

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**MAYOR AND COUNCIL**  
**SEPTEMBER 12, 2022**

Mayor Chegwidden called the Meeting to Order

Mayor Chegwidden read the Open Public Meeting Statement

Mayor Chegwidden requested Roll Call:

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

Also in attendance were Administrator Joseph Kovalcik Jr., Attorney Roman Hirniak, and Covering Secretary Desi Ruffo.

**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.

**Glenn Corbett, Borough RVRSA Representative:** Mr. Corbett gave an update on the lawsuit between Jersey City and the RVRSA.

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

**Ordinance**

Councilwoman Hayes introduced O-14-22, “An Ordinance Fixing the Salary of Certain Officers and Employees 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 Yeager to adopt O-14-22 on first reading.

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

Mayor Chegwidden set the date of September 26, 2022 for second and final reading.

**Appointment**

Councilman Binkoski introduced R-109-22, “Resolution Authorizing Appointment.”

A motion was made by Councilman Binkoski and was seconded by Councilman Yeager to adopt R-109-22.

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

**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: 8/15/22**

**R-110-22: Refund Tax Overpayment Block 1905 Lot 17**  
**R-111-22: Refund Tax Overpayment Block 103 Lot 10**  
**R-112-22: Approve Change in Pipe for Watermain Wharton Woods**  
**R-113-22: Approve Application NJDEP- TWA Permit Wharton Woods, LLC**  
**R-114-22: Lien Redemption**  
**R-115-22: Approve Change Order No. 6: DeMaio Electrical Company**  
**R-116-22: Police Vehicle Purchase**  
**R-117-22: Appoint of Interim Affordable Housing Agent**  
**R-118-22: Affordable Housing Marketing Plan Amendment**  
**R-119-22: Advertisement for Development of List for Affordable Units**

**Appoint Jim Gotshall as Assistant Chaplain**

**Approve Recreation Application Tyler Daniel**

**A motion was made by Council President Vasquez 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**

**For Discussion and Possible Action**

- **O-15-22, “An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Chapter 343, New Article III, Section 41 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Wharton, County of Morris, State of New Jersey.” Discussions about the adoption of an ordinance regulating chicken ownership continued amongst the Mayor, Council, and Attorney Hirniak. Discussions involved the number of chickens per acre to be allowed, Board of Health recommendations for pest control, grandfather clauses, and fines for escaped chickens being similar to those for escaped dogs. Discussions will continue at a future meeting.**

**Correspondence**

- **Notice of Resolution from Morris Plains**
- **Monthly Reports Clerk and Construction**

**Council Reports**

**Council President Vasquez: She reminded everyone that the free rabies shot clinic will be on Saturday October 15<sup>th</sup> from 8am-10am at the DPW Garage.**

**Councilman Binkoski: He attended the August concert. He had a meeting with the Police Chief.**

**Councilwoman Hayes: No report.**

**Councilman Norton: There have been some requests and discussion about adding pickle ball courts in town. There’s a possibility that if the Council chooses, one can be added to Sterling St. Park during the 2023 redesign. Mr. Hutchins, DPW Director, advised that there may be a temporary solution for adding one at the Langdon St. Park.**

**Councilwoman Wickenheisser: No report.**

**Councilman Yeager: No report.**

**Mayor Chegwiddden's Report**

He attended the August concert and they've received a lot of compliments about the concert series this year. He thanks everyone who was involved in creating the video that we are using for our open space grant application.

He would like to acknowledge the passing of three longtime Wharton residents:

**John "Jack" Sheplak- A former Chief of the Wharton Fire Department and the Municipal Court Clerk for Wharton/Mine Hill for 10 years.**

**Paul Hennessey and his wife Dorothy "Dot" Hennessey- Paul fought in the Battle of the Bulge in World War II and served on the Wharton Zoning Board. Dorothy served on the Wharton Borough Council and later served as the Director of the Wharton Library.**

**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.

**Adjournment**

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

September 12, 2022

ATTEST:

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Gabrielle Evangelista,  
Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

\_\_\_\_\_  
WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN,  
MAYOR