

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES
 300 SCHOOL ST.
 NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA 19454

MEETING: August 25, 2015 7:00PM, EST

CALL TO ORDER made by President McDonald

ROLL CALL:	Jim Cherry	Present
	Michael McDonald	Present
	Sally Neiderhiser	Present
	Daniel O'Connell	Present
	Ed Redstreak	Present
	Christine Hart	Present
	Paula Scott	Present
	Mark Tarlecki	Absent
	Jim Sando	Present
	Mayor Greg D'Angelo	Present

Also in attendance was Gregory Gifford, Borough solicitor, and Alex Levy, Chief of Police.

President McDonald led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

Rebecca Flannery, 405 School Street, asked what the regulations are regarding the burning of leaves and such in a residential neighborhood. Member Hart said we do have an open burning policy. Burning is permitted for cooking and recreational purposes only but not for trash.

Patricia Heppler, 409 School Street, complained about smoke going into her home from people burning in the neighborhood. Ms. Heppler wanted to know what the laws are related to open burning. Solicitor Gifford read verbatim the Borough Code related to open burning. Ms. Heppler asked what the recommended daily allowance of carbon monoxide is. A discussion ensued regarding burning. Ms. Heppler said she is against all burning because it adds to pollution. Ms. Heppler was advised to call the police if there is smoke going into her house.

Appointment of Interim Borough Manager

Member Hart made a motion to appoint Alex Levy as the Interim Borough Manager. Member Scott seconded the vote. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Approve Minutes: May 12, 2015

Member Scott made a motion to approve the minutes of May 12, 2015. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Disbursements: \$46,801.09

Interim Manager Levy said there is a bill for Tyco in the amount of \$574.52 and he is not sure whether it should be paid. He thinks we need to renegotiate. It was discussed to renegotiate the alarm monitoring contract so the \$574.52 payment for the alarm to Tyco was deducted. He gave a brief overview of the bills to include engineering bills; Maille, the auditor; Uniform Gear, for new guns; and Gran Turk, repairs to the street sweeper. A brief discussion ensued regarding the age of the street sweeper and cleaning of the streets. Member Hart said once we are out of transition we can check with neighboring municipalities to see if they have a policy in place for street cleaning.

Member Hart made a motion to approve the disbursements totaling \$46,228.57, which deducts the payment to Tyco. Member Scott seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Old Business/Committee Reports/Zoning Applications

OLD BUSINESS - Solicitor Gifford will send a letter to the developer for 912 E. Prospect Avenue indicating that they have satisfied the Borough requirements. This is for Caracausa Acquisitions banking purposes.

There were no committee reports.

Member Hart said at the last meeting we discussed the zoning application for 509 E. Montgomery Avenue. The property has been posted and a hearing is scheduled for September 1, 2015. Member Hart said we need to discuss whether we need to send legal counsel to the hearing for this property. Member Hart read the zoning application for the residents in attendance.

Mel Magee, 511 E. Montgomery Avenue, said she doesn't know whether anyone has read the posting but it says the house is empty. It is far from being empty. They started out calling it a half-way house now it is a house for disabled people. A discussion ensued regarding the posting and the number of people currently living in the house. Mrs. Magee asked if anyone checked the property to verify that it was vacant. Member Hart replied no one checks if a property is vacant or occupied.

Perry Francis, 125 W. Walnut Street, said he went on their website and they show bunk beds in the bedrooms. He said he is for giving people a second chance but he would not want to live next door to a place that had ten people living there, especially a twin. It also sets a precedent that a single home could have twenty people.

Member O'Connell expressed concerns about the current status of the property and he suggested that the Borough send a solicitor to the zoning hearing because of future ramifications that may affect the zoning rulings. He said that the definition of family also comes into play. President McDonald agreed that we should have some kind of representation.

Sal Amato, 201 S. Tenth Street, asked what the solicitors roll would be. Solicitor Gifford said the attorney would present witnesses and case law. It would create a record on behalf of the Borough as to their objections.

Member Hart made a motion to send counsel to the Zoning Hearing Board on September 1, 2015. Member Sando seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Certificate of Appropriateness for 402 School Street

Member Hart made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for 402 School Street for a new roof on the front porch and bay. Member Scott seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no and Member Sando abstaining.

Consideration: To Join PSAB's Borough Management Caucus

Member Hart said PSAB does advertising on their website and monthly publication. The Caucus membership is required if we want to advertise for a Borough manager. Even though we may not use it all year, it is worth the \$25.00 for state wide advertising.

Member Hart made a motion to join the Caucus. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: NWWA Driveway cut onto N. Swartley Street

Interim Manager Levy said the NWWA is making a new curb cut onto N. Swartley Street to allow walk in traffic to access their building during the construction project. It is not a great alternative but it is doable. Member Hart said they have answered every question and have been very cooperative. They are taking care of notification to the residents involved and signage. A discussion ensued about the project and several council members expressed concerns about the safety of the community during the project. President McDonald said if anyone has questions to contact the water authority. Member Hart reported that Penn DOT will also be making improvements to the traffic light. Interim Manager Levy also reported that Penn DOT is redoing curbs and sidewalks and putting in handicapped ramps when they pave North Wales Road/Walnut Street.

Perry Francis asked if the lanes at the light could be changed. Chief Levy said he is not sure why they did it that way but if you can go safely around a car making a left that is not a violation.

Discussion: New Radio Purchase Program

Interim Manager Levy gave a brief review of the new radio purchase program. He said the county is looking at replacing their radio system and asked if the municipalities would like to join in. They are offering 0% financing. The North Penn Fire Company will be going through the Borough to obtain the no interest loan for the radios. He would like the money to be allocated in the budget for next year. He then gave the total of \$40,569.48 for the police department and \$195,648.92 for the fire company. The fire company will reimburse the

Borough monthly. Member Hart asked if we needed to vote on it tonight or can it wait until the next meeting. Interim Manager Levy said we have to submit the paperwork by October 1st. A brief discussion ensued regarding payment. Member Hart asked that it be put on the next agenda.

Solicitor/Mayor/Council/Manager

Rebecca Flannery, 405 School St., asked if Dan DeMeno was still working here. President McDonald said he resigned about two weeks ago. Ms. Flannery wanted to know about the status of the sink hole in her back yard and if it is in next year's budget to fix her yard. Ms. Flannery said that she has been waiting for an extended period of time for the Borough to act on fixing the sink hole. President McDonald said that he would consult with the Borough engineer and get back to her. Solicitor Gifford said Council is not aware of what was done.

Solicitor Gifford said he had several matters for executive session and one may require action when we reconvene. The others are informational.

Patricia Heppler asked who the engineer was for fixing the drainage at 405 School Street because the water seems to drain much better than it has in the past.

Mayor D'Angelo asked if public works could look at the downspouts at Borough Hall, especially the one over the police department entrance.

Member Scott reported that Keystone Fire Protection will be starting to install a new fire alarm system in the near future.

Member Hart has concerns about the walk through at the new SEPTA parking lot and that there is still work to be done. Member Hart is concerned about the line of sight and asked if we could check the waivers to make sure the plantings are according to plan. Member Hart commented that the project looks very nice.

Member Cherry mentioned that movie night was postponed and will be on August 27, with free popcorn.

Member Redstreak welcomed Member Cherry back after a serious illness.

Member Sando expressed concerns about the SEPTA parking lot. He said when they redid the existing lot; they did not address the issue of parking along the islands. There were no "No Parking" signs on any curb areas. There is still one area where cars should not park. We should make sure that they put "No Parking" signs along the curb areas.

Chief Levy mentioned that the NRPD will be participating in security for the Papal visit. Chief Levy also mentioned that the Borough participated in the consortium entrance exam. Chief Levy also reported that he is in the process of hiring part time officers. He also reported that they put up signs on School Street. Also a recent speed survey was conducted in the 400 block of School

Street and there does not appear to be a speeding problem. He looked at making Third Street a 3-way stop but we do not meet the criteria.

Member Scott made a motion to adjourn. Member Hart seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no. Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:20 PM.

The meeting was reconvened at approximately 9:03 PM. Member Scott was now absent.

Member Hart made a motion to oppose the application for 509 E. Montgomery Avenue and to appoint special counsel from the firm of Sean Kilkenny and Associates to represent the Borough at the Zoning Hearing Board Hearing on September 1, 2015. Member Sando seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no.

Attest: _____

Alex H. Levy
Interim Borough Manager