

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES
 300 SCHOOL STREET
 NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

MEETING: June 28, 2016 7:00 PM, EST

CALL TO ORDER made by President McDonald.

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

Also in attendance was John Filice, Borough solicitor and Officer Hammerstone.

President McDonald led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

Jane Keyes, 201 W. Walnut Street, thanked the police department, the Borough and the Borough residents that made the 5K Run a huge success this year.

Caroline Stimson, 320 S. Fourth Street, asked why it takes so long to do something about the chickens. A discussion ensued regarding chickens and the ordinance. Manager Hart said we have to gather information to make an intelligent decision.

Officer Hammerstone said the TexMex 5K Run was well organized and the best so far. There was only one incident.

Discussion: IGA – TMDL – Drew Shaw, MCPC and Richard Collier, WVWA

Drew Shaw gave a short presentation on the events leading to this point. He said the William Penn Foundation has agreed to contribute \$1.2 million to cover the costs of the planning process, water testing, modelling and analysis as a plan is developed.

Rea Monaghan gave a brief overview of the municipalities work concerning the TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load). She said each municipality has a vote.

Mr. Shaw said it is a two year process and by agreeing to form the partnership the cost would be \$6,250.00 per year per municipality for legal services and technical review. A discussion ensued

regarding the benefits of the IGA, who is participating in the agreement, meeting the EPA process and the timeline. Mr. Shaw said if a municipality does not join, it would solely be responsible for meeting EPA requirements for sediment and phosphorous reductions.

Consideration: Parks and Recreation Board Appointment expiring 12/31/2020

Manager Hart said Mark Rzezniacki submitted a letter of interest for the Parks and Recreation Board. Mr. Rzezniacki gave a brief summary of where he has lived and education. He said parks and recreation have been a big part of his life. He has some ideas of how to get people out and bring the community together.

Member Scott made a motion to appoint Mark Rzezniacki to the Parks and Recreation Board. Member Sando seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Planning Commission Appointment expiring 12/31/2018

Manager Hartman said Lillian Higgins submitted a letter of interest for the Planning Commission vacancy. She is involved in the performing arts, Horsham Rotary and she also practices real estate. She owns property on Main Street. Ms. Higgins said she envisions Main Street to be a hustle and bustle thoroughfare. She would like to see that happen.

Member Scott made a motion to appoint Lillian Higgins to the Planning Commission. Member Amato seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Disbursements \$80,924.26

Manager Hart gave a brief overview of the disbursements to include: Best Boy Audio, for the audio system in the Council room; SWIF, workers compensation for the fire company; Reamstown Excavating, retainage release; BIU, increase due to permits for two new homes; the solicitor; Independence Blue Cross, health insurance; Sean Kilkenny, special council; McMahon and Associates, Safe Routes to School; Gorecon, paving of Beaver Street.

Member Scott made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$80,924.26. Member Amato seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Certificate of Appropriateness H.A.R.B. – Three Properties (206 School Street, 410 School Street, and 201 W. Walnut Street)

Manager Hart said a representative from Solar City is here tonight. She said this is the first application for solar panels in the Historic District. HARB decided to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness since alterations to the home have changed it from its original appearance; they do not interfere with the appearance of the home.

Member Sando asked what power film is. Manager Hart said it is a new technology in solar panels. Member Sando asked if someone on School Street wanted to put in solar panels how would we react to that. Mayor D'Angelo said it would depend on the Historic value of the home.

Manager Hart said anyone who wants to keep the integrity of a historic home would not think of installing solar panels.

Member Amato asked if solar panels are allowed in other Historic Districts in Pennsylvania. A discussion ensued regarding use in Historic Districts, new technology and the color of solar panels. Manager Hart said it needs to be accepted due to sustainability.

Member Scott made a motion to approve with reservations the application to place 24 solar panels on the roof of 206 School Street. Member Amato seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no.

Manager Hart said for those who have not been in town long, 410 School Street was Doctor Collins house. She said the property owner is proposing to do wood siding on the addition on the back of the house.

Member Sando said for those of you who have not seen what Craig has done with that house for the last ten years you need to walk by it. He has done an incredible restoration.

Member Sando made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for 410 School Street. Member Scott seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no.

Manager Hart said this is for the vacant lot at 201W. Walnut Street. Before any building permits could be issued they had go before zoning. This is in the Historic District and a corner lot which is considered to have two front yards. Member Sando asked what the plan for parking is. Manager Hart said there are two off street spaces near the rear entrance.

Member Scott made a motion to approve the application for 201 W. Walnut Street side elevations. Member Davis seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Approval of Minutes April 19, 2016

Member Scott made a motion to approve the minutes of April 19, 2016. Member Sando seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Resolution Requesting Amendment to the Sterling Act, 1932

Manager Hart said the Sterling Act of 1932 was a law enacted for the City of Philadelphia, a first-class city, to levy and keep their withholding tax within the city even if a person resides outside the city but still works in the city. So anyone living or working in the city has to pay a city wage tax. When this was enacted, the municipalities in the suburbia area did not have an earned income tax. Since we have initiated the earned income tax and we have appointed a single tax collector for the county, we realize that we are losing money. We are asking the state to amend the law that would give 1% back to the municipalities. A brief discussion ensued regarding whether it was discussed with our representatives or senators and why it was not done sooner.

Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, said the law was enacted to help cities like Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. Philadelphia does not allow any income tax collected to be returned to the municipality where you live. Manager Hart said we have a 1% earned income tax but half goes to the municipality and half to the school district. School districts are not allowed to tax anyone but their residents. Manager Hart said we have honed our own act and now we see flaws in others.

Member Scott made a motion approve the Resolution requesting an amendment to the Sterling Act of 1932. Member Cherry seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no.

Old Business/Committee & Board Reports/Zoning Applications

OLD BUSINESS – Manager Hart said the Council wanted an invitation posted online requesting letters of interest for the Steering Committee. There is a July 8th deadline. We will gather a list and talk about it at the next workshop meeting and then start the latter part of July meeting with MCPC.

ZONING APPLICATIONS – Manager Hart said we have one pending application. It is for 432 Shearer Street. The plan submitted for two single family homes facing West Street has been amended, an updated application with one twin facing Shearer Street has been submitted and will be presented at the August Planning Commission meeting.

Andrew Berenson asked if the notices would be sent by U.S. mail or email, he did not know if it was required to be by U.S. mail. Manager Hart responded that the notices would be sent by U.S. mail.

At this time Manager Hart gave her managers comments. She spoke about the county program to dial 911 for police related calls, whether they are an emergency or non-emergency. She said this helps to identify calls correctly and gets a quicker response. She said on June 21st the Historic Commission had a presentation on the history of WWI given by Jim Cherry. American and German uniforms and other items were on display. The Historic Commission hopes to have more presentations.

Manager Hart said we paid \$500.00 towards the cost of spraying for the black fly. The county was asking for voluntary contributions. She said the NWCPA was sponsoring the 4th of July Parade and the start time is 11 AM and it will end at Weingartner Park followed by a picnic.

Andrew Berenson asked about the progress of the Safe Routes to School project. Manager Hart said the appraisals for the properties that did not have easements had expired. She said letters have been sent to those property owners and we are waiting for responses to come back. She said she hopes it will be completed by the latter part of 2017.

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS COMMITTEE – President McDonald reported that 32 applicants applied for the Chief of Police position. He said Chief Levy was instrumental in helping us get through the process. It was narrowed down to nine candidates and then four candidates. We are glad to announce that Donald Fantry agreed to take the position with a start date of August 1, 2016.

President McDonald said Chief Levy left to become an officer at Abington Township. President McDonald said Officer Fantry has 27 years of experience with Springfield Township. He is currently deputy chief, lives in the area, and a highly decorated member of that department.

Member Scott made a motion to approve the hiring of Donald Fantry as Chief of Police effective August 1, 2016. Member Sando seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no.

Chief Fantry said it was a tough and intimidating process. He said he is married, lives in Harleysville, has two grown children and is very excited to be here. He said he will do his best to be part of the community. He said he came up through the ranks in Springfield Township.

Officer Hammerstone said he attended the interviews of the final four candidates and he feels that Council went to extremes to pick the best person. He said Chief Fantry has an interest in the community and he hopes to learn a lot from him. Officer Hammerstone said the police department has come a long way in the last two years. He said it is a pleasure dealing with this Council.

Solicitor/Mayor/Council/Manager

Member Scott wished everyone a happy 4th of July.

Mayor D'Angelo said he is looking forward to working with Chief Fantry. He also said Jim Cherry did a great job with the WWI presentation.

Member Scott made a motion to adjourn. Member Davis seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no.

Attest: _____

Christine A. Hart
Borough Manager