

MINUTES
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 8, 2021

Mayor Chegwidden called the meeting to order and read the Open Public Meeting Statement.

Roll Call

Mayor Chegwidden requested Roll Call:

- Council President Nicole Wickenheisser
- Councilman Vincent Binkoski
- Councilwoman Sandra Hayes
- Councilman Robert Norton
- Councilwoman Paola Vasquez
- Councilman Thomas Yeager

Flag Salute

Mayor Chegwidden lead those present in the Salute to the American Flag.

Open to the Public

Mayor Chegwidden opened the meeting to the public via Zoom.

Jose Ortiz from JCP&L introduced himself to the Mayor and Council. He is now our representative for Wharton. He let the Mayor and Council know that in March there will be trimming done in town and he will give them more updated information as it gets closer.

Mayor Chegwidden closed the meeting to the public.

Ordinance

Councilwoman Hayes introduced O-01-21, “An Ordinance to Provide for a General Capital Project Enumerated within for of the Borough of Wharton, County of Morris, State of New Jersey,” on second reading, by title only.

Motion by Councilwoman Hayes and seconded by Councilman Binkoski to adopt O-01-21 on second and final reading.

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

Council President Wickenheisser introduced O-02-21, “An Ordinance to Provide for a General Capital Project Enumerated within for of the Borough of Wharton, County of Morris, State of New Jersey,” on second reading, by title only.

Motion by Council President Wickenheisser and seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to adopt O-02-21 on second and final reading.

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

Councilwoman Hayes introduced O-03-21, “An Ordinance Fixing the Salary of Certain Officers and Employees of the Borough of Wharton, County of Morris, State of New Jersey,” on second reading, by title only.

Motion by Councilwoman Hayes and seconded by Councilman Norton to adopt O-03-21 on second and final reading.

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

Resolutions:

- R-041-21: Overpayments of Property Taxes
- R-042-21: Grant Application for DOT, E. Sterling to Columbia Project
- R-044-21: Revised Rate for 2021 Sewer Connection Charge
- R-045-21: Municipal Alliance Letter of Agreement
- R-046-21: Transfer Resolution
- R-047-21: North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund
- R-048-21: Tax Redemption
- R-049-21: Award Bid Contract Dell-Tech Inc. for Canal Restoration
- R-050-21: Award Bid Contract Van Cleef Eng. for Canal Restoration
- R-051-21: Award Bid Contract Hunter Research for Canal Restoration
- R-052-21: Bond Resolution for Redevelopment Area, Main Street

Minutes for the January 18th, 2021 Meeting

Motion by Council President Wickenheisser and seconded by Councilman Binkoski to approve the items on the consent agenda.

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

Letter from Planning Board regarding Stormwater Ordinance O-04-21
Letter regarding Air Products Property

Council Remarks:

Councilman Binkoski: Asked the Mayor if there has been any updated information on the new county road opening. Mayor stated that he believed the issue was with Verizon. Chief Young stated that Verizon is still working on wires in that area and the weather has also caused some delay. He thanked the Department of Public Works for the clean up after the storm. He stated that they are running out of places to actually put the snow. He thanked the Police Department for getting the cars off the roads and making sure sidewalks are being taken care of. He stated that the DPW carried over a large quantity of salt from last year which is good since we have needed it this year. He thanked the Mayor and Jon for bringing coffee and breakfast to the DPW workers during the storm. The Mayor also noted that Council President Wickenheisser brought sandwiches for the DPW crew and that she has been volunteering in the COVID testing center.

Councilwoman Hayes: Thanked the Department of Public Works for the storm clean up and thanked the Police Department for all their hard work as well.

Councilman Norton: Thanked the Department of Public Works for the storm clean up and the Police Department for their work during the storm. He noted that Municipal Alliance will be holding a sleigh riding event this Thursday night at Robert Street Park.

Councilwoman Vasquez: Stated that she will be attending the sleigh riding event with her children. She stated that the Library Board of Trustees held their meeting on January 19th. The new Library Board President is Ana Jones and the new Vice President is Michelle Howe. She thanked the Department of Public Works and the Police Department for all their work during the storm.

Councilwoman Wickenheisser: Stated that the Planning Board is meeting Tuesday, February 9th. She thanked the Department of Public Works and the Police Department for all their work during the storm.

Councilman Yeager: Thanked the Department of Public Works, the Police Department and the Fire Department for their work during the storm.

Mayor Chegwiddden's Remarks: Noted that there is no parking on streets when it is snowing as it makes it difficult for the snow plows to get around parked cars. The Town will be removing cars that are left on the streets in snow storms. He reminded everyone that residents need to clean their sidewalks. The sidewalks are needed for children to walk to school and in case of emergencies. He stated that the number of COVID cases since the pandemic began are 724 cases of which 689 people have been released. He said that he was very sad to report that we have lost 9 residents. He stated that Morris County gives us our numbers for the pandemic and we are always counting on them for updated information. He stated that the Planning Board will be meeting on February 9th to pass the resolution for 170 No. Main Street. He thanked the Department of Public Works for cleaning the streets so well during the storm. The streets are always clear in our town and we need them to be as residents have to use them and in case of any emergencies. He thanked the Town Hall employees for being open and working through the pandemic.

Public Portion

Mayor Chegwiddden opened the meeting to the public via Zoom.

Mayor Chegwiddden closed the meeting to the public.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Yeager and seconded by Councilman Binkoski.