

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES  
300 SCHOOL STREET  
NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

MEETING: March 13, 2018 7:01 PM, EST

CALL TO ORDER made by President Sando.

|            |                        |         |
|------------|------------------------|---------|
| ROLL CALL: | Salvatore Amato        | Present |
|            | James Cherry           | Present |
|            | Ronald S. Little, Jr.  | Present |
|            | Wendy McClure          | Present |
|            | Sally Neiderhiser      | Present |
|            | Daniel O'Connell       | Present |
|            | Eion O'Neill           | Present |
|            | Paula Scott            | Present |
|            | James Sando            | Present |
|            | Mayor Gregory D'Angelo | Present |

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

President Sando led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment at this time.

### **Presentation: North Wales 2040 – Comprehensive Plan Update (MCPC)**

Margaret Dobbs, the Borough's Community Planner, provided an overview of the North Wales 2040 Comprehensive Plan update. Member Amato asked Ms. Dobbs to explain how the core themes of the plan were developed. Ms. Dobbs explained the themes were developed by utilizing themes that all comprehensive plans seek to address. Member Amato asked how priorities will be determined for the implementation schedule. Ms. Dobbs explained it will be discussed and vetted during the upcoming steering committee meetings as well as an open house event being held on May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, asked whose responsibility it is to maintain sidewalks in front of properties. Manager Hart explained it is the responsibility of the property owner. He then asked what the differences are between the goals of the 2007 Comprehensive Plan update and the current proposed North Wales 2040 Plan. Ms. Dobbs explained the goals are like that of the previous comprehensive plan update; however, it includes more goals and practical means to meet those goals. He then asked what the vision is for the Transit Oriented Development District. He then asked what the requirements are for implementing the plan. Solicitor Gifford explained there are no strict or legal requirements for implementing the plan and replied that Ms. Dobbs is the Borough's Planner, she does not have control or can answer questions that are the responsibility of the governing body.

Manager Hart explained the new comprehensive plan will include steps to help the Borough achieve the goals of the plan. She then stated the plan has been formed with great public input and as a result is very credible.

**Consideration: Appointment to Historic Commission to fill vacancy until 12/31/2019**

Member Scott made a motion to appoint Daniel Natale to fulfill a vacancy on the Historic Commission, term ending 12/31/2019. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

**Consideration: Approval of Minutes for February 27, 2018**

Member Scott made a motion to approve the minutes of February 27, 2018. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

**Consideration: Approval of Escrow Release No. 1 – 432 Shearer Street**

Member Amato asked why the escrow account for 432 Shearer Street was in the negative last year. Manager Hart explained the developer's initial escrow amount had been depleted and the Borough had not yet determined how much additional escrow the developer would owe. Linda McAdoo, 412 Shearer Street, asked about stormwater management issues with the property. Manager Hart explained the Borough is holding part of the developer's escrow until all stormwater, grading and other requirements have been addressed. Member O'Connell asked if the Borough can extend the time limit for releasing escrow. Manager Hart explained the Borough can withhold the escrow if there are outstanding items. Therefore, there is no time limit for escrow release.

Member O'Neill made a motion to approve a release of escrow in the amount of \$18,258.30 for the 432 Shearer Street Subdivision. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

**Old Business/Committee & Board Reports/Zoning Applications**

Manager Hart provided an overview of the Parks and Recreation minutes, including the Easter Egg Hunt being held on March 24<sup>th</sup>. She also announced that the "Yoga in the Yard" program will be held this spring and summer. Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, asked if there is an update on the sound system issue. Manager Hart announced he will be here on March 27<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Donnelly announced that MCPC will be holding a Planning Smarter event and she announced MCPC will be holding a meet and greet event for people to meet the County planners.

Member Amato provided an overview of the minutes for the Technology Council Sub-Committee. Member Scott announced registration for the Nor-Gwyn Pool will be opening soon.

**Solicitor / Mayor / Council / Manager**

Solicitor Gifford stated an executive session will be held to discuss one legal matter, one real estate matter and one personnel matter. No action would be taken at this time.

Mayor D'Angelo thanked Manager Hart, the NPVFC, the Police Department and Public Works Department for all their hard work during the most recent winter storms.

Chief Fantry thanked Vice President Cherry for helping during the winter storms. Chief Fantry warned residents about scammers taking advantage of people in relation to government and/or IRS tax scams, he also encouraged people to lock their cars to protect themselves against theft.

Member McClure asked for a status update on 619 E. Walnut Street, where a recent house fire took place. She then asked if the Borough is involved with Act 98 where the Borough could withhold escrow until all fire remediations have been completed. Manager Hart stated a contractor came in to the Borough to obtain building permit applications for the remediation efforts, but the Borough has not received a formal building permit submission yet. She then stated the Borough does incorporate Act 98 requirements.

Vice President Cherry thanked everyone for all their hard work during the winter storms. He then stated it has been brought to his attention that the Borough did not provide any storm updates on the Borough Website or the Facebook page. He encouraged people to help during inclement weather events and wished that people would appreciate the Borough's efforts more. Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, asked Vice President Cherry to clarify the comments he read out loud. Vice President Cherry explained he was not complaining about the Borough, rather he was referring to an e-mailed complaint he had received.

Member O'Neill announced he and Member Little had attended the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs (PSABS) seminar for newly elected officials and said it was a very helpful course. Member Little thanked Manager Hart and Assistant Manager Guzzardo for their efforts in having a dead shade tree removed on School Street. President Sando announced that Pennsylvania celebrated its 337<sup>th</sup> Charter Anniversary and told people that The State Museum in Harrisburg will be displaying the Commonwealth's Original Charter for those interested.

Manager Hart announced Governor Wolf's Cabinet in Your Community Initiative and offered information regarding an upcoming event sponsored by same. Manager Hart also announced that the Borough will be providing updates to those properties within the Safe Routes to School Route. She also announced that part of the 2018 Spring Newsletter will address the Borough's upcoming 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the article will include information seeking volunteers to assist in planning. She encouraged everyone to participate and to help plan the event, as it marks an important milestone within our community.

Member Scott made a motion to adjourn. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 P.M.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Christine A. Hart  
Borough Manager