

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES
 300 SCHOOL STREET
 NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

MEETING: February 24, 2015 7:00 PM, EST

CALL TO ORDER made by President McDonald.

ROLL CALL:	Jim Cherry	Present
	Michael McDonald	Present
	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.

President McDonald led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council went into executive session immediately after the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:02 PM to discuss a personnel matter. The executive session ended at 7:10 PM.

President McDonald called the meeting back to order. He said we will begin with item #2 Appointment of Borough Manager then proceed with public comment.

Appointment of Borough Manager

Mr. DeMeno gave a brief synopsis of his background to include his banking experience.

Member Hart made a motion to appoint Daniel DeMeno as the Borough manager effective March 2, 2015. Member Scott seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Public Comment

Ann Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, informed Council about some classes that were available at Delaware Valley College. President McDonald thanked her for the information.

Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, asked about the executive at the last meeting. Solicitor Gifford said it was a matter of personnel. It gave Council the opportunity to review the candidates. Tonight's meeting was to discuss whether they wanted to offer the position tonight.

Disbursements: \$63,080.05

Interim Manager Levy gave a brief overview of the bills to include: Crest Commons LLC, partial escrow release; Independence Blue Cross, health insurance; Maillie, partial payment to auditor; payment into police pension plan; solicitor for two months; PECO, electricity; Morton Salt, road salt; and Building Inspection Underwriters, building permits. Member Hart asked why the Building Inspection Underwriters bill was so much. Interim Manager Levy said it looks like there were nine permits.

Member Redstreak asked if we used Point Service Center for most of the basic vehicle maintenance. Interim Manager Levy responded that he tries to split the work between Alley Automotive and Point Service.

Member Tarlecki asked about the Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin and Maxwell and Rudolph Clarke bills. Interim Manager Levy said Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin and Maxwell was for zoning issues. Member Hart said Rudolph Clarke was the Organizational meeting for Civil Service.

Member Tarlecki made a motion to pay the bills for February in the amount of \$63,080.05. Member Scott seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Old Business / Committee Reports / Zoning Applications

There was no old business.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE - President McDonald reported that the committee has found a replacement for Mr. Dysard.

FINANCE COMMITTEE - Member Hart said the committee will reconvene once Mr. DeMeno is in place. We will be looking at ways to finance our capital projects.

There were no zoning applications.

Consideration: Certificate of Appropriateness for 109 Church Street

Member Hart made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for 109 Church Street to replace a shingled roof on the front of the house. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Certificate of Appropriateness for 403 E. Walnut Street

Member Tarlecki asked if the sign would have exterior lighting. Member Hart responded that there are lights on the building that hang down. President McDonald said it is a non-illuminated sign.

Member Hart made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness as presented for 403-405 E. Walnut Street which is an application for a new sign for the building known as Artisan's Alley. Member Scott seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Resolution to Oppose PA Senate Bill 4 and House Bill 173

Member Sando gave a brief description of the bills. Mr. Berenson asked if PSAB has formally put in a letter of opposition. Member Sando said he believes they have and they have asked all Boroughs to do the same. A brief discussion ensued regarding the procedure required for bills to become law.

Member Redstreak made a motion to approve the Resolution to Oppose PA Senate Bill 4 and House Bill 173. Member Sando seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Discussion: North Wales Area Library By-laws and Appointments

Member Hart said she had scanned a copy of the bylaws to the solicitor for his review. Solicitor Gifford said according to the bylaws Council is to appoint two members, which the board recommends, to the board. He said Council can still appoint members because there are no recommendations. Mr. Berenson asked the solicitor if he had contacted the library to ask for recommendations. Solicitor Gifford said no. It is preferred that the library recommend rather than Council just appoint. Member Hart said the library is aware of that and they are seeking volunteers.

Member Tarlecki said so from this point forward we will be appointing two members to the library board. Then we need to know the length of the term. Member Hart said that Chief Levy was asked to put the information on the Boards and Commissions sheet. Solicitor Gifford said many years ago the board just appointed. When they went to being an area library, they had to pass bylaws and we never officially caught up.

Member Hart made a motion to accept the resignation of Tony Kratowicz from the North Wales Area Library Board. Member Redstreak seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Discussion: Downtown Streetscape

Member Cherry said at the last Park and Recreation meeting they discussed removing the trees from downtown and replacing them with something else; hanging baskets; and the labor being donated. The Borough would be responsible for paying for the trees, plants, planters and brackets. We have a donation and we are trying to keep the cost within that range. They like the idea of putting artificial flowers in the baskets instead of live plantings and have barrels with live plants. They are trying to get the name of the manufacturer of the light posts to get the proper brackets. He has contacted nurseries to get trees at a reasonable rate and he has contacted volunteers to do the work. Once they have the cost of everything, they will have something to present. Their next meeting is in a few weeks and they hope to have something after that to give to Council.

Member Hart said Brian from public works was getting prices on new flags and banners. Member Cherry said for those not at the last meeting we had talked about removing the trees along Main Street and replacing them with trees that look good and required low maintenance.

Perry Francis, 125 W. Walnut Street, said at the Parks and Recreation meeting, someone had suggested statuary, for example Boyertown has painted bears, Doylestown has horses, to spice up the town. Member Hart said it is a good idea but there are other symbols we could use. President McDonald thanked Member Cherry and the Parks and Recreation Committee for their help and energy.

Solicitor/ Mayor / Council/ Manager

Solicitor Gifford said he has several matters to discuss with Council and he is asking for an executive session on a matter of potential litigation with no action required. He said the 917 E. Prospect Avenue property had a neighbor complain about a water problem. The engineer looked into it and she recommended only a partial escrow release. Solicitor Gifford said he reviewed the documents with Amy, our engineer. He said the check will have to be redone in the amount of \$16,625.70. Member Hart said money for the drainage and the two trees is being withheld. Solicitor Gifford informed Council about the new subdivision plan submitted by Gwynedd Blue LLC for the property across from Wawa. They are putting up three single family homes. Member Hart said it is important that the Planning Commission not only look at what is being built but how it affects the surrounding area. Member Cherry asked if they would cause an environmental impact on the park behind the property. Solicitor Gifford said that is part of the professional review the applicant pays for.

Mayor D'Angelo said the fire company has asked if the hoagie sales could be advertised on the kiosk again. They are trying to rejuvenate the hoagie business. They would give a schedule to the Borough manager. Member Hart said she did not see an issue with it. Council had no objections.

Members Neiderhiser, Scott, Hart, Sando and Redstreak welcomed Mr. DeMeno on board as Borough manager.

President McDonald also welcomed Mr. DeMeno and he thanked Member Sando for bringing the resolution to Council's attention.

On the public's behalf, Mr. Berenson thanked Chief Levy for being chief as well as serving as temporary manager. President McDonald said they knew when they hired him that he was a true professional. He also thanked Gerry Fredricks and Claire Liebel for stepping up and helping out.

Chief Levy said the police department is in the process of disposing of their old handguns and getting new replacements. He welcomed Mr. DeMeno aboard.

Member Hart thanked the Personnel Committee (Members McDonald, Scott and Tarlecki) for finding a new manager.

Member Scott made a motion to adjourn. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.