

REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MARCH 22, 2021

Mayor Chegwidden called the Meeting to Order

Mayor Chegwidden read the Open Public Meeting Statement

Mayor Chegwidden requested Roll Call:

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

Presentations

- **Public hearing on municipal parking lot project:** Mr. Rheinhardt went over the plans to re-do the parking lots around Town Hall, the Police Station, and the Library. Residents and nearby business owners- Fran Shurgot, Brandon and Tom Rodkewitz, and Mark Nowak had some questions and suggestions about the current plans. Ms. Shurgot was concerned about light from the car's headlights shining into her home as well as having a barrier to avoid cars accidentally coming onto her property. Mr. Brandon Rodkewitz asked about the change to the intersection and wanted to make sure that there was enough room for businesses to receive deliveries. Mr. Tom Rodkewitz asked about on street parking. Mr. Nowak brought up an issue that he is going to have with the ability for a truck with a crane to be able to pull up to his building as necessary. We will bring the concerns and suggestions to the Engineer of the project to see what solutions he can come up with. There was also discussion about electric vehicle charging stations, which are not going to be put in at this time, and permitted parking spots. Everyone thanked the residents and business owners for coming.
- **Legal update on recently adopted cannabis legislation:** Mr. Hirniak, along with Chief Young, went over the attached presentation on the recently adopted cannabis legislation. After a short discussion, Councilman Yeager

made a motion to have the proper ordinances drafted for the Borough to opt out of licensing all 6 classes of establishments, which was seconded by Council President Wickenheisser.

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

MOTION CARRIED

There was also discussion about the need to update the Borough's ordinances for use in public places. Councilman Yeager made a motion to have the proper ordinances updated to prohibit use in public places, which was seconded by Council President Wickenheisser. This motion was approved via voice vote. Chief Young will work with Council President Wickenheisser and Councilwoman Vasquez on these updates and will bring them back to the Mayor and Council for consideration.

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.

Ordinance

Councilman Binkoski presented O-05-21, "An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Sign an Agreement with the Wharton Borough Teamsters Union Local 469," 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 Councilman Binkoski and was seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to adopt O-05-21 on second and final reading.

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

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance

Councilwoman Hayes introduced O-06-21, “An Amending Chapter 40, Article I, Section 7C 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 Councilwoman Hayes and was seconded by Councilman Binkoski to adopt O-06-21 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 April 5, 2021 for second and final reading.

Ordinance

Council President Wickenheisser introduced O-07-21, “An Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a CAP Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14),” on first reading, by title only.

A motion was made by Council President Wickenheisser and was seconded by Councilman Binkoski to adopt O-07-21 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 April 5, 2021 for second and final reading.

2021 Municipal Budget

Councilwoman Hayes introduced R-59-21 – the 2021 Municipal Budget.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Hayes and was seconded by Councilman Yeager to adopt the introduction of the 2021 Municipal Budget.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-6 NAY-0 ABSENT-0 ABSTAIN-0	MOTION CARRIED
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Mayor Chegwidden set the meeting of April 19, 2021 for the public hearing on the 2021 Municipal Budget.

2021 Special District Budget

Councilman Binkoski introduced R-60-21 – the 2021 Special District Budget.

A motion was made by Councilman Binkoski and was seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to adopt the introduction of the 2021 Special District Budget.

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

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Chegwiddden set the meeting of April 19, 2021 for the public hearing on the 2021 Special District Budget.

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: Approve all bills referred to the Finance Committee.

Approval of Minutes: Approve Minutes from 3/8/21 Meeting

- Resolutions:**
- R-61-21: 2021 Recycling Tonnage Grant**
 - R-62-21: Refund Overpayment on Affidavit 2020-014**
 - R-63-21: Temporary Budget Amendment**
 - R-64-21: Opposing the Prohibition on Law Enforcement Officers from Notifying Parents of Underage Individuals Regarding a First-Time Offense of Possessing and/or Consuming Marijuana, Hashish, Cannabis, and Alcoholic Beverages**
 - R-65-21: Support S-3522**
 - R-66-21: Authorize Signing of Agreements NJDOT**
 - R-67-21: Budget Transfers**

Appoint Stephanie Mertz as an Alternate Crossing Guard for a one-year term to expire 12/31/21.

Approve Recreation Application- Arnaldo Ortiz and Melissa Kaban for Community Yoga

A motion was made by Council President Wickenheisser 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

- Notice of Ordinances- Roxbury, Rockaway Township, Randolph
- Notice of Resolution Morris County
- Notice of Housing Element and Fair Share Plan- Roxbury

Council Reports

Council President Wickenheisser: The Construction Department was recently rated by the insurance company and we received a great report. She attended the Library Board meeting and the Tenancy Review Committee meeting for Mr. Quinn's property.

Council Binkoski: He attended negotiations with the Police Department for their union contract.

Councilwoman Hayes: No report.

Councilman Norton: We are getting ready to start spring sports soon. In April we will have another outdoor Job Fair. As of now, we have over 40 companies signed up to attend.

Councilwoman Vasquez: She attended the Library Board meeting where they discussed re-opening the Library. They are working with the new Interim Director and are hoping it will happen in approximately 2 weeks. The Board of Health provided information for the April Mayor's newsletter about helping seniors sign up for the Covid Vaccines. They have already registered many people.

Councilman Yeager: He attended the negotiations with the Police Department. He would like to recognize Detective Ornelas who, along with his wife, saved the life of an injured skier they came across while on vacation.

Mayor Chegwidde's Report: Himself, Mr. Rheinhardt, the Building Inspector Mr. Brezina, and the Fire Official Mr. Cloughley met with representatives from DMI. They have been in Wharton for a long time and they are working with them on some items. He attended the Municipal Alliance meeting. They are not sure if they are going to be able to have the carnival this year.

Open to the Public

Mayor Chegwidde opened the meeting to the public.

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

Adjournment

A motion was made by Council President Wickenheisser and was seconded by Councilman Binkoski to close the Mayor and Council meeting. This motion was approved by voice vote.

March 22, 2021

ATTEST:

**Gabrielle Evangelista,
Borough Clerk**

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

**WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN,
MAYOR**