

RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
JANUARY 2, 2019

Attorney Petracca called the Meeting to Order and read the Open Public Meeting Statement as follows:

"This is the Annual Re-Organization meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wharton which was advertised in the print media as required by law. A copy of the annual meeting schedule is posted in the Municipal Building."

Swearing in of Mayor and Council Members

Attorney Petracca announced that the Morris County Clerk's Office has determined that at the last General Election, William J. Chegwiddden was duly elected to the position of Mayor for the Borough of Wharton for a term of four years.

Attorney Petracca called William J. Chegwiddden to the platform to be sworn in. Congratulations were offered by all in attendance.

Mayor Chegwiddden noted that when he first was elected his son was a baby and this past election was the first time that he was able to vote for his dad because he was 18. He thanks his wife for everything that she has done and put up with for all of the years that he was on the Council and has been Mayor.

Mayor Chegwiddden advised that Senator Bucco and Assemblyman Bucco were unable to attend, but they send their regards and have sent a representative.

Mayor Chegwiddden announced that the Morris County Clerk's Office has determined that at the last General Election, Nicole Wickenheisser and Thomas Yeager were duly elected to the positions of Council Members for the Borough of Wharton for a term of three years.

Mayor Chegwiddden called both members to the platform to be sworn in. Congratulations were offered by all in attendance.

Mayor Chegwiddden invited the newly elected members to address the public.

Councilwoman Wickenheisser: She thanks everyone for their votes and their support. She promises to work hard over the next three years.

Councilman Yeager: He thanks the citizens of Wharton for their support of the Council and the town.

Mayor Chegwiddden advised that Councilwoman Kanzenbach, Councilman Willis, Councilman Bloom, and Councilwoman Giordano from Mine Hill are all in attendance and he thanks them for coming.

Roll Call

Mayor Chegwiddden requested Roll Call:

Councilman Vincent Binkoski- Present  
Councilman Glenn Corbett- Present  
Councilwoman Sandra Hayes- Present  
Councilwoman Patricia Veres- Present  
Councilwoman Nicole Wickenheisser- Present  
Councilman Thomas Yeager- Present

Flag Salute

Mayor Chegwiddden led those present in the Salute to the American Flag.

Election of Council President

A motion was made by Councilwoman Hayes and was seconded by Councilman Yeager to elect Councilman Corbett as Council President for the year 2019.

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| ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-5 NAY-0 ABSENT-0 ABSTAIN- 1 (Corbett)<br>MOTION CARRIED |
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Fire Department Appointments

The following appointments are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Mayor and Council and were approved by one motion. There was no separate discussion of these appointments unless a council member requested, in which case, the appointment would have been considered separately.

Wharton Borough Fire Chief, Kyle Dorr, for the year 2019 - term to expire 12/31/19.

Wharton Borough Fire Department Deputy Chief, Brian Cronin, for the year 2019- term to expire 12/31/19.

Wharton Borough Battalion Chief, Eugene Minell, for the year 2019- term to expire 12/31/19.

Wharton Borough Fire Department Captain:

- Christopher Krasnick

Wharton Borough Fire Department Lieutenants:

- James McCormick
- Michael Marks Jr.

All one-year terms to expire 12/31/19.

A motion to confirm all appointments was made by Councilman Binkoski and was seconded by Councilman Corbett.

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| ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-6 NAY-0 ABSENT-0 ABSTAIN- 0<br>MOTION CARRIED |
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Mayor Chegwidden and Councilman Binkoski administered the Oaths of Office for the Fire Department. Congratulations were offered by all in attendance.

Police Department Appointments

Councilman Binkoski introduced R-01-19, "Authorizing the Appointment of An Acting Police Chief."

A motion was made by Councilman Binkoski and was seconded by Councilman Corbett to adopt R-01-19.

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| ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-6 NAY-0 ABSENT-0 ABSTAIN- 0<br>MOTION CARRIED |
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Mayor Chegwidden, Councilman Binkoski, and Chief Fernandez administered the Oath of Office for Acting Police Chief Young. Congratulations were offered by all in attendance.

Councilwoman Hayes introduced R-02-19, "Authorizing the Appointment of Police Lieutenants."

A motion was made by Councilwoman Hayes and was seconded by Councilman Yeager to adopt R-02-19.

Mayor Chegwidde, Councilman Binkoski, and Chief Fernandez administered the Oaths of Office for Lieutenant Hamilton and Lieutenant Kranz. Congratulations were offered by all in attendance.

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.

- Resolutions:
- R-03-19: Liability Search Officer for 2019
  - R-04-19: Tax Search Officer for 2019
  - R-05-19: Fixing Interest Rate on Delinquent Taxes for 2019
  - R-06-19: Designating Official Newspapers for 2019
  - R-07-19: Designating Public Agency Compliance Officer
  - R-08-19: Cash Management Plan for 2019
  - R-09-19: Professional Resolution
  - R-10-19: Appointment of 2019 Local Emergency Planning Committee
  - R-11-19: Authorizing the Tax Collector and Utility Collector to Cancel Any Balances under \$10.00 as Deemed Necessary
  - R-12-19: Authorizing Required Notice of Tort Claims
  - R-13-19: Authorizing Mayor to Execute Agreement for Risk Management Consultant Services for the Year 2019
  - R-14-19: Authorizing Re-Establishment of Petty Cash Funds
  - R-15-19: Temporary Budget for 2019
  - R-16-19: Volunteer Appreciation Program for 2019
  - R-17-19: Authorizing Participation in the Morris County Co-Operative Purchasing Program
  - R-18-19: Authorizing Participation in the State Co-Operative Purchasing Program
  - R-19-19: Authorizing Signatures on Borough Checks
  - R-20-19: Authorizing Certain Payments Outside of Scheduled Council Meetings
  - R-21-19: Establish Bid Threshold
  - R-22-19: Authorizing Mayor, Administrator and Borough Clerk to Execute and Submit Grant Applications if Due Date is Outside of Scheduled Council Meetings
  - R-23-19: Authorizing Treasurer to Sign and Approve Purchase Orders in the Event the Administrator/CFO is not Available
  - R-24-19: Authorizing Returned Check Fee
  - R-25-19: Authorizing Participation in the Somerset County Co-Operative Purchasing Program
  - R-26-19: Authorizing Participation in the Bergen County Co-Operative Purchasing Program
  - R-27-19: Authorizing Participation in the Educational Services Commission of NJ Co-Operative Purchasing Program
  - R-28-19: Approve Agreement Health Benefits Producer
  - R-29-19: Temporary Capital Budget
  - R-30-19: Authorizing Participation in the Cranford Police Co-Operative Purchasing Program
  - R-31-19: 2019 Meeting Schedule for Mayor and Council Meetings
  - R-32-19: Setting Hourly Fee for Independent Attorneys

Mayor's Appointments that Require Council Consent

Alternate School Crossing Guards- Tina Ayala, Alice Doblosky, Melissa Phelan, and Laura White, one-year terms to expire 12/31/19

Assistant Administrator- Gabrielle Evangelista, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Assistant to Construction Official- Desinez Ruffo, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Board of Health Member- Margaret Corbett, three-year term to expire 12/31/21

Board of Health Secretary- Desinez Ruffo, to fill the remainder of a five-year term to expire 12/31/22

Board of Health Secretary for Licensing- Robin Ghebreal, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Building Inspector- Andre Brezina, tenure

Certifying Payroll Officers- Diana Fernandez, Jon Rheinhardt, and Katelin Lorito one-year terms to expire 12/31/19

Clean Communities Coordinator- Patricia Craven, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Community Affairs Coordinator- Robin Ghebreal, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Construction Official- Andre Brezina, tenure

Deputy Borough Clerk- Robin Ghebreal and Diana Fernandez, one-year terms to expire 12/31/19

Deputy Emergency Management Coordinators- David Young and Leon Stickle, one-year terms to expire 12/31/19

Deputy Fire Official- Douglas Svoboda, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Deputy Housing Enforcement Officer- Patrick Laverty, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Deputy Tax Collector- Patty Craven, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Deputy Water/Sewer Collector- Diana Fernandez, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Director of Public Works- Scott Hutchins, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Electrical Subcode Official- Edward Scott Lavenburg, four-year term to expire 12/31/22

Fire Official- Richard Cloughley, one-year term to expire, 12/31/19

Grant Coordinator- John Manna, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Matrons- Jennifer DePaul, Alice Doblosky, Laura Getchuis, Debra Malson, Jen O'Malley-Dorr, Vicky Santana-Stickle, and Bonnie Sullivan, one-year terms to expire 12/31/19

Morris County Open Space and Farmland Preservation Representative- John Manna, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Municipal Alliance Coordinator- Robin Ghebreal, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Municipal Housing Liaison for COAH- Patrick Laverty, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Personnel Administrator- Gabrielle Evangelista, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Planning Board Secretary- Patricia Craven, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Plumbing Sub Code Official- James Gonroski, tenure

Police Chaplain- Thomas Beirne, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Qualified Purchasing Agent- Jon Rheinhardt, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Recreation Director- Robin Ghebreel, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Recycling Coordinator- Scott Hutchins, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Rockaway River Watershed Cabinet Representatives- Glenn Corbett and Thomas Yeager, one-year terms to expire 12/31/19

School Crossing Guards- Suzanne Adams, Joyce Hon, Kathleena Jackson, Tonya Jackson-Provost, Jackie Kelly, Maureen Macalalag, Robert Thrower, and Lois Werts, one-year terms to expire 12/31/19

Tax Collector- Diana Fernandez, tenure

Treasurer- Katelin Lorito, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Water/Sewer Clerk- Patty Craven, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Zoning/Housing Enforcement Official/Road Opening Official - Pedro Moreno, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Committee Appointments:

Alternate Members to Finance Committee - #1 - Councilman Binkoski and #2 – Councilwoman Wickenheisser

Community Relations- (includes Recreation Committee, Celebration Public Events, Regionalization Committee- Shared Services, Senior Citizen Association) – Councilwoman Wickenheisser

Environmental Commission- Consists of Mayor and Council Members

Finance- (includes Insurance, Budget, Personnel, CFO, Street Lighting, Tax Assessor, Tax Collector, Community Development) - Councilman Corbett

Finance Committee- Councilman Corbett (Chair), Councilwoman Hayes, and Councilman Yeager

Health/Welfare- (includes Board of Health, Public Assistance, Library) – Councilwoman Veres

Personnel Committee- Councilman Corbett, Councilwoman Hayes (Chair), and Councilman Yeager

Public Affairs- (includes Building Inspector, Housing Inspector, Planning Board, Licenses, Zoning Officer, School Sub-Committee, Youth Advisory) - Councilman Yeager

Public Safety- (includes Police Department, Fire Department, First Aid Squad, Municipal Court, Emergency Management, Elections) - Councilman Binkoski

Public Works- (includes Parks, Building/Grounds, Sanitation, Maintenance Shop, Engineering, Streets and Roads, Water and Sewer) – Councilwoman Hayes

Council Appointments in Accordance with State Statutes:

Council Representative to the Morris County Community Development Revenue Sharing Committee- John Manna, one-year term to expire 12/31/19.

Planning Board Class III Member- Councilman Thomas Yeager, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

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

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

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor's Appointments- Mayor Chegwidden made the following appointments:

Alternate Member to the Community Development Revenue Sharing Committee- Sandra Hayes, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Mayor Representative to the Morris County Community Development Revenue Sharing Committee- Vincent Binkoski, one-year term to expire 12/31/19

Municipal Alliance Committee Members- Mayor William Chegwidden, Councilwoman Nicole Wickenheisser, Acting Police Chief David Young, Administrator Jon Rheinhardt, Sheriff James Gannon, Superintendent Christopher Herdman, Cheryl Provence, Dawn Klose, Jennifer Hobbs, Theresa Yeager, Pamela Schiele, Eleazar Cortezano, Luis Rua, Justin Harris-Bennett, Kevin Hernandez, Bonnie LaVoie, and Susan Downer, one-year terms to expire 12/31/19

Planning Board Alternates- Brian Bosworth and Christopher Fleischman, two-year terms to expire 12/31/20

Planning Board Class II Member- Patrick O'Brien, four-year term to expire 12/31/22

Planning Board Class IV Members- Peter Rathjens and Jared Coursen, four-year terms to expire 12/31/22

Council Remarks

Council President Corbett: He wishes everyone a Happy New Year. According to the Finance Department, the Borough is in a very good financial position and we should have a good year. Good luck to everyone with their new appointments.

Councilman Binkoski: Happy New Year to everyone. As the Fire Department liaison, he welcomes Chief Dorr back to the team along with all of the other new officers. As the Police liaison, he is excited to welcome Acting Chief Young and Lieutenant Hamilton and Lieutenant Kranz. Tonight's a new chapter for the Wharton PD which is a happy and exciting time. Soon Chief Fernandez will be retiring which will be another evening. He is looking forward to working with everyone and to a great year. Congratulations to Mayor Chegwidden, Councilwoman Wickenheisser and Councilman Yeager.

Councilwoman Hayes: As the liaison to the DPW, she has a few updates. They are currently fully staffed. With the fleet we are all set on light trucks after the purchase that we just made, some of the older trucks still need to be replaced. Mr. Hutchins and Mr. Rheinhardt have come up with a list of needs that she will present to the Finance Committee for capital planning purposes. We are currently looking into purchasing a crack sealing machine in cooperation with Mt. Arlington. There are numerous projects around town that they try to balance and fit into the capital budget over time. Currently they are looking at street improvements as necessary based on the rating system, park improvements for Columbia and Langdon, old water tank refurbishment, and the water main project off of Main Street. They are

also looking into doing an I and I infiltration study in 2019. Most importantly, they are ready for any snow that comes. Happy New Year to everyone.

Councilwoman Veres: She wishes everyone a Happy New Year. Congratulations to Mayor Chegwidden, Councilwoman Wickenheisser, and Councilman Yeager. Congratulations to all of the Fire and Police appointees. She is looking forward to a great new year in Wharton.

Councilwoman Wickenheisser: She congratulates everyone that was sworn in tonight. She is looking forward to a great 2019. Happy New Year to everyone.

Councilman Yeager: Happy New Year to everyone. Congratulations to all of the new officers of the Fire Department and the Police Department. He is looking forward to a great year.

Mayor Chegwidden's Remarks:

First, he wants to note that it is a team effort to run the Borough. Everyone together, over the last 29 years that Chief Fernandez has been Chief. He has been there for 21 of those years and Councilman Corbett has been there for 27 of those years. He thanks everyone from the Town Hall employees, the Police Department, the Fire Department, and the DPW, it is all a team effort and he appreciates that.

Some of the accomplishments from this year include road improvements on Curtis, Gallagher, Newton, East Central, and Baker Ave. We've added the new recycling center hours in order to combat the illegal dumping that was happening there. Redevelopment continues, you can see on Main Street the construction of Port Oram Village which should be completed this year. We brought the public into our efforts of Main Street revitalization, we got some great ideas from the strategic planning meetings that are starting to be implemented. He thanks everyone who has participated with that.

Coming in 2019, we have tentatively planned roadway improvements to Columbia and East Sterling. The Main Street extension is waiting on the DEP for approvals, but that should also be this year. We have partnered with the Park Commission on a trolley train along the canal, which is moving along. We received grant money for marking the Irondale Mountain trails. A big project for 2019 is revitalizing Memorial Park. We purchased the house in the middle of the park and the committee has put together a gorgeous plan for the park. Langdon Park will also be getting a face lift. There is also a committee working on putting in a dog park in town. The efforts to revitalize Main Street continue. Some of the developments that have been lingering a bit, should be starting soon.

We continue to be financially sound, we remain the second lowest municipal tax per capita in Morris County and the fourth lowest per capita of total taxes in Morris County. That is through the work of the Council. We are one of the only towns in the State that are debt free, meaning we owe nothing in our general obligation or water or sewer. Thank you to the Council. Thank you to Councilwoman Wickenheisser and Councilman Yeager for running with him again this year. Thank you to all of the volunteers in town.

He would also like to recognize Chief Pepperman from Rockaway Borough for attending tonight's meeting. Chief Fernandez advised that Lt. Kranz's father and uncle are both former police officers whom are in attendance. Morris County Freeholder Doug Cabana is also in attendance.

Public Portion

Mayor Chegwidden opened the meeting to the public, if you wish to be heard, please stand stating your name and address.

Chief Fernandez advised that anyone not attending the Fire Department festivities is invited to the Police Department festivities following the meeting.

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

*Adjournment*

A motion to adjourn was made by Council President Corbett and was seconded by Councilman Yeager.

January 2, 2019

ATTEST:

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Gabrielle Evangelista,  
Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

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