

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES
 300 SCHOOL STREET
 NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

MEETING: January 23, 2018 7:00 PM, EST

CALL TO ORDER made by President Sando.

ROLL CALL:	Salvatore Amato	Present
	James Cherry	Present
	Ronald Little, Jr.	Present
	Wendy McClure	Present
	Sally Neiderhiser	Present
	Daniel O'Connell	Present
	Eion O'Neill	Present
	Paula Scott	Absent
	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 none.

Consideration: Appointment(s) of Boards and Commissions Members

Manager Hart asked Council to please take out the list of Boards and Commissions vacancies from their packets. She explained that positions would be filled in the order they are listed.

Manager Hart first announced there were no open positions on the Civil Service Commission. She then announced there are three open positions on the Historical Architectural Review Board, but she had not received any letters of interest.

The following positions were filled in order:

Member McClure made a motion to appoint Phyllis Byrne to the Historic Commission for a 4-year term, expiring on December 31, 2021. Vice President Cherry seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to appoint Jocelyn Tenney to the North Wales Area Library Board for a 3-year term, expiring on December 31, 2020. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

The following three individuals were nominated for one open position on the North Wales Water Authority Board of Directors:

- Neil McDevitt, nominated by Member Neiderhiser and seconded by Member O'Neill
- Gregory J. D'Angelo, nominated by Member O'Connell and seconded by Vice President Cherry
- James Schiele, nominated by Member McClure and seconded by Vice President Cherry

Each nominee spoke and explained why they would be a good fit for the position. Mr. Schiele encouraged Council to re-appoint Mr. D'Angelo after he learned there was already a new member appointed recently to keep the Board stable.

A roll call vote was taken for the nominees and occurred as follows:

- Neil McDevitt, 5 yes, 3 no.
- Gregory J. D'Angelo, 3 yes, 5 no.
- James Schiele, 2 yes, 6 no.

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to appoint Neil McDevitt to the North Wales Water Authority Board of Directors for a 4-year term, expiring on December 31, 2021. Member O'Neill seconded the motion. Motion passed 5 yes, 3 no. Members O'Connell, Amato and Cherry dissented.

Manager Hart announced she had received letters of interest from Neil McDevitt and Vice President Cherry for two open positions on the Parks and Recreation Board. One of the positions is to fulfill a vacancy, term expiring on December 31, 2018 and the other for a 5-year term, expiring on December 31, 2022. Mr. McDevitt requested to be nominated to fulfill the vacancy and Vice President Cherry requested to be nominated to fulfill the 5-year term position.

Member Amato made a motion to appoint James Cherry to the Parks and Recreation Board for a 5-year term, expiring on December 31, 2022. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Member Amato made a motion to appoint Neil McDevitt to the Parks and Recreation Board to fulfill a vacancy, term expiring on December 31, 2018. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Member McClure made a motion to appoint Officer Lynne Custer, Daniel H. O'Connell, Sr. and Lisa Hollister to the Pension Committee for 1-year terms, expiring on December 31, 2018. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

The following two individuals were nominated to be on the Planning Commission:

- Linda McAdoo, nominated by Member McClure and seconded by Member Neiderhiser
- Charles Blackledge, nominated by Member O'Connell and seconded by Member O'Neill

Mr. Blackledge withdrew his name because he felt that Mrs. McAdoo should continue to serve on the Planning Commission.

Member McClure made a motion to appoint Linda McAdoo to the Planning Commission for a 4-year term, expiring on December 31, 2021. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Manager Hart asked if anyone had an interest in serving on the Shade Tree Commission. Member McClure stated she would like to be nominated for the position.

Vice President Cherry made a motion to appoint Wendy McClure to the Shade Tree Commission for a 5-year term, expiring on December 31, 2022. Member Amato seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

The following two individuals were nominated for the Vacancy Board Chairman position:

- John Davis, nominated by Vice President Cherry, seconded by Member Amato
- Sherwin Collins, nominated by Member Little and seconded by Member O’Neill

Each nominee spoke and explained why they would be a good fit for the position.

A roll call vote was taken and occurred as follows:

- John Davis, 3 yes, 5 no.
- Sherwin Collins, 7 yes, 1 no.

Member Little made a motion to appoint Sherwin Collins as the Vacancy Board Chairperson for a 1-year term, expiring on December 31, 2018. Member O’Neill seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 1 no. Member O’Connell dissented.

Manager Hart announced she had received letters of interest from Anthony Kratowicz and Charles Blackledge for two open positions on the Zoning Hearing Board. One of the positions is to fulfill a 5-year term alternate position, term expiring on December 31, 2022 and the other for a 5-year term, expiring on December 31, 2022. Mr. Blackledge requested to be nominated to fulfill the alternate position and Mr. Kratowicz requested to be nominated to fulfill the 5-year term position.

Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, announced that once a person is appointed to the Zoning Hearing Board, they cannot serve on other Boards and Commissions.

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to appoint Anthony Katowicz to the Zoning Hearing Board for a 5-year term, expiring on December 31, 2022. Vice President Cherry seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Vice President Cherry made a motion to appoint Charles Blackledge to fulfill the alternate position, term expiring on December 31, 2022. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Lastly, Manager Hart explained the Borough is attempting to fill the Uniform Construction Code (UCC) Board of Appeals, the Board is comprised of five positions which no one is currently serving on, nor has anyone submitted interest in serving. Manager Hart stated the Borough will continue to try and fill these positions, another alternative would be to consider having a joint UCC Board with Upper Gwynedd Township if the Borough cannot fill the positions.

Consideration: Appointment(s) of Council Member Sub-Committees

President Sando reviewed his proposed Council Member Sub-Committee list. President Sando asked if any Council members had any objection to the list he provided to them. There were no objections. Therefore, the list was approved as presented. Sub-Committee members will be posted on the website and will meet on an as needed basis.

Discussion: Appointment of Alternate Voting Delegate for Montgomery County Tax Collection Committee

Member O’Connell made a motion to appoint James Sando as an alternate voting delegate for the Montgomery County Tax Collection Committee. Member Amato seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Approval of Minutes: December 12, 2017, December 26, 2017 and January 9, 2018

Linda McAdoo, 421 Shearer Street, asked how new Council members approve minutes from last year when they were not serving as Council members at that time. Solicitor Gifford stated that new Council members are allowed to review and approve minutes for meetings that they were not serving as Council members.

Member Amato made a motion to approve the minutes of December 12, 2017, December 26, 2017 and January 9, 2018. Vice President Cherry seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Americans with Disability Act Policy

President Sando announced the matter would be discussed tonight, but no action would be taken at this time.

Solicitor Gifford explained that the Borough does not currently have a policy and procedure as required under the Americans with Disability Act. He then explained how the policy and procedure would be incorporated.

Manager Hart announced that the policy and reasonable accommodation request form will be uploaded on the Borough website after it has been approved.

Member Amato suggested creating a committee to review practices. A discussion ensued regarding formulating committees to review the Borough’s facilities and practices for accessibility.

Member O’Connell asked if the Borough is prepared to answer reasonable accommodation requests. Solicitor Gifford provided clarification on the process and stated that so long as the Borough does everything they can to try and meet a request, then the Borough did its job and is protected. Solicitor Gifford then explained that there is case law and legal documents to help explain what is considered a “reasonable” accommodation request.

Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, asked if a copy of the policy will be available online for the public to review. President Sando stated a draft policy will be uploaded to the Borough website for the public to review and the Borough would be accepting comments for considerations to the policy. He also stated he felt that a new public committee is not necessary to help review the policy and process.

Jocelyn Tenney, 801 E. Walnut Street, requested that Council make everyone speak into the microphone system for those that have hearing problems.

Neil McDevitt, 324 S. 9th Street, stated he would like to review the reasonable accommodation request form and make suggestions to Council to update the form.

Vice President Cherry asked if the form would apply to all or certain Borough events. Manager Hart stated the form would be available for use for all public meeting and events affiliated with the Borough.

Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, expressed concern with unreasonable accommodation requests and how they would be addressed.

Consideration: Disbursements: \$47,088.08

Manager Hart reviewed the bills listing. Member O'Neill asked what the utility costs are for the Borough's facilities. Manager Hart provided further clarification on the Borough's utility costs.

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$47,088.08. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Old Business/Committee & Board Reports/Zoning Applications

Manager Hart stated there is one zoning application for a Minor Subdivision Plan of 715 E. Montgomery Avenue.

Solicitor / Mayor / Council / Manager

Solicitor Gifford stated there is one real estate matter for executive session and there could possibly be action taken afterwards.

Mayor D'Angelo encouraged people to attend more public meetings and participate.

Anthony Kratowicz, 111 S. 8th Street, asked if the Borough is interested in running gas lines to residents in the Third Ward of the Borough. He would like to convert from oil to gas energy. Manager Hart stated PECO offers some grant opportunities that may be available to the Borough, she will look into it. Member McClure expressed her concern with oil fill contamination as a result of oil to gas conversions not being done properly. Manager Hart stated the Borough does monitor conversions for compliance.

Manager Hart requested that the Borough appoint Boucher & James, Inc. as the Borough's official Building Code Official. Boucher & James, Inc. is currently the temporary Building Code Official.

John Davis, 230 S. Pennsylvania Avenue, asked if a request for proposal was completed for the position. Manager Hart explained professional services do not constitute one being required, and the Borough has been very satisfied with Boucher & James, Inc.'s work thus far. Also, the firm has a competitive rate, which did not increase in 2018.

Richard Buttacavoli, 117 S. 10th Street, expressed concern with the Annual Apartment Registration program. He is concerned that the Borough has not been out to inspect the property in quite some time. Manager Hart explained the property owner is supposed to schedule the inspection. Member Amato asked what the process is for the program. Manager Hart provided further clarification on the program.

Member Amato made a motion to appoint Boucher & James, Inc. as the Borough's Building Code Official. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Chief Fantry warned everyone of IRS fraud phone calls that have occurred recently. He also announced that the Police Department is currently looking for a crossing guard and encouraged people to apply.

Manager Hart announced the opening of Village Physical Therapy and Wellness at 213 N. Main Street.

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to adjourn. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Meeting adjourned at 8:39 P.M.

Attest: _____
Christine A. Hart
Borough Manager