

REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MARCH 28, 2022

Mayor Chegwidden called the Meeting to Order

Mayor Chegwidden read the Open Public Meeting Statement

Mayor Chegwidden requested Roll Call:

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

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

Ordinance

Councilwoman Hayes presented O-04-22, “An Ordinance to Provide for General Capital Projects 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-04-22.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-4 NAY-0 ABSENT-2 ABSTAIN-0	MOTION CARRIED
---	-----------------------

Ordinance

Councilwoman Hayes presented O-05-22, “An Ordinance to Provide for Water Capital Projects Enumerated Within for the Borough of Wharton, County of Morris, and to Provide for the Funding Thereof,” on second reading, by title only.

Mayor Chegwiddden opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments on this ordinance only.

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

A motion was made by Councilwoman Hayes and was seconded by Councilman Yeager to adopt O-05-22.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-4 NAY-0 ABSENT-2 ABSTAIN-0

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance

Councilman Yeager presented O-06-22, “An Ordinance to Provide for Sewer Capital Projects Enumerated Within for the Borough of Wharton, County of Morris, and to Provide for the Funding Thereof,” on second reading, by title only.

Mayor Chegwiddden opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments on this ordinance only.

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

A motion was made by Councilman Yeager and was seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to adopt O-06-22.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-4 NAY-0 ABSENT-2 ABSTAIN-0

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance

Councilman Yeager introduced O-08-22, “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 Councilman Yeager and was seconded by Councilwoman Wickenheisser to adopt O-08-22 on first reading.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-4 NAY-0 ABSENT-2 ABSTAIN-0

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Chegwidden to set the date of April 11, 2022 for second and final reading.

2022 Municipal Budget

Councilwoman Hayes introduced R-61-22 – the 2022 Municipal Budget.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Hayes and was seconded by Councilman Yeager to adopt the introduction of the 2022 Municipal Budget.

Mr. Kovalcik advised that this is a strong budget. It's compliant with all laws and regulations. It includes a strong capital budget. We had an increase in rates this year, which was helpful. Our Municipal estimated increase is 1.399, which is well below the State's COL at approx. 3% and the Federal at approx. 7%. We are still waiting for final numbers, but we are anticipating an overall tax decrease for the average home.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-4 NAY-0 ABSENT-2 ABSTAIN-0	MOTION CARRIED
---	-----------------------

Mayor Chegwidden set the meeting of April 25, 2022 for the public hearing and second reading of the 2022 Municipal Budget.

2022 Special District Budget

Councilwoman Hayes introduced R-62-22 – the 2022 Special District Budget.

Mr. Kovalcik advised that this budget is similar to previous ones.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Hayes and was seconded by Councilman Norton to adopt the introduction of the 2022 Special District Budget.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-4 NAY-0 ABSENT-2 ABSTAIN-0	MOTION CARRIED
---	-----------------------

Mayor Chegwidden set the meeting of April 25, 2022 for the public hearing on the 2022 Special District Budget.

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

Resolutions: R-63-22: Approve Contract Morris Hills

R-64-22: Accept Grant Local Recreation Improvement 2021

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

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA: 4 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 2 ABSTAIN: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Correspondence

- **Notice of Ordinance from Mine Hill**
- **Morris County Planning Board Minutes**

Council Reports

Council President Vasquez: Absent.

Councilman Binkoski: Absent.

Councilwoman Hayes: No report.

Councilman Norton: No report.

Councilwoman Wickenheisser: No report.

Councilman Yeager: No report

Mayor Chegwidden's Report: No report

Open to the Public

Mayor Chegwidden opened the meeting to the public.

Chief Young, Wharton Police Department: Chief Young advised that in reviewing parking, they have identified a few spots on South Main Street in the area of W. Thomas St. that are delineated by ordinance as no parking, but after the re-striping of Main Street, he believes they can be safe parking spaces. The Council would need to make a change to the ordinance to address this. Everyone is agreeable to looking into this change. Mr. Hirniak will review the current ordinance and this will be a discussion item at a future meeting.

Scott Hutchins, Director Wharton Public Works Department: Mr. Hutchins advised that they do intend to reline Main Street this year so they could make any necessary changes at that time.

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

Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilman Norton and was seconded by Councilwoman Wickenheisser to close the meeting. This motion was approved via voice vote.

March 28, 2022

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

ATTEST:

**_____
WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN,
MAYOR**

**_____
Gabrielle Evangelista,
Borough Clerk**