

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES
300 SCHOOL STREET
NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

MEETING: December 13, 2022, 7:02 P.M., EST

CALL TO ORDER made by President Amato.

ROLL CALL:	Salvatore Amato	Present
	Sherwin Collins	Present
	Anji Fazio	Present
	Alexander Groce	Present
	Wendy McClure	Absent
	Sally Neiderhiser	Absent
	Eion O'Neill	Present
	Mark Tarlecki	Present
	Sarah Whelan	Absent
	Mayor Neil McDevitt	Present

Also, in attendance were Gregory Gifford, Borough Solicitor, David Erenius, Chief of Police, Brian Sleicher, Public Works Supervisor, and Alan Guzzardo, Assistant Borough Manager

President Amato led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

Gregory D'Angelo, 915 E. Montgomery Avenue, thanked everyone who assisted with the Tree Lighting Ceremony including the NWCPA, the NPVFC and Mayor McDevitt for allowing him to read the Night Before Christmas. He thanked Sarah McDevitt, Roseanne D'Angelo, and Collette D'Angelo for assisting as well.

Jackson Moffitt, 211 School Street, said that the community is welcoming and great. He then said that North Wales is very walkable, and he praised the 2021 Walkability Report. He then mentioned that the Borough should raise crosswalks per the report to help force cars to drive slower, less maintenance on divots in sidewalk and look aesthetically pleasing. He then suggested incorporating bike lanes and he looked forward to on future infrastructure projects.

Lourdes Santiago, 424 S. Pennsylvania Avenue, requested a waiver of the real estate tax penalties for a personal reason and added she always pays her taxes on time every year. Solicitor Gifford explained the waiver process and added that the waiver process is for special extenuating circumstances. She then asked why the Tax Collector waited so long to provide the notice and why could he not make phone calls to those that are late. Member Fazio said the Communications Committee would consult with the tax collector and recommend ways that could enhance those types of communication.

Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, asked if Council needed to vote on a change of tax collection policy. Manager Hart said that the Tax Collector's policies are under Act 32 and the Tax Collection Ordinance. He then stated that Council should not change the policy.

Consideration: Approval of Final Payment (\$44,904.00) – Library Roof Replacement Project

Member Fazio made a motion to approve final payment in the amount of \$44,904.00 for the North Wales Area Library Roof Replacement Project. Member O'Neill seconded the motion. Motion passed 6 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Adoption of 2023 Annual Budget

Member Fazio made a motion to adopt the 2023 Annual Budget as presented. Member Groce seconded the motion. Motion passed 6 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Adoption of 2023 Fee Schedule

Manager Hart reviewed changes to the 2023 fee schedule. Member Collins asked about the removal of fingerprinting services and wondered where someone would now go to get fingerprinted. Manager Hart said that most people are fingerprinted digitally and only those who need higher clearances would require manual processing.

Member Collins made a motion to adopt the 2023 Fee Schedule as presented. Member Groce seconded the motion. Motion passed 6 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Approval and Advertisement of 2023 Meeting Schedules

Member Groce made a motion to approve and advertise the 2023 Council Meeting Schedules as presented. Member Fazio seconded the motion. Motion passed 6 yes, 0 no.

Member Groce made a motion to approve and advertise the 2023 Boards and Commissions Meeting Schedules as presented. Member Fazio seconded the motion. Motion passed 6 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Approval of 2023 Holiday Schedule

Jackson Moffitt, 211 School Street, asked for clarification on celebrating Christmas Eve on Monday, December 25. Assistant Manager Guzzardo explained that the holidays are observed in this manner because they fall on the weekend.

Member O'Neill made a motion to approve the 2023 Holiday Schedule as presented. Member Fazio seconded the motion. Motion passed 6 yes, 0 no.

Discussion: 2023 Boards and Commissions Openings

Manager Hart reviewed the lists of 2023 Boards and Commissions openings.

Consideration: Approval of Minutes: November 22, 2022

Member Fazio made a motion to approve the minutes of November 22, 2022. Member Collins seconded the motion. Motion passed 6 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Approval of Disbursements: \$108,437.14

Manager Hart reviewed the list of invoices as of 12/13/2022 for December. Member O'Neill asked about clarification on cultural supplies for the HRC Commission and for Nor-Gwyn Pool Commission for lifeguard backgrounds.

Member Fazio made a motion to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$108,437.14. Member Collins seconded the motion. Motion passed 6 yes, 0 no.

Old Business / Committee & Board Reports / Zoning Applications

Member Fazio announced that the Borough will be issuing a digital newsletter and encouraged those that are interested to contact her to sign up for the newsletter. Manager Hart announced that flyers are available in the hallway. They've been sent to the businesses and will also be mailed with the real estate tax bills. She added that the flyer will be posted on the website and residents and business owners are encouraged to sign up remotely.

Assistant Manager Guzzardo announced that he received the following Zoning Hearing Board Applications: #22-09, regarding a change of non-conforming use at 101 Elm Avenue and #22-10, regarding the construction of a single-family detached dwelling at 213 W. Walnut Street. He added that the hearing will be held on Thursday, January 5. Enclosed is the packet is a copy of the legal notice.

President Amato asked for a motion to support Z-22-09. Member Collins made a motion. Member Groce seconded the motion. Motion passed 6 yes, 0 no.

Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, asked if Solicitor Gifford needed to be present at the hearing. President Amato said no, that is not necessary.

Solicitor / Mayor / Council / Chief / Public Works / Manager

Solicitor Gifford announced that an executive session was held prior to tonight's meeting to discuss a matter of potential litigation and personal matter. He then wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mayor McDevitt thanked the North Wales Community Project Alliance, North Penn Volunteer Fire Co., and our Borough police, public works, and staff for making the Tree Lighting a success. He also thanked former Mayor D'Angelo for reading "The Night Before Christmas" with him. He added that, "for everything else that goes on out there in the world today, we showed that North Wales is a community that comes together and celebrates what's really important these days." He then recognized the current triple epidemic of COVID, RSV, and the Flu that is overwhelming hospitals and medical care providers alike. He added that Chief

Wheeler of the VMSC reported to Borough Council that breathing problems was the most common complaint for EMS calls in the Borough last month. He cautioned everyone to wear a mask to help keep each other safe and to keep vital healthcare facilities available for emergencies. Finally, he stated, "As we celebrate the holidays of Hanukkah, Pancha Ganapati, Christmas, Kwanzaa, and many more, I'd like to wish everyone the happiest of the holidays they observe and a very happy new year and see you in 2023."

Council thanked Public Works Supervisor Sleicher regarding the holiday decorations and wished everyone happy holidays and a wonderful New Year.

Chief Erenius said he looks forward to 2023.

Public Works Supervisor Sleicher wished everyone happy holidays and reported that they've been cleaning the curb lines and inlets.

Manager Hart requested a motion to cancel the December 27 meeting. Member Collins made the motion. Member Fazio seconded the motion. Motion passed 6 yes, 0 no.

Manager Hart made the following announcements: Micro-transit and SEPTA's Bus Revolution, Montco 2050 Comprehensive Plan Survey, Elmwood Park Zoo's 100th Anniversary "Show Us Your Spots" fundraiser campaign, Bike North Penn Holiday Lights Bike Ride on Thursday, December 14, January 2023 Tuesdays at Noon Organ Recitals, the Encore Christmas Concert on Sunday, January 8 and Elvis Tribute Act on Saturday, January 14.

Member Collins made a motion to adjourn. Member Fazio seconded the motion. Motion passed 6 yes, 0 no. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

Attest: _____
Christine A. Hart
Borough Manager