

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**MAYOR AND COUNCIL**  
**OCTOBER 24, 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- Absent, Excused  
Councilwoman Wickenheisser- Absent, Excused  
Councilman Yeager- Present

Also in attendance were Administrator Joseph Kovalcik Jr., Attorney Roman Hirniak, and Borough Clerk Gabrielle Evangelista.

**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**

Councilman Yeager presented O-15-22, “An “An Ordinance Amending Chapter 3, Article III, Section 13B of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Wharton, County of Morris, State of New Jersey” 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 Yeager and was seconded by Councilman Binkoski to adopt O-15-22 on second and final reading.

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

**Discussion**

- **Best Practices Inventory-** Mr. Kovalcik discussed the results of the annual Best Practices Inventory. We scored 34.5 out of a possible 36.5, which gets us our full State Aid amount. The points we lost involved not bidding our health benefit consultants and not paying them directly, because we pay them through the HIF, and questions relating to electric vehicles.
- **Meeting Dates for 2023-** Ms. Evangelista advised that she provided the Mayor and Council with potential meeting dates for 2023. We generally look at them now so they can be included in the calendar, and vote to formally set them at the Re-Organization Meeting in January. Everyone was okay with the proposed dates.

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: 10/3/22**

**R-124-22: Approve Tax Sale Redemption TSC 2021-015**  
**R-125-22: Requesting Approval of Items of Revenue and Appropriation-Municipal Alliance Supplemental**  
**R-126-22: Requesting Approval of Items of Revenue and Appropriation-Municipal Alliance NJDMHAS**

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: 4      NAY: 0      ABSENT: 2      ABSTAIN: 0**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Correspondence

- Monthly Reports Clerk, Construction
- Notice of Ordinance Mine Hill
- Notice of Resolution Morristown

Council Reports

Council President Vasquez: She thanks everyone who worked at the Rabies Shot Clinic, especially Mrs. Chegwidden. It went very well.

Councilman Binkoski: Thank you to the DPW for handling the recent watermain break in an efficient manner. At the last concert in the Summer Concert Series, this Friday, we are holding a food drive for our local food pantries. If you are able to, please bring a non-perishable donation with you if you plan on attending.

Councilwoman Hayes: She attended Coffee with a Cop. She attended a meeting with the Mayor and some Council Members from Mine Hill to go over the new police structure that we voted on earlier in the meeting. Everyone seems happy with the updates.

Councilman Norton: Absent

Councilwoman Wickenheisser: Absent

Councilman Yeager: Lt. Kranz is retiring as of November 1<sup>st</sup>. The walkout for him will be on Friday.

Mayor Chegwidden's Report

He thanks Lt. Kranz for his many years of service and for everything that he has done for the Borough. He asked if Lt. Kranz wanted to say a few words since he was in attendance. Lt. Kranz, thanked everyone for everything. The best move he made was coming here, there has always been good support.

He attended Coffee with a Cop, which was a nice event. He recently took a tour of the library and they are going to start moving on the replacement of the windows

and the roof once the grant money is available. The Rabies Shot Clinic went really well, because we weren't the only town doing it around that time period. He thanks Ms. Muzzillo for pre-printing the certificates, that helped to move things along. They made the final presentation to the Morris County Open Space Committee for our grant application. On 11/9 the committee will vote on what projects they are recommending for funding. He attended a meeting with the owner of 365 N. Main St. this week. The property is currently approved for 4 condos with retail underneath. He received a request from Ms. Ghebreal about using the Senior Bus to transport people to the holiday tricky tray at the American Legion. Everyone agreed that it is fine as long as we have a driver who is available. The Wharton Board of Education is having a strategic planning meeting on 11/2, the Council is invited to attend if they would like to.

Councilwoman Hayes advised that HalloWharton is this Saturday 10/29 from 4-6pm at Hugh Force Canal Park.

Open to the Public

Mayor Chegwidden opened the meeting to the public.

Gene Caulfield, Fire Chief: Chief Caulfield advised that the Fire Department is hosting their annual safe trick or treating event on Halloween. He also asked the Council to check their mailboxes for invitations to the annual Fire Department Inspection and Dinner, which is on 11/19.

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

Adjournment

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

October 24, 2022

ATTEST:

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gabrielle Evangelista,  
Borough Clerk