

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES
 300 SCHOOL STREET
 NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

MEETING: January 23, 2024, 7:00 P.M., EST

CALL TO ORDER made by President Amato.

ROLL CALL:	Salvatore Amato	Present
	Sherwin Collins	Present
	Anji Fazio	Present
	Alexander Groce	Present
	Brittany Kohler	Present - Remote
	Wendy McClure	Present
	Sally Neiderhiser	Present
	Mark Tarlecki	Present
	Sarah Whelan	Present
	Mayor Neil McDevitt	Present

Also, in attendance were Gregory Gifford, Borough Solicitor, David Erenius, Chief of Police, and Ben Raybold, Public Works Supervisor.

President Amato led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, thanked the public works for their hard work throughout the past two snow and ice events.

Discussion: Acceptance of Perry Francis Resignation from Zoning Hearing Board

Member McClure made a motion to Accept the Resignation of Perry Francis from Zoning Hearing Board. Member Fazio seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

President Amato thanked Mr. Francis for his years of dedication to the Borough.

Consideration: Acceptance of \$400.00 Donation from Curling, Cut, and Spa

President Amato asked if there were any constraints on the donation. Manager Hart replied that there were none.

Member McClure made a motion to Accept a \$400 Donation from Curling, Cut, and Spa. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Approval of COA for 215 Shearer Street

Member McClure made a motion to Approve the COA for 215 Shearer Street. Member Whelan seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Approval of COA for 118 S. Pennsylvania Avenue

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to Approve the COA for 118 S. Pennsylvania Avenue. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Boards and Commissions Appointments

Manager Hart reminded Council that the library appointment has been deferred to the next Council meeting as Council is waiting on the recommendation of the Library Board as stipulated by the library bylaws.

Member McClure nominated Pam Romeo to be re-appointed to the HARB, term ending 12/31/2028. Pam Romeo's reappointment passed, 9 yes, 0 no.

Member McClure nominated Bethann Sinotte to be re-appointed to the Historic Commission, term ending 12/31/2028. Bethann Sinotte's reappointment passed, 9 yes, 0 no.

Manager Hart thanked Bethann and her husband for going to the Montgomery County Historical Society to pick up the A.K. Shearer artwork which now hangs in the back of the Council Room.

Member McClure nominated Joan Nagel to be re-appointed to the North Wales Water Authority Board, term ending 12/31/2028. Joan Nagel's reappointment passed, 9 yes, 0 no.

Member Kohler nominated Jeff Fazio for appointment to the Parks and Recreation Board, term ending 12/31/2028.

Member McClure nominated Robin Parker for re-appointment to the Parks and Recreation Board, term ending 12/31/2028.

Member Whelan nominated Dan Levy for appointment to the Parks and Recreation Board, term ending 12/31/2028.

Nominations were voted on in the order they were received.

Jeff Fazio's appointment passed, 8 yes, 1 no, Member Whelan voted no.

Robin Parker's reappointment passed, 9 yes, 0 no.

Member McClure nominated Lynne Custer to be re-appointed to the Pension Committee, term ending 12/31/2024. Lynne Custer's reappointment passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Member Fazio nominated Jim Sando to be appointed to the Pension Committee, term ending 12/31/2024. Jim Sando's appointment passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Member Kohler nominated Mark Tarlecki to be re-appointed to the Pension Committee, term ending 12/31/2024. Mark Tarlecki's reappointment passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Vice-President Tarlecki nominated Greg D'Angelo to be re-appointed to the Planning Commission, term expiring 12/31/2027.

Member McClure nominated Justin Copenhaver to be appointed to the Planning Commission, term expiring 12/31/2024.

Member Kohler nominated Star Little to be appointed to the Planning Commission, term expiring 12/31/2024.

Nominations were voted on in the order they were received.

Greg D'Angelo's re-appointment passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Justin Copenhaver's appointment failed 3 yes, 6 no. Member Collins, Member Whelan, Member Kohler, Member Groce, President Amato, and Member Fazio voted no.

Star Little's appointment passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Member McClure nominated Lynne Fitzgerald to be re-appointed to the Shade Tree Commission, term expiring 12/31/2028. Lynne Fitzgerald's reappointment passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Member McClure nominated Jocelyn Tenney to be re-appointed to the Vacancy Board Chair, term expiring 12/31/2024. Jocelyn Tenney's reappointment passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Member McClure nominated Charles Blackledge to be re-appointed to the Zoning Hearing Board, term expiring 12/31/2028. Charles Blackledge's reappointment passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Member McClure nominated Nicholas Polidore to be appointed to the Zoning Hearing Board, term expiring 12/31/2027. Nicholas Polidore's appointment passed 9 yes, 0 no.

President Amato thanked everyone who sent a letter of interest for any of these positions.

Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, asked how many vacancies remain on the Zoning Hearing Board. Manager Hart responded that there are still two vacancies.

Consideration: Approval of Minutes: January 9, 2024

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to Approve the Minutes of January 9th, 2024. Member McClure seconded the motion. The motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Approval of Disbursements: \$41,920.70

Manager Hart noted the training that is being completed by staff which has been an expense in January. She highlighted the engineering bills, heating fuel at the public works buildings and the Arts and Cultural Center. She pointed out that the museum sign has been installed and thus the bill for Display and Sign is on this list. Manager Hart also highlighted building maintenance expenses in preparation for the winter season and the Vertex Engineering bill which is for environmental studies at the Arts and Cultural Center.

Member McClure made a motion to pay the bills. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Old Business / Committee & Board Reports/ Zoning Applications

Manager Hart highlighted the Parks and Recreation Board's hard work on various events that are coming up in the spring and summer.

Manager Hart stated that there is a zoning hearing scheduled for February for 214 S. 8th Street.

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

Solicitor Gifford informed Council that the Borough has received notice of a Zoning Hearing in Upper Gwynedd which the Borough may be a party to if they choose.

Solicitor Gifford announced that there will be an executive session on two matters of personnel and one matter of real estate, no action will be taken.

Mayor McDevitt thanked everyone who kept the Borough safe and clear over the past two snowstorms. He also thanked the voters who voted in the special election for the school district. Finally, he thanked all the people who sent letters of interest to volunteer on various boards and commissions.

Member Whelan thanked everyone who sent letters of interest to volunteer on boards and commissions.

Member Kohler thanked the staff, fire department, and police department for ensuring the safety of residents and thanked all the people who sent letters of interest for boards and commissions.

Member Neiderhiser thanked public works, police, and fire for keeping everyone safe during the storms. She also thanked everyone who sent letters of interest for boards and commissions.

Member Fazio thanked everyone who came out to fill vacancies on boards and commissions.

Vice President Tarlecki shared some information from Tim Konetchy, the Borough's Planner, that says there are companies who are taking over empty spaces in malls to install pickleball courts. He stated that this helps us to think about out of the box development ideas that could be applicable to North Wales even if this specific use does not.

President Amato welcomed Benjamin Raybold to the Council Meeting and expressed his appreciation for all that Public Works does.

Manager Hart expressed appreciation for Bill Kaelin, the Emergency Management Coordinator, who got together with staff to coordinate a plan for the snowstorm.

Manager Hart highlighted the Montgomery County Borough's Association dinner which will be hosted jointly by North Wales and Lansdale at the William Penn Inn on February 22nd, 2024. She also highlighted the Taste of Montgomery County which will be held at St. Rose and sells out quickly. Finally, Manager Hart encouraged residents to sign up for Savvy Citizen updates.

Member Amato highlighted the Senator's constituent outreach program which takes place at Borough Hall in the afternoons before Council Meetings and is a great resource for residents.

Adjournment

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to adjourn. Member Fazio seconded the motion.

Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no. Meeting adjourned at 8:01 P.M.

Attest: _____

Christine A. Hart
Borough Manager