

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**MAYOR AND COUNCIL**  
**NOVEMBER 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 Joseph Kovalcik Jr., 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**

Mayor Chegwidden opened the meeting to the public.

**Paula Aristizabal, W. Dewey Ave:** Ms. Aristizabal is one of the regular users of the Wharton Dog Park. She is hoping that the Council will consider adding some lights at the Dog Park. It will allow people more time to utilize it, especially during the winter months when it gets dark so early. Mayor Chegwidden advised that he and Chief Young actually have already spoken to JCP&L about adding a light there and it is in the works. Chief Young advised that they told him it will take a few months, but it is coming.

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

**Ordinance**

Councilman Binkoski introduced O-17-21, “An Ordinance Amending Chapter 330 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 Councilman Binkoski and was seconded by Councilman Yeager to adopt O-17-21.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-6 NAY-0 ABSENT-0 ABSTAIN-0</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED</b>
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Mayor Chegwidden set the date of December 6, 2021 for second and final reading.

**Ordinance**

Council President Wickenheisser introduced O-18-21, “An Ordinance Amending Chapter 247 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 Wickenheisser and was seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to adopt O-18-21.

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

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Chegwiddden set the date of December 6, 2021 for second and final reading.

Discussion

- **Permit Parking:** Chief Young advised that they are working on the proposed plan for the new municipal and library parking lots. There is going to be a mixture of employee, business parking for people utilizing Town Hall and nearby businesses, and permitted spots. There will still be no overnight parking unless in a permitted space, but people utilizing the business spaces can utilize them until 3 am. They will also still allow people to park overnight in case of inclement weather as long as they notify the Police Department. Discussion about this followed including the Library Director. Chief Young and Mr. Hirniak will continue working on putting together the ordinance updates for this.

Consent Agenda

The following items are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Mayor and Council and are approved by one motion. There is no separate discussion of these items unless a council member or citizen so requests, in which case, the item is 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:** 11/08/21

- Resolutions:** R-142-21: Requesting Approval of Items of Revenue and Appropriation  
R-143-21: Budget Transfers  
R-144-21: Authorizing Adopting of Flexible Spending Plan

A motion was made by Council President Wickenheisser, which was seconded by Councilman Yeager to approve all of the items on the Consent Agenda.

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

MOTION CARRIED

Correspondence

- Notice of Ordinance Dover
- Notice of Resolution Morris County

Council Reports

**Council President Wickenheisser:** She met with the Zoning Officer, Mr. Lewthwaite, and Mr. Hirniak about some changes to the zoning ordinance. They will be forthcoming. She attended the Veteran's Day Eve Parade which was very nice. She attended the Soccer meeting. She attended the Fire Department inspection and dinner and thanks them. She wishes everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

**Councilman Binkoski:** He attended the Veteran's Day Eve Parade. It was really good to be back. He attended the Fire Department inspection and dinner, which was nice. He wishes everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

**Councilwoman Hayes:** She attended the Veteran's Day Eve Parade and the Fire Department event, which was fabulous. Thank you to Chief Minell for everything he has done this year.

**Councilman Norton:** He attended the Veteran’s Day Eve Parade and the Fire Department event. The annual Tree Lighting event is going to be on December 12<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.

**Councilwoman Vasquez:** She attended the Library Board meeting and wants to note that the new director, Ms. Daley is great. They have a lot of great programs for all ages. The heat has been repaired by the DPW. The tax preparation will be coming back in the spring. She also attended the Soccer meeting. The Rabies Shot clinic is scheduled for December 9<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm. She met with some of the business owners on Main Street to go over plans for the parking lots.

**Councilman Yeager:** He attended the Veteran’s Day Eve Parade and the Fire Department inspection and dinner.

He then introduced and read R-145-21, “Resolution Authorizing Appointment.”

A motion was made by Councilman Yeager and was seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to adopt R-145-21.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-6 NAY-0 ABSENT-0 ABSTAIN-0	MOTION CARRIED
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**Mayor Chegwidden’s Report:** Congratulations to the Fire Department on a great inspection and event. Thank you to Chief Minell for everything he has done this year. He attended the NJLM conference and thanks the Council for their support even though things didn’t go his way. He attended the Veteran’s Day Eve parade, which was a great event. He met with Council President Wickenheisser and Councilwoman Vasquez about a redevelopment plan. He wishes everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

**Open to the Public**

Mayor Chegwidden opened the meeting to the public.

**Gene Minell, Chief Wharton Fire Department:** He thanks the Mayor and Council for attending the inspection and dinner and for all of their support. He wishes everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Councilwoman Vasquez thanked the Fire Department for a great event and noted that she really enjoyed them spreading gratitude to their families.

Mayor Chegwidden advised that is was nice to see Bill Skewes being honored for 60 years of service as well as Lenny Williams and Bill Rhead.

**David Young, Chief Wharton Police:** Congratulations to Chief Minell and thank you for working with the Police Department this year. They have recently been doing speed surveys of some areas that they have received complaints about. They did them on Robert St. and Baker Ave. and found that the average speed for both was below the speed limit and the majority of people are not violating it. Of course it is only for a period of time that they are surveying. They also did some extra enforcement in the area of Main/Baker as well.

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

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Hayes and was seconded by Councilman Binkoski to close the meeting. This motion was approved by voice vote.

November 22, 2021

**BOROUGH OF WHARTON**

**ATTEST:**

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**Gabrielle Evangelista,  
Borough Clerk**

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**WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN,  
MAYOR**