

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES
 300 SCHOOL STREET
 NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

MEETING: January 25, 2022, 7:01 P.M., EST

CALL TO ORDER made by President Amato.

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

Also, in attendance were Gregory Gifford, Borough Solicitor, Mark Bentzel, Interim Chief of Police, Alan Guzzardo, Assistant Borough Manager and Brian Sleicher, Public Works Supervisor.

President Amato led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consideration: Appointment and Swearing-In Ceremony – Chief of Police

Member Collins made a motion to appoint David Erenius as Chief of Police. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

District Justice Suzan Leonard administered the Oath of Office to David Erenius, Chief of Police. Council welcomed Chief Erenius and offered their support. Chief Erenius thanked Council for selecting him and stated he is looking forward to serving the Borough.

Public Comment

Neil McDevitt, 324 South Ninth Street, issued a formal apology for his 2018 Facebook post that compared members of the Republican Party to Nazis.

Roseanne D'Angelo, 915 East Montgomery Avenue, thanked Mayor McDevitt for his apology and she recommended some books for people to read on the topic.

Lisa Vogel, 329 South Fourth Street, thanked Mayor McDevitt for his apology and suggested that residents should consider social media profiles of election candidates prior to voting.

Consideration: Interviews and Appointment of Ward 3 Council Member

Council interviewed the following candidates for the Ward 3 Council vacancy: Anji Fazio, 111 South Seventh Street, Rachel Troutman, 708 Church Street and Collette D'Angelo, 915 East Prospect Avenue.

Manager Hart reviewed the Robert's Rules of Order to clarify how Council will make their selection.

President Amato called for nominations to fill the Ward 3 Council vacancy. Member Whelan nominated Anji Fazio. Vice President Tarlecki nominated Collette D'Angelo. Member Collins nominated Rachel Troutman. No other nomination were called for.

Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, asked if a roll call vote would be taken. Manager Hart confirmed a roll call vote would be taken.

A roll call vote was taken for Anji Fazio. Motion passed, 6 yes, 2 no. Member Collins and Vice President Tarlecki voted no.

Consideration: Resignation of Anthony Kratowicz - Zoning Hearing Board, Alternate

President Amato asked how long Tony had served on the Board. Andrew Berenson, Chairman of the Zoning Hearing Board, stated he had served about 10 years.

James Schiele, 307 East Montgomery Avenue, questioned why Tony was resigning. Manager Hart explained he has resigned due to his busy work schedule.

Member McClure made a motion to accept the resignation of Anthony Kratowicz from the Zoning Hearing Board, effective immediately. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: 2022 Boards and Commissions Appointments

Member McClure made a motion to reappoint Charles Guttenplan to the Historical Architectural Review Board, to serve as the planner member, term ending 12/31/2026. Member Collins seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Member O'Neill made a motion to reappoint L. Nicholas Paulson to the Historic Commission, term ending 12/31/2026. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Member O'Neill made a motion to reappoint Ruth Black to the Historic Commission, term ending 12/31/2026. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Manager Hart announced that she did not receive a reappointment request from Timothy Clarke for the Human Relations Commission, term ending 12/31/2024, and she did not receive any letters of interest for the opening. Therefore, she announced it would be added to the list of vacancies.

Member McClure made a motion to reappoint Johanna Owings to the Human Relations Commission, term ending 12/31/2024. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Member Whelan made a motion to reappoint Jacqueline Oberholtzer to the North Wales Area Library Board, term ending 12/31/2024. Member O'Neill seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Member O'Neill made a motion to reappoint Albert S. Tenney, III to the North Wales Water Authority Board, term ending 12/31/2026. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Member Whelan made a motion to reappoint Gina Calhoun to the Parks and Recreation Board, term ending 12/31/2026. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to reappoint Jocelyn Tenney to the Planning Commission, term ending 12/31/2025. Member O'Neill seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Manager Hart announced that she did not receive a reappointment request from James Cherry for the Shade Tree Commission, term ending 12/31/2026, and she did not receive any letters of interest for the opening. Therefore, she announced it would be added to the list of vacancies.

Member O'Neill made a motion to reappoint Jocelyn Tenney to serve as the Vacancy Board Chair, term ending 12/31/2022. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to reappoint Andrew Berenson to the Zoning Hearing Board, term ending 12/31/2026. Member O'Neill seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Manager Hart announced that she did receive a letter of interest from Joel Roberts for the Zoning Hearing Board and suggested that he could fill Tony's position as the alternate member.

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to appoint Joel Roberts to the Zoning Hearing Board, to serve as the alternate member, term ending 12/31/2022. Member Collins seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Presentation: PSAB Service Awards for 10+ Years of Dedicated Service

Manager Hart presented Member Neiderhiser with a Cecil K. Leberknight Award for 10 years of service on behalf of the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs (PSABS).

Member Neiderhiser thanked Manager Hart for applying for the award on her behalf and added she is excited to continue serving on Council.

President Amato presented Manager Hart with a Cecil K. Leberknight Award for 10 years of service on behalf of PSABS.

Manager Hart thanked Council for their continued support and added it is an honor to serve her community.

Consideration: Approval of January 2022 Disbursements - \$75,082.75

Council asked for clarification on expenses relating to vehicle maintenance, dog waste bags and tree removal services.

Member Collins made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$75,082.75. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Old Business / Committee & Board Reports / Zoning Applications

President Amato announced he and other Council members met with the North Penn Volunteer Fire Company to discuss their initiatives and how the Borough can support them. He added that

the Company will be submitting monthly public service announcements which will be announced at Council meetings and will be shared online.

Member McClure asked Fire Chief Matt Traynor to explain why the emergency siren is not working. Chief Traynor explained that a bird had gotten inside the equipment and caused the equipment to malfunction. He added that they are working on resolving the issue.

Manager Hart made the following announcements: Thank you letter received from the North Wales Area Library, TMA Partnership 2021 Highlights, Human Library event on April 9, After-School Art Club, NPAA CLASSES Winter 2021-2022 and list of Boards and Commissions vacancies.

Manager Hart then announced that a donation was received in the amount of \$405.00 from L. Nicholas Paulson for the Historic Commission fund. She then requested that Council accept the donation.

Member McClure made a motion to accept a donation in the amount of \$405.00 from L. Nicholas Paulson to be earmarked for the Historic Commission fund. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Solicitor / Mayor / Council / Police / Public Works / Manager

Solicitor Gifford announced an executive session was held after the previous meeting to discuss the Chief of Police search and Council reconvened to select Chief Erenius. He then announced that another executive session will be held after tonight's meeting to discuss a personnel matter and no action would be taken following the session.

Mayor McDevitt called for a moment of silence for the fire fighters that were killed while responding to a vacant house fire in Baltimore, Maryland on Monday, January 24. He added that there are some former residents of the Borough serving with the Baltimore Fire Department. He then made the following announcements: He attended the Organ Recitals at Noon concert series at the North Wales Community Center, There are a number of Borough businesses that have been nominated for the 2022 Montco Happening List and he encouraged everyone to vote for our local businesses, COVID case numbers are declining and the County is opening another testing location at the Pembroke Shopping Center and he looks forward to working with Chief Erenius.

Member Collins also encouraged everyone to vote for Borough businesses.

Member O'Neill announced that there is a blood donation shortage and encouraged everyone to donate blood if able. Jocelyn Tenney, 801 East Walnut Street, added that the North Wales Area Library holds a monthly donation drive. Member O'Neill then cautioned that there is a scam involving fake COVID testing sites occurring.

Member Neiderhiser congratulated everyone who was appointed to serve on the Boards and Commissions. She then expressed her support for having three women serving on Borough Council and thanked Manager Hart for nominating her for the service award. Member McClure added that Member Neiderhiser comes from a family of service.

Public Works Supervisor Sleicher announced that the Department is currently filling potholes around town.

President Amato thanked all the candidates for the Ward 3 Council vacancy and added he wished there was enough seats to have all three of them on Council.

Manager Hart thanked Public Works Supervisor Sleicher for arranging the post swearing-in gathering for Chief Erenius. She then announced that Assistant Manager Guzzardo has been chosen to serve as the Coordinator for the Montgomery County Consortium of Communities.

James Schiele, 307 East Montgomery Avenue, suggested that Council should hold an annual luncheon for the Boards and Commissions members.

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to adjourn. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no. Meeting adjourned at 8:28 P.M.

Attest: _____
Christine A. Hart
Borough Manager