

BOROUGH OF NORH WALES
300 SCHOOL STREET
NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

MEETING: January 24, 2017 7:01 PM, EST

CALL TO ORDER made by President McDonald.

ROLL CALL:	Salvatore Amato	Present
	Jim Cherry, Vice President	Present
	Michael McDonald, President	Present
	Sally Neiderhiser	Present
	Daniel H. O'Connell, Sr.	Present
	Jim Sando	Present
	Paula Scott	Present
	Mark Tarlecki	Present
	Greg D'Angelo, Mayor	Present

Also in attendance was John Filice, Borough solicitor and Donald Fantry, Chief of Police.

President McDonald led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

Loretta Weigner, 430 Shearer Street, said she realizes that we have had a lot of rain lately but the storm water drain at West and Walnut Streets seems like it cannot handle the water. She said it looks like the drain is above the street level.

Perry Francis, 125 W. Walnut Street, said what Mrs. Weigner said is true but he noticed that most of the block from West to Center Street seems to be retaining water. Manager Hart asked Mr. Francis if he meant along the curb line or on the sidewalk. Mr. Francis replied along the curb line.

Joanne Matthews, 421 Shearer Street, stated that she has lived on Shearer Street forever and there has always been a water problem. She commented that she has been to the Borough office frequently lately and she commended Council on their choice of manager and police chief. They do an excellent job.

Appointments: Boards and Commissions – 2017 Appointments

Manager Hart said in your packets there was a list of all the vacancies on the Boards and Commissions. We will take them in the order that they are listed.

Manager Hart said for Civil Service there is one term that expired December 31, 2016 and it is a six year term. The new term would expire December 31, 2022. She said one letter was submitted by Shawn Hart, 128 S. Main Street.

Member Scott made a motion to appoint Shawn Hart to the Civil Service Commission for a six year term expiring December 31, 2022. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Manager Hart said the Historic Architectural Review Board has been running with two vacancies. She said the board is comprised of a real estate broker, architect, building inspector, planner and three residents. She the term that expired December 31, 2016 is for the planner and it is a five year term which will expire December 31, 2021. She said we received a letter from Mr. Charles Guttenplan, who has served for some time as the planner. He works for Whitmarsh Township and could not be here tonight.

Member Tarlecki made a motion to appoint Charles Guttenplan to HARB for a five year term expiring December 31, 2021. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Manager Hart said there are two people who submitted letters of interest for the Historic Commission, Beth Ann Sinotte and Daniela Hilpl. She said there are two vacancies; one is to complete the term of a vacant position which expires December 31, 2018 and the other is a five-year term expiring December 31, 2021. Manager Hart said she sees Ms. Hilpl in the audience but not Mrs. Sinotte. Member Tarlecki asked if anyone had expressed an interest in either term. Ms. Hilpl replied she did not know how long the term was but she would take the five-year term.

Member Tarlecki made a motion to appoint Daniela Hilpl to the Historic Commission for a five-year term expiring December 31, 2021. Member Cherry seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Member Cherry made a motion to appoint Beth Ann Sinotte to the Historic Commission for a two year term expiring December 31, 2018. Member Scott seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Manager Hart said next is a board position for North Wales Water Authority for a term of five years. She said Mr. Tenney's term expired December 31, 2016 and he submitted a letter of interest dated December 8, 2016.

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to appoint Al Tenney to the NWWA board for a five year term expiring December 31, 2021. Member Sando seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Manager Hart said Daniel Natale's term on the Park and Recreation Board expired December 31, 2016. She said the new term would expire December 31, 2021.

Member Scott made a motion to appoint Daniel Natale to the Park and Recreation Board for a five year term expiring December 31, 2021. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Manager Hart explained that the Pension Committee is comprised of three people; a Borough resident, a Council member, and a member of the collective bargaining unit. She said all of the positions must be recommended and endorsed by the collective bargaining unit, which they have done. She said it is a one year term that is renewed every year.

Member Tarlecki made a motion to appoint Council member Dan O'Connell to the Pension Committee for a one year term. Member Cherry seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Member Sando made a motion to appoint Lisa Hollister to the Pension Committee for a one year term. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Member Scott made a motion to appoint Officer Custer to the Pension Committee for a one year term. Member Davis seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Manager Hart said Mr. Tarlecki's term on the Planning Commission expired on December 31, 2016 and he is asking for reappointment. The new term would expire December 31, 2020.

Member O'Connell made a motion to appoint Mark Tarlecki to the Planning Commission for a four year term expiring December 31, 2020. Member Scott seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Manager Hart said Mr. Cherry's term on the Shade Tree Commission expired December 31, 2016 and he is asking for reappointment.

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to appoint James Cherry to the Shade Tree Commission for a five year term expiring December 31, 2021. Member Davis seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Manager Hart said the Vacancy Board is a one year term and Lynne Fitzgerald is asking to be reappointed.

Member O'Connell made a motion to appoint Lynne Fitzgerald to the Vacancy Board for a one year term expiring December 31, 2017. Member Scott seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Manager Hart said Andrew Berenson's term on the Zoning Hearing Board expired December 31, 2016 and he is asking to be reappointed.

Member O'Connell made a motion to appoint Andrew Berenson to the Zoning Hearing Board for a five year term expiring December 31, 2021. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Manager Hart thanked Bob Bender and other NWWA board members for showing their support and their cooperation. She also thanked all the people who submitted their names for various boards and commissions.

Consideration: Approval of Minutes – January 10, 2017

Member Scott made a motion to approve the minutes of January 10, 2017. Member Tarlecki seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Certificate of Appropriateness – 402 E. Walnut St. & 400 S. Main St.

Manager Hart said this is the second time 402 E. Walnut Street has been before HARB. They are doing things in phases. Manager Hart said zoning was approved and demo was approved; now they are on the renovation phase. She said the portion of the building, which is an addition, on the corner of Walnut and Fourth Street will be demolished as well as the out building in the rear of the property, which will be replaced with a new unit. Each unit will be single family. The original home will be restored and used as a rental property. HARB made one recommendation, which was to change the style of windows to match the period of the home and the applicant agreed to do so.

Member Sando made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for 402 E. Walnut Street. Member Scott seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Manager Hart said 400 S. Main Street is for a business sign and the sign meets the standards for the ROR District and HARB. Although the sign was put up before HARB approval, the applicant did comply and submit the proper permits and went before HARB. It was approved as presented.

Member Davis made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for 400 S. Main Street. Member Scott seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Denial of Certificate of Appropriateness – 134 N. Main Street

Manager Hart said 134 N. Main Street is in the Commercial Business District, it is a home that is permitted to house a business. The sign is noncompliant with the Historic District and with our current zoning; because they are replacing the insert and not the physical sign the permit must be approved. HARB is not recommending or endorsing this type of sign.

Member Tarlecki asked if we cannot force them to comply, what recourse have we. Manager Hart said HARB is an advisory board. She said Mr. Guttenplan suggested that we should consider changing our sign ordinance. In some areas if you change 50 % of a sign, you need to replace it with conforming signage.

Member Scott made a motion to approve the denial of the Certificate of Appropriateness for 134 N. Main Street. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Disbursements - \$130,661.04

Manager Hart said bills from 2016 that were paid at the end of 2016 and the current bills are included in this total. She gave an overview to include the following: Building Inspection

Underwriters; PECO; Haines and Associates, the court reporter; Sirchie Fingerprint Supplies; Maille, our auditor; Selective Insurance Co.; Cardmember Services, is the credit card; Alley Automotive, tires, brakes, etc. for the police vehicles; police pension; McMahon & Associates, Safe Routes to School; Morton Salt, road salt; Nor Gwyn Pool Commission, background checks; Richard Hagy, transition of 125 N. Main Street operations; Wissahickon Clean Water Program, formerly IGA-Alternative Total Daily Maximum Load program.

Member Scott made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$130,661.04. Member Amato seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Old Business/Committee & Board Reports/Zoning Applications

Tim Weigner, 430 Shearer Street, asked if any new plans were submitted for 432 Shearer Street. Manager Hart said she has not received any new plans. A discussion ensued regarding the process if revised plans are submitted and the longevity of the trees. Manager Hart said if Mr. Caracausa submits a new plan the whole process starts over again.

Joanne Matthews asked to be brought up to date because she thought the builder was not going to install sidewalks. Manager Hart said he is willing to put in sidewalks along Shearer and West Streets but they would compromise his storm water and impervious surface and the trees. Ms. Matthews asked if the driveways in the back would affect the storm water plan. Manager Hart said she could not comment and that the Borough engineer would address any issues that are found. A discussion ensued regarding the process if new plans are submitted. Manager Hart described the process that would be followed in depth.

Manager Hart said 137, 139, 141 S. Main Street, commonly known as North Penn Volunteer Fire Company will be on the zoning agenda for February 7th.

Member Cherry said someone had told him the paper said the Borough was funding this project; he wanted to make it clear that the Borough is not funding the project. This project is being funded by the fire company.

Solicitor/Mayor/Council/Manager

Solicitor Filice said he has two matters for executive session with no action being taken.

Member Tarlecki asked if the auditor was coming in to start the 2016 audit. Manager Hart said they are coming to finalize the 2015 audit and start the 2016 audit.

Members Neiderhiser and Scott congratulated the people appointed to the Boards and Commissions and thanked those who had served for their service.

Member Cherry said he attended the Borough Business Association kick off meeting. He said they are trying to restructure and they have new leadership. He said they are urging businesses to attend and they are looking for volunteers for Community Day/Oktoberfest and the 4th of July picnic, selling hot dogs.

President McDonald also thanked the people who expressed interest in serving on the various boards.

Manager Hart said we need to talk about parking at the municipal lot at 125 N. Main Street. We will need to do an ordinance on whether it is two or three hour parking, metered or kiosk. We need to decide what would be best, before we change the ordinance. She said Jenkintown metered their lot and wished they had charged 50 cents an hour instead of 25 cents. Manager Hart said there are a lot of things to consider before we put up signage. Member Tarlecki said if we have kiosk or metered parking, we need to make it clear that they have to pay. A discussion ensued regarding meters, signage and parking sanctions. Manager Hart said we need to identify the parking lot sooner than later.

Donna Mengel, 427 S. Main Street, asked how many parking spaces are you talking about and how many are assigned to the tenants and the church. President McDonald responded about 28 spots and at this point none of the spots are designated for any one specific tenant.

Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, said one of the things to consider is the time limit on when you would have to pay for parking. President McDonald said that is a good point and we need to discuss our options.

Carol R. Ryan, 121 W. Montgomery Avenue, said the Borough is geographically unsafe. She said the fire company is next the railroad tracks and that is a dangerous situation. It should be out of the way and not next to the train tracks. She also commented about the fire whistle going off at all hours of the day. She thinks the Borough should ask the fire company to relocate. President McDonald thanked Mrs. Ryan for her comments.

Member Scott made a motion to adjourn. Member Tarlecki seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Attest: _____

Christine A. Hart
Borough Manager