, Construction

Council Reports

**Council President Corbett:** He attended the Finance Committee Meeting of the RVRSA on 6/27. On 6/28 he attended the walkout ceremony and retirement dinner for Chief Fernandez. He congratulates the Chief on a distinguished, long career. On 6/29 he attended the National Night Out event, which went very well despite the bad weather immediately prior to the event. He also attended the multiple RVRSA meetings on 7/9 and 7/11. On 7/10 he attended the Morris County Freeholder Board meeting in Wharton where they advised that the Main Street extension should be starting sometime this fall. On 7/14 he attended the American Legion family picnic.

**Councilman Binkoski:** He would like to point out that the new officer that was just appointed is a long-time resident of Wharton. The Chief is on vacation and Lieutenant Hamilton is filling in for him while he is away. He did attend the National Night Out and the Chief's retirement dinner. He recently had a meeting with Chief Young where they discussed community outreach and expanding the department's social media presence. They also discussed the new vehicles that were approved to be purchased this evening.

**Councilwoman Hayes:** She attended the Chief's walkout and his dinner and wishes him the best. She attended the National Night Out. She took a drive around town with the Mayor and the DPW Director and it is amazing all of the things that are happening. She actually had someone comment to her this weekend about how busy the DPW always is. She also attended the Morris County Freeholder Board meeting in Wharton.

**Councilwoman Veres:** No Report

**Councilwoman Wickenheisser:** Absent

**Councilman Yeager:** He attended the Morris County Freeholder Board meeting in Wharton. He also attended a Tenancy Review Committee meeting. It is encouraging that businesses are looking to move into Main Street.

**Mayor Chegwidden's Report:** He wishes Chief Fernandez a great retirement. It was an emotional walkout and the dinner was also great. He addressed the contractor who was awarded the bid for Memorial Park, Andrew Bizub and advised him that he is excited about the project. Mr. Bizub advised that he is as well. They then discussed doing a groundbreaking ceremony. The Freeholders were very kind and said something nice things about the direction that Wharton is going in at their meeting here on 7/10. They also showed plans for the extension of Main Street. They

had been waiting to purchase a certain piece of property which was owned by a developer who Mayor Chegwidden recently met with. The developer is hoping to develop some of that area, which is a redevelopment zone, and will be bringing an application to the Planning Board when they are ready. This plan for the Main Street extension has been in the works for many years, at one point they wanted to have it go all the way to Rt. 15, but they were unable to because it would go over wetlands and the DEP would never approve it. More discussion about this followed. There was also discussion about a new off ramp from 80 onto 15 that is supposed to help with the intersection of 15 and Dewey and a possible new access to 80 from 15 N. These changes should hopefully have less truck traffic go through Wharton. Mayor Chegwidden then continued that we are starting to plan for the next Job Fair in September. Since we started doing them in 2012 Wharton's unemployment rate has fallen from 9.1% in 2012 to 3.4% in 2017, which is a lower rate than Morris County as a whole. He thanks Ms. Ghebreel for her help with the Job Fairs.

**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.

Ms. Ghebreel then showed the Mayor and Council photos from the National Night Out event.

**Adjournment**

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

July 15, 2019

ATTEST:

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

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WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN,  
MAYOR

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Gabrielle Evangelista,  
Borough Clerk