

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES
 300 SCHOOL STREET
 NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

MEETING: July 11, 2017 7:00 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	Absent
	Mayor Greg D'Angelo	Present

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

President McDonald led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

Loretta Weigner, 430 Shearer Street, expressed concern with construction work beginning before 7:00 a.m. at 432 and 434 Shearer Street. Manager Hart explained the Borough had received complaints about construction work beginning early in the morning. She then stated that the Borough currently does not have an adopted noise ordinance. Assistant Manager Guzzardo explained that a draft ordinance was completed in 2013, but never formally adopted by Council. He suggested that Council revisit the draft ordinance and adopt a noise ordinance soon. Member Tarlecki asked if similar complaints were filed regarding noise. Manager Hart explained that the Borough had only received minimal complaints, but had received more in the past related to residential construction and commercial deliveries late at night.

Consideration: Resignation of Mark Rzezniacki from Parks & Recreation Board

Member Scott made a motion to approve the resignation of Mark Rzezniacki from the Parks and Recreation Board. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Parks & Recreation Appointment term ending 12/31/2020

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to approve the appointment of Regina Jansen to the Parks and Recreation Board, term expiring 12/31/2020. Vice President Cherry seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Approval of Minutes: 06/27/2017

Member Scott made a motion to approve the minutes of June 27, 2017. Member Amato seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: North Wales Safe Routes to School Amendment for MPMS 87099

Manager Hart explained that the costs for the Safe Routes to School program have exceeded the grant amount awarded because they had been originally determined when the grant was approved in 2009. Contractor, supply, engineer, and design costs have all increased since that time. Member Tarlecki asked if the Borough has an end-date to complete the program. Member Hart explained there are several owners that have been asked to sign a waiver to allow the program to take place. Member Scott asked if the Borough is now over budget on the project. Manager Hart confirmed that the Borough is over budget due to the rise in costs associated with the project. Linda McAdoo, 412 Shearer Street, asked what recourse the Borough has if the owners do not sign the waiver. Manager Hart explained the Borough will take further action and seek legal guidance from the project consultants.

Member Amato made a motion to approve the North Wales Safe Routes to School Amendment for MPMS 87099, allowing Manager Hart to sign on behalf of the Borough relating to the amendment. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 6 yes, 2 no. Member Davis and Member Tarlecki opposed the motion.

Discussion: Appointment Process - Council Bylaws

Member Amato reviewed his previous discussion outline regarding bylaws for elected and appointed officials at the previous council meeting on June 27, 2017. Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, asked for clarification about what the result would be if there were two majority votes for one position. Solicitor Gifford explained that under Robert's Rules, the first person who gets the majority vote wins the position. Member Amato explained Council can make a change to the rules so each candidate can be voted upon. Solicitor Gifford explained if there is a motion and a second for each candidate then every candidate can be voted upon. Manager Hart explained the Borough has looked at other bylaws imposed by other Borough within the Commonwealth regarding appointments. She stated that Assistant Manager Guzzardo and herself would research related bylaws and draft bylaws for the Borough to review, discuss and adopt. She also mentioned the bylaws, once approved, could be amended in the future by a two-thirds vote from Council. Member Amato explained it is important to have this document in place to help guide future council members and residents. Member Tarlecki asked for clarification about the voting process.

Member Scott expressed concern about distributing questions for council vacancies. She argued that it is not the responsibility of Council to interview future candidates. Furthermore, she contended Council would be overstepping its boundaries. Member Davis suggested that Council not ask questions and only let the candidates speak to the Council before the vote. Manager Hart explained that both the public and Council questioned candidates for the most recent Council vacancy. Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, stated that the current process is fair and therefore, candidates should be asked questions before they are voted on. President McDonald explained that Council members have a responsibility to their respective wards and not themselves. Member Amato suggested the Borough clarify questions for future candidates and that they be approved by Council ahead of time.

Manager Hart stated the Borough staff will draft bylaws, incorporating and/or addressing the topics brought forth, thus allowing for more review and discussion later.

Old Business/Committee & Board Reports/Zoning Applications

Manager Hart explained there are two potential zoning applications, one regarding 215 Church Street and the other regarding 510 Beaver Street. Manager Hart explained there is a sale pending for 215 Church Street. The perspective buyer is looking to subdivide the property into three lots. She then explained the potential application for 510 Beaver Street is for a brewery.

Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, asked if there were old tanks removed at 510 Beaver Street. Manager Hart indicated the tanks were removed and the site had been remediated to the best of her knowledge.

Solicitor / Mayor / Council / Manager

Solicitor Gifford explained there will be a short executive session for a legal update pertaining to the, "Sunlight of the Spirit House" Court Case and that no action would be taken.

Member Davis asked about property maintenance issues for a sale that occurred at 123 S. 4th Street. Manager Hart explained the new owner is taking actions to clean up the area and the Borough will continue to work with the new owner to ensure it is completely resolved. He then asked about other properties around the Borough. Manager Hart explained the Borough is actively enforcing the property maintenance code.

Vice-President Cherry thanked those who came out to a cancer fundraiser event at St. Rose of Lima Church.

President McDonald thanked a number of people for helping out with the 4th of July Parade, including the Public Works Department.

Manager Hart announced the Borough received four banners for the Hometown Hero's program, which are currently hung. She also announced there will be a large open house for the "Walls of History" museum at Borough Hall. She then provided an update regarding Community Day coming up on Saturday, October 7, 2017. Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, asked if "Trucks for Maddox" will be near the vendors this year. Manager Hart replied no, the vendors will be on Main Street and the "Kids Zone" will be in Weingartner Park, along 2nd and Summit.

Member Scott made a motion to adjourn. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Attest: _____

Christine A. Hart
Borough Manager