

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES
300 SCHOOL STREET
NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

MEETING: August 11, 2015 7:02 PM, EST

CALL TO ORDER made by Vice President Hart.

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

Also in attendance was Gregory Gifford, Borough solicitor and Claire Liebel, Assistant Secretary.

President McDonald led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, asked if the executive session was about Mr. DeMeno's resignation and was it a consideration to keep Mr. DeMeno until a new manager was found. Solicitor Gifford said it was and in executive session Council decided to make it effective immediately.

President McDonald said he had spoken to Ed Neiderhiser, who spoke about the 25th Anniversary of the ADA at the last meeting. Mr. Neiderhiser said he contacted the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry for input. He gathered information about sound systems for the hearing impaired and gave a brief description about the systems he found. He said general amplification may not be the best solution. There are two people in the area that could give us an evaluation and estimate for installation. President McDonald said he would contact both companies to get an estimate and he thanked Mr. Neiderhiser for his research.

Member Tarlecki asked if there was maintenance and/or warranty on a system like that. Mr. Neiderhiser said he was not sure. He did not investigate it to that extent.

Mr. Berenson asked if it was required to go out to bid. Member Hart replied we are not required to go out to bid but Council typically gets three quotes on anything over a \$1,000.00. Mr. Berenson asked since there are only two would Council deal with them or seek a third company. Member Hart said we would probably start with those two companies and if the bid is under the

threshold we would probably use those estimates. If they are over, then definitely we would need a third. Mr. Berenson asked what if a third company is not available. Member Hart replied she thought there would be.

Tim Weigner, 430 Shearer Street, thanked whoever starting using our sign on Walnut Street again. It had been void for about three weeks.

Discussion: Contract Renewal with WGL Energy Services Inc.

President McDonald said the contract with WGL expires in September and a new contract was signed effective September 2015 to January 2018. The current rate for energy is \$0.06510 per KWh. The new rate is \$0.06418 per KWh.

Member Hart said although the manager had signed it, the information on file shows that the rates are still comparative and the rate is fixed. A brief discussion ensued regarding the term of the contract.

Member Tarlecki made a motion to approve the contract. Member Scott seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no.

Appointment of BIU as Zoning Officer

President McDonald said BIU had been the Zoning Officer prior to Mr. DeMeno. Since he is not here we will contract BIU as Zoning Officer until a replacement is found. Member Hart said they are acceptable to the same contract that we had a few months ago.

Member Scott made a motion to appoint BIU as Zoning Officer. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no.

Appointment of Emergency Management Coordinator

Member Tarlecki asked how long the term is. President McDonald responded it is for one year.

Member Hart said for the record Chief Levy, aka Interim Manager, is absent.

Member Hart made a motion to appoint William Kaelin as Emergency Management Coordinator for the calendar year 2015, January 1st to December 31st 2015. Member Tarlecki seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no.

Discussion: NWWA Water & Sewer Replacement Project on Walnut Street

President McDonald read part of a letter received from the water authority about replacement of water and sewer lines on West Walnut Street.

Member Hart said we wanted to get this information to the residents as soon as possible. She said Chief Levy will have more information at the next meeting.

Member Tarlecki asked if the water authority was doing curb and sidewalks. President McDonald said Penn Dot will be doing that work but it may not be completed until the spring of next year. A brief discussion ensued regarding the scope of work and traffic.

Gary Miller, 312 E. Montgomery Avenue, said make sure that Penn Dot has coordinated with the rest of the utilities; it would be a shame to dig up a new road. Mayor D'Angelo said the residents on Walnut Street are being offered the opportunity to have their laterals replaced.

Member Tarlecki said maybe we should consider putting in new street lights on that portion of Walnut Street. We had talked about extending the period lighting.

Perry Francis, 125 W. Walnut Street, said he has slate and brick sidewalk and he would like to keep it. Member Hart replied that probably it would not be feasible to keep the brick and slate. She said Penn Dot is doing the sidewalk and curbing.

Member Sando said he and his wife have been walking and there are a lot of places where you have to go into the street because the walkway is covered by bushes. He asked if we had any way of dealing with that. Member Hart said it is a property maintenance issue. She said in the past complaints were made and the manager would send out a letter.

Old Business/Committee Reports/Zoning Applications

Solicitor Gifford said there is a new zoning application for 509 E. Montgomery Avenue, the Trego house. The applicant is requesting a special exception to have more than 3 unrelated residents in the house but not more than 10. The hearing is September 1 and the application shows a floor plan, which shows a living room, dining room and kitchen on the first floor; three bedrooms and a bathroom on the second floor; and two bedrooms on the third floor. Member Hart asked the assistant secretary to notify public works to post the property.

Mr. Berenson asked if Council was going to have the solicitor attend or give an opinion. Member Hart said that would be on the next agenda.

PERSONEL COMMITTEE - President Mc Donald reported that the solicitor has done a job description template. He will distribute it to Council and they would like Council to authorize advertising for the position.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – Member Hart gave a brief update on the audit. She said Mr. Furman gave his report a few weeks ago. At that time he needed reports from our actuary regarding the police pension. Once he receives the information he could complete the audit. Mr. Duda, our actuary, contacted us today looking for one more piece of information. The information was located and sent to Mr. Duda.

Member Scott said she wanted to address the fire system. She said we were given four proposals Holicong, Tyco, Advent and Keystone. The four proposals addressed that we needed a new fire panel. Using existing wiring, three of the proposals were comparing apples to apples; Holicong

had a few items missing. The burglar alarm which is monitored by Tyco is sending a daily signal saying that the building is okay.

Joanne Matthews, 421 Shearer Street, asked if we are entitled to a refund. Member Scott replied no because they were doing what they were supposed to do. They were monitoring a daily timer signal and we never called them to say come out and fix the panel. Member Sando questioned, so we had a maintenance agreement but it did not include Tyco coming out on a regular basis to check the system. A discussion ensued regarding the maintenance agreement and the events that led to the failure of the system. Member Scott said Tyco will continue to monitor the burglar alarm. She recommends Keystone. For their bid of \$8,231.00, they will replace all the equipment needed, the first year monitoring is free and the following three years \$360.00 per year.

Member Sando asked about the Keystone warranty. Member Scott said if she recalls the panel is a one year warranty. A discussion ensued regarding the maintenance agreement and warranty.

Member Hart made a motion to accept the proposal from Keystone in the amount of \$8,231.00 for a four year contract agreement with each year thereafter a \$360.00 annual monitoring fee and contingent upon a one year warranty be included. Member Cherry seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no.

Solicitor / Mayor / Council / Manager

Solicitor Gifford said as a matter of public record Council did reconvene after the last meeting and accepted the resignation of Daniel DeMeno. He said he had a few matters for executive session with no action required. Member Hart said we took action on appointing an Interim Borough manager.

Mayor D'Angelo requested an executive session for a personnel matter with no action required. He also reported on the meeting he attended regarding the Pope's visit in September.

Member Hart said we received a letter from Penn Medicine about helicopter ambulance service. Chief Levy recommended that we stay out of recommending one service over another. He suggested we negotiate with Jeffstat to accept the resident's insurance reimbursement as medical payment in full and prohibit balance billing and legal action by Air Methods.

Member Cherry said his company removed the old tree from Weingartner Park. He said some residents asked about leaving the burl in tack and maybe Park and Recreation could preserve it. Someone cut the burl from the tree. He will follow up with police. Judy Miller, 312 E. Montgomery Avenue, said she was glad to hear that Member Cherry didn't do it. She asked if the tree will be completely removed. Member Cherry responded yes.

Mel Magee, 511 E. Montgomery Avenue, complained about the cigarette smoke coming into her yard and four people living in the Trego house. She said when she spoke to Mr. DeMeno he seem to have a lot of stock in good faith that there would only be three people there. If that is a sign of good faith, then we are in for a long road. Solicitor Gifford said they have filed an

application for zoning relief and everyone needs to be there to discuss the violation. Gary Miller asked if the notice could be placed in a more convenient place; maybe at street level and not too far back. Member Hart said also maybe a little larger print.

Member Sando asked Member Cherry if he was monitoring the trees and if there is still a problem with the ash bores. Member Cherry said some ash trees are dying but it has nothing to do with the ash bore. He said Weingartner Park has a lot of old trees. A discussion ensued regarding the trees around Borough Hall, on Main Street and in the parks. Member Cherry said as contractors give trees to the Borough they will be planted on Main Street. He said Parks and Recreation has a couple of fundraisers planned to help fund their projects.

Member Hart made a motion to adjourn. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.