

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES
 300 SCHOOL STREET
 NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

MEETING: February 10, 2015 7:00 PM, EST

CALL TO ORDER made by Vice President Hart.

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

Also in attendance was Gregory Gifford, Borough solicitor.

Vice President Hart led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

Richard Buttacavoli, 117 S. Tenth Street, said he is planning a civic education event to run from April 15th to May 25th. He said April 20th is the last day to register to vote. He said the purpose is to give voters the tools they need to make educated decisions at the polls. The library will be decorated with a patriotic theme and civic educational tools will be spotlighted. He would like to see patriotic decorations on Main Street to help promote and draw attention to the event. The elected officials are welcome to the event to answer questions. Member Hart said it sounds like a good idea and we can advertise it on the kiosk and our website. We don't have any patriotic flags but they are on our list.

Approve Minutes: October 28, 2014, November 12, 2014, November 25, 2014

Member Scott made a motion to approve the minutes of October 28, November 12 and November 25, 2014. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Appointments to Boards and Commissions

Vice President Hart said at the last meeting there were still some vacancies and no official letters of interest. We do have a letter of interest from Daniel Natale for the Shade Tree Commission. He would fill the vacancy left by Brian Passerini.

Member Tarlecki made a motion to appoint Daniel Natale to the Shade Tree Commission for a 5 year term. Member Redstreak seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Old Business / Committee Reports / Zoning Applications

There were no zoning applications.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE - Member Scott reported that interviews were held last week and they will narrow the field down to three to present to Council. They hope to have a new manager in place by March 1st.

Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, asked if the interviews would be public or private. Member Scott said it is a personnel issue so it is an executive session.

OLD BUSINESS - Member Sando said we have a copy of a resolution from Interim Manager Levy opposing House Bill 173. The bill would give the state sole authority to determine which nonprofits are tax exempt. This would be a negative impact on the Borough's tax base. Vice President Hart said the Pennsylvania State Association of Borough's and the Pennsylvania Municipal League are opposing it.

A discussion ensued regarding the ramifications of the bill to local governments. Vice President Hart advised Council to review the resolution so that it can be on the next agenda.

Vice President Hart said she and President McDonald had received a letter of resignation from Tony Kratowicz from the North Wales Area Library Board. She said she was not aware that we made appointments to the library board. So she contacted Jayne Blackledge and asked for a copy of their bylaws. Evidently, Council appoints two members of the ten member board. We will do that at the next meeting.

Sal Amato, 201 S. Tenth Street, said he is one of the vacancies on the library board. He said it is a wonderful experience and they are very active. He said the bylaws are on the library's website. A brief discussion ensued regarding the make-up of the board and the amount of money the Borough gives to the library.

Solicitor / Mayor / Council / Manager

Solicitor Gifford said he has two short matters for executive session. He announced that there will be a continuation of the executive session tomorrow night at 6 PM to interview the candidates. Public discussion and the actual decision will be made at the next Council meeting.

Vice President Hart reported that Member McDonald arrived at 7:35 PM.

Mayor D'Angelo said at last Wednesday's Planning Commission meeting, they reviewed plans for 912 E. Prospect Avenue. Basically, an old house will be demolished and two new houses built. We talked about the Revitalization Plan and had a record crowd. We talked about a lot of issues including parking, TOD, and other things. The TOD failed because the public was not

educated enough. More public feedback is needed. They discussed getting email addresses of the residents; also, streetscape putting up hanging baskets. Jane Keyes said we could possibly get another \$5,000.00 from the Tex Mex race. Right now there is no grant money for Revitalization. He said the BBA agreed to develop a welcome kit for new businesses in the Borough. Vice President Hart said currently the police department delivers the welcome packet to new residents. Maybe the BBA can get together with the new manager to arrange a delivery system.

Member Cherry said the Planning Commission meeting was very interesting. The businesses talked about giving the Main Street corridor a face lift. He is suggesting that the Bradford Pear trees be removed. They look good when they are young but they become a nuisance when they are not maintained. He and Brian Passerini walked the town and counted 24 Bradford Pear trees. He proposes eliminating all 24 trees and replant with something more viable, like cherry trees. They have small leaves and blossoms. They would replant 15 to 18 trees and put up hanging baskets. He said the businesses have one idea and residents another. He would like to see the ideas come together and be beneficial to everyone. He, Brian and others will probably donate their services. The Borough would pay for the trees, hanging baskets, and brackets. Ms. Keyes donated \$5,000.00 last year that was not spent and will probably donate another \$5,000.00 this year. He would like to do this before the middle of March. He said this is what I can offer to help.

Vice President Hart said we were working on some of those concerns. The previous manager made more parking along Main Street. To promote the historic aspect of town, we put in new gateway signs and flags. We are looking at putting in some American flags. We added flower pots last season. She asked if Parks and Recreation could get a plan together for the next meeting. Member Sando asked who would maintain the hanging baskets. Member Cherry said he had asked Mr. Dysard who would water the pots. He said the maintenance guys or maybe the shop owners would water the plants. Member Sando said it is not a good idea if there is not a plan. Some municipalities have water station carts for their maintenance crews to water the planters. Vice President Hart said Lansdale has both, hanging baskets with artificial flowers and big pots with live flowers on the sidewalk. They asked the businesses to water the planters.

Member McDonald thanked everyone who attended the Planning Commission meeting. It was good to see a room full of people. He encouraged everyone to keep coming.

Member Cherry said there were two or three businesses that wanted to know why they could not rent parking spaces from each other. Mayor D'Angelo said the Revitalization Plan calls for shared parking but he thinks liability would be an issue. Zoning requires a certain number of spaces for apartment buildings. He asked if it was a requirement that signs be posted saying these spots are for residents and guests of such and such a building. Vice President Hart said she doesn't think that is in zoning. We need to investigate this further to get more details. She said there is some shared parking. The pharmacy labeled their parking spaces because it was becoming a problem for their customers. If businesses are willing to make a joint effort and as long as it does not affect the health and well-being of another business or resident, it is certainly something we can look into. Mr. Amato said he thinks they were asking if there was any regulation that would prohibit shared parking. Solicitor Gifford said some towns do an overlay

district to allow certain parking situations and currently North Wales does not have one. He said Council can consider doing an overlay district.

Member Sando asked when the Historical marker for the Trego house would be replaced. Vice President Hart said the state has picked it up and she asked Interim Manager Levy to follow up on its status. Vice President Hart said it takes a long time to get the marker repaired.

Member McDonald made a motion to adjourn. Member Scott seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM.