

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES
 300 SCHOOL STREET
 NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

MEETING: April 25, 2017 7:03 PM, EST

CALL TO ORDER made by President McDonald.

ROLL CALL:	Salvatore Amato	Present
	James Cherry	Present
	John Davis	Present
	Michael McDonald	Present
	Sally Neiderhiser	Present
	Daniel O'Connell	Present
	Paula Scott	Present
	Mark Tarlecki	Present
	James Sando	Present
	Mayor Gregory D'Angelo	Present

Also in attendance were Gregory Gifford, Borough Solicitor, Alan Guzzardo, Assistant Manager and Chief Fantry.

President McDonald led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Discussion: Review Draft Animal Ordinance

Manager Hart introduced the topic for discussion and presented the Animal Ordinance draft to Council and the public. She explained that all concerns that were brought forth are addressed in the draft being presented.

Member Amato's review summary of the draft was discussed. Solicitor Gifford provided clarification of the Ordinance to answer Member Amato's concerns. Manager Hart explained that the Ordinance allows the Borough to place responsibility on people who feed feral cats to ensure that those cats are trapped and neutered properly. Solicitor Gifford then explained that the Courts will determine what the fines will be for violations of the Animal Ordinance. Manager Hart asked if those who currently own chickens would be grandfathered in. Solicitor Gifford answered no because they are not currently permitted to own chickens under the current Ordinance.

Member Sando expressed concern about rental tenants owning chickens or ducks. He stated that tenants should have to have written consent from the property owner to own them. Manager Hart explained that the necessity for setting a minimum lot size to be able to own chickens or ducks.

Member O'Connell expressed concern about the definition of "owner" in the Ordinance. Discussion ensued regarding the definition of "owner". Solicitor Gifford suggested striking the word "permits" in the definition of "owner" provided in Section 90-2.

Member Tarlecki asked if the Ordinance is going to address issues related to feral cats and chickens. Council members agreed that it would. Member Tarlecki suggested that Council move forward with approving the Ordinance.

Manager Hart explained that the current Ordinance cannot be enforced through the Borough Manager serving as Animal Control Officer. Member Scott explained that the Borough can help residents by providing them with the right resources for dealing with wild animals. Member Sando explained his difficulty with dealing with wild raccoons on his property. Discussion ensued regarding the position of the Borough in detaining wild animals.

Discussion then ensued regarding the requirements for owning chickens. Manager Hart explained that a minimum lot size threshold would eliminate a large number of properties outright which would allow the Borough to more easily regulate the owning of chickens. Council agreed to set a 5,000 sq. ft. minimum lot size to own chickens. Assistant Manager Guzzardo asked Council to consider only allowing people to own chickens in residential districts. Council agreed to only allow chickens in residential districts regardless of the lot size.

Member Amato expressed concerns with Section 90-5, "Animals at Large" and how the Borough can enforce that section. Solicitor Gifford suggested leaving it ambiguous from an enforcement stand point and stated he would clean up the Ordinance for the next council meeting. Member Amato then asked about the advertisement process. Manager Hart explained how it will be advertised, giving residents the opportunity to express any concerns they have.

Consideration: Adopt Resolution to Support Redistricting Reform

Manager Hart introduced the topic and presented a sample resolution provided by Linda McAdoo for supporting political redistricting. Solicitor Gifford explained the resolution is generic and is being used around the nation. He suggested that he could create a resolution that is specific to Pennsylvania. Council expressed concern with the current political district boundaries and their support of the resolution. Then Mayor D'Angelo read the resolution out loud for everyone to hear. Linda McAdoo thanked Council for their consideration in adopting the resolution.

Member Sando made a motion to adopt a resolution to support redistricting reform. Member O'Connell seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Disbursements - \$77,270.66

Manager Hart reviewed the bill list. Member Sando asked about a disbursement in the amount of \$7,600 payable to Kurtz Construction. Manager Hart stated the expense was for roofing repairs that were being made to 125 N. Main Street, which was set aside from the purchase price to be

used for the repairs that were noted on the inspection report of the building prior to purchase. Member Davis asked how many cell phones the Borough pays for on behalf of employees. Manager Hart replied, three, two for the Police Department and one for Public Works. Member Scott asked about a bill for a contractor named Bob Bilella. Manager Hart replied that the bill was for sump pump replacement at Borough Hall under the elevator shaft.

Member Scott made a motion to approve the disbursements in the amount of \$77,270.66. Member Amato seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Certificate of Appropriateness – 110 E. Walnut Street, 107 S. Main Street, and 109 Church Street

Member Tarlecki made a motion to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness as presented for business signage at 110 E. Walnut Street. Member Sando seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness as presented for roof alterations at 107 S. Main Street. Member Scott seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness as presented for porch alterations at 109 Church Street. Member Scott seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Old Business/Committee & Board Reports/Zoning Applications

No old business, reports or zoning applications were reported.

Solicitor/Mayor/Council/Manager

Council thanked everyone who volunteered at the 2nd Annual Earth Day Extravaganza.

Vice President Cherry announced that he participates in an event called, “World War II Weekend” which will take place on May 6th and 7th at the Valley Forge Freedom Foundation. The event will feature reenactors, equipment and vehicles, a dance and other festivities. He encouraged everyone to attend.

Solicitor Gifford explained that there was an executive session at the last council meeting on April 11, 2017. He then stated that Council reconvened afterwards and approved the hiring of two part-time police officers. Chief Fantry explained that one of the officers has declined their offer. Therefore, there will only be one new part-time police hire now.

Manager Hart also thanked everyone who participated on Earth Day and reported the recycling results. She then announced that she looked into setting up the “Hometown Heroes Banner” program in the Borough. Member Davis asked if the program would be administered by the Borough. Manager Hart explained that the program would be administered by an independent

administrator. She explained that the Borough only has a limited number of spaces available for banners. Vice President Cherry asked about the criteria for honoring a veteran. Manager Hart explained that the person should have resided in the Borough. Member Tarlecki asked if Council could honor a veteran who does not have family members to apply on their behalf. Manager Hart stated the Borough could sponsor them, but it would have to be paid for through a donation from the Borough. Joanne Matthews, 421 Shearer Street, explained that the American Legion does have a post in the Borough and many people are unaware of it. She explained that the Legion could help with these efforts. Council supported setting up the program.

She discussed upcoming events and programs including rain barrel classes offered to residents and the “Yoga in the Park” program. She then reminded everyone that Nor-Gwyn Pool would be opening Memorial Day weekend. Lastly, she announced that there is a “Ladies Night Out” event at the North Penn Volunteer Fire Company on May 6, 2017.

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to adjourn. Member Sando seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no. Meeting adjourned at 8:34 P.M.

Attest: _____
Christine A. Hart
Borough Manager