

**REGULAR MEETING- HELD VIRTUALLY**  
**MAYOR AND COUNCIL**  
**APRIL 20, 2020**

Mayor Chegwidden Called the Meeting to Order

Mayor Chegwidden read the Open Public Meeting Statement

Mayor Chegwidden requested Roll Call:

Council President Binkoski- Present  
Councilwoman Hayes- Present  
Councilman Norton- Present  
Councilwoman Vasquez- Present  
Councilwoman Wickenheisser- Present  
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.

Mayor Chegwidden advised that prior to opening to the public, he would like to thank some people. First, the President and Vice President for helping to get us the equipment that we need. Thank you to the State, the Governor, and the County for setting up testing systems. He also thanks Councilwoman Wickenheisser who has been volunteering at one of the testing sites. Thank you to all of the doctors and nurses who have been on the front lines taking on a big responsibility every day. Thank you to our first responders who are out every day. Thank you to our health department and our nurse for everything they do, he is very proud of them. Lastly, he wants to thank the residents for doing the right thing and staying home. The curve is starting to come down. As of today, we have 110 total cases in Wharton, 27 recoveries, and 4 deaths. He would like to take a moment of silence for those residents who have passed.

Following the moment of silence-

**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. If you wish to be heard, please click the "Raise Hand" button, and we will be notified of your request to talk. Mayor Chegwidden will recognize you, and your microphone will be un-muted to allow you to speak. Once you have completed speaking your mic will be re-muted.

**Morris County Freeholder, Stephen Shaw:** Freeholder Shaw advised that himself and the other Freeholders have been able to attend more Council meetings with them being held virtually. He wants to thank the Mayor and Council for their work during this trying time. He also echoes all of the thanks from Mayor Chegwidden to the first responders and hospital workers. The County is operating and are carrying on providing essential services. Certain departments such as the County Administrator, Health and Human Services, and the Sheriff's Department have been putting in a lot of work and are doing a great job, they are willing to assist with whatever has been asked of them. The County testing sites are operating well and have been able to set aside some appointments for Sussex County as well. The

County is here to help the town with whatever they can. He offers his condolences to the families of those we have lost.

Mayor Chegwidden thanked Freeholder Shaw and thanked the County for everything that they are doing.

**Former Councilman, Glenn Corbett:** Councilman Corbett asked since there was an increase between last Friday and today if the town is aware of any area of town that has a cluster of cases of COVID-19. Mayor Chegwidden advised that we are not made aware of locations, and have not heard of any clusters. Councilman Corbett advised that it will be interesting to see going forward if there were any clusters, what the cause of them may be, and if there's anything the town can do to alleviate them.

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

**Ordinance**

Councilwoman Wickenheisser presented O-07-20, "An Ordinance Adopting an Amended Redevelopment Plan for Block 1317, Lots 1-23 in the Borough of Wharton," 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 Wickenheisser and was seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to adopt O-07-20 on second and final reading.

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

Councilwoman Hayes presented O-08-20, "An Ordinance to Provide for a Water Utility Capital Project Enumerated within for the Borough of Wharton, County of Morris, and to Provide for the Funding Thereof," 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 Yeager to adopt O-08-20 on second and final reading.

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

Council President Binkoski introduced O-09-20, "An Ordinance Amending Chapter 165, Section 86 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Wharton County of Morris, State of New Jersey," on first reading, by title only.

A motion was made by Council President Binkoski and was seconded by Councilman Yeager to adopt O-09-20 on first reading.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-6 NAY-0 ABSENT-0 ABSTAIN-0	MOTION CARRIED
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Mayor Chegwidden set the date of May 18, 2020 for second and final reading.

**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.**

- Resolutions: R-66-20: Tax Sale Redemption TSC# 2014-031  
R-67-20: 2021 Reassessment  
R-68-20: Change Snow Emergency Trust to COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Trust  
R-69-20: Award Bid East Dewey Avenue Improvements**

**Council President Binkoski made a motion to approve the items on the Consent Agenda which was seconded by Councilman Norton.**

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Correspondence**

- **Monthly Report Treasurer**

**Council Reports**

**Council President Binkoski: He has been meeting via phone with Mr. Hutchins. In order to protect the employees, the DPW is still alternating shifts. One of the teams is now only working on updating the crosswalk at Kossuth while the other works on regular activities. Both teams are starting at different times in order to keep up with social distancing. He hopes everyone is staying safe.**

**Councilwoman Hayes: She thanks the Finance Committee and Mr. Rheinhardt for their flexibility because they have had some phone meetings lately. She also thanks everyone who has dropped off items for her daughter, who is a nurse, to take into work. She greatly appreciates it.**

**Councilman Norton: Soccer has decided to cancel their spring season. They are still working out how they will be dealing with payments that have already been received. Little League has heard from their national organization that nothing will happen prior to 5/11, but we will have to see. He hopes everyone is staying safe and thanks everyone for all that they are doing.**

**Councilwoman Vasquez: No report.**

**Councilwoman Wickenheisser: She attended the virtual Planning Board meeting. She wanted to make sure that people who are struggling with addiction and other mental health issues know that Prevention is Key is still holding meetings online. We will share their information on the Borough's website and social media accounts so people can access those services if they need them. Thank you to all of the front line workers.**

**Councilman Yeager: No report.**

**Mayor Chegwiddden's Report:** He would like to thank all of volunteers who have been shopping and picking up prescriptions for our seniors in town. We've gone through the list several times. He also attended the virtual Planning Board meeting.

**Open to the Public**

Mayor Chegwiddden opened the meeting to the public.

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

He thanks the public for joining us tonight.

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Councilman Yeager and was seconded by Councilman Norton to close this meeting.

April 20, 2020

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

ATTEST:

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WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN,  
MAYOR

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Gabrielle Evangelista,  
Borough Clerk