

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES  
 300 SCHOOL STREET  
 NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

MEETING: January 27, 2026, 7:00 P.M., EST

CALL TO ORDER made by President Tarlecki at 7:01 P.M.

ROLL CALL:	Candace Anderson	Present
	Melanie Catanese	Present
	Sherwin Collins	Present
	Alexander Groce	Present
	Anji Fazio	Present
	Star Little	Present (7:03pm)
	Susan Manning	Present
	Sally Neiderhiser	Present
	Mark Tarlecki	Present
	Mayor Neil McDevitt	Present

Also, in attendance were Borough Solicitor, Gregory Gifford; Chief of Police, David Erenius; Assistant Borough Manager, Danielle Ervin, and Junior Council Member, Violet Anderson. Manager Christine Hart was absent.

President Mark Tarlecki led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Public Comment**

Timothy Clarke, 502 E. Prospect Avenue, complimented the Public Works Department for keeping us safe during the snowstorm. He expressed his concerns regarding Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). He requested that officials consider and pass a Welcoming Resolution for North Wales Borough. He shared local articles related to this subject. Solicitor Gifford asked that Mr. Clarke provide samples from other municipalities.

### **Consideration: Board and Commission Appointments**

Member Collins nominated Dennis Sharkey, Jr., to be re-appointed to the Civil Service Commission, term ending 12/31/2031. Dennis Sharkey, Jr.'s reappointment passed, 9 yes, 0 no.

Member Fazio nominated Joseph J. DelCiotto, to be re-appointed to the Historical Architectural Review Board, term ending 12/31/2030. Joseph J. DelCiotto's reappointment passed, 9 yes, 0 no.

Member Catanese nominated Michael Szilagyi to be re-appointed to the Historic Commission, term ending 12/31/2030. Michael Szilagyi's reappointment passed, 9 yes, 0 no.

Two letters of interest were received for the North Wales Water Authority Board. Vice President Groce nominated Gregory D'Angelo. Member Fazio nominated Sally Neiderhiser. Both candidates

were given the opportunity to share why they believed they should be appointed to the North Wales Water Authority Board.

Roll call vote for Gregory D'Angelo was taken, Mr. D'Angelo received 3 yes, 6 no votes. Members Collins, Catanese, Manning, Fazio, Anderson, and Neiderhiser voted no.

Roll call vote for Sally Neiderhiser was then taken. Mrs. Neiderhiser was reappointed, term ending 12/31/2030 to the NWWA Board by a passing vote of 9 yes, 0 no.

Member Fazio nominated Kathleen Schweitzer to be re-appointed to the Parks and Recreation Board, term ending 12/31/2030. Kathleen Schweitzer's reappointment passed, 9 yes, 0 no.

Member Collins nominated Lynne Fitzgerald to be re-appointed to the Parks and Recreation Board, term ending 12/31/2030. Lynne Fitzgerald's reappointment passed, 9 yes, 0 no.

Solicitor Gifford instructed that all three candidates for the Police Pension Committee can be nominated together. Vice President Groce nominated Lisa Vogel, Zachary Futchko and Mark Tarlecki, all three terms ending 12/31/2026. All three nominations passed, 9 yes, 0 no.

Member Neiderhiser nominated Jocelyn Tenney to be re-appointed to the Planning Commission, Term ending 12/31/2029. Jocelyn Tenney's reappointment passed, 9 yes, 0 no.

Member Neiderhiser nominated James E. Schiele to be re-appointed to the Uniform Construction Code Appeals Board, term ending 12/31/2030. James E. Schiele's reappointment passed, 9 yes, 0 no.

Member Manning nominated Jocelyn Tenney to be re-appointed as Vacancy Board Chair, term ending 12/31/2026. Jocelyn Tenney's reappointment passed, 9 yes, 0 no.

Member Fazio nominated Joel Roberts to be re-appointed to the Zoning Hearing Board, term ending 12/31/2030. Joel Roberts' reappointment passed, 9 yes, 0 no.

Members Little and Catanese emphasized the importance of recruiting members for the Shade Tree Commission and Human Relations Commission, respectively, and requested names and email addresses of all Boards and Commission members so they can reach out directly. President Tarklecki explained that we are utilizing all forms of social media and suggested Main Street North Wales participation in recruitment.

### **Consideration: Approval to Award Ninth Street Park Stream Restoration Project Bid**

Member Fazio made a motion to Approve the Award for the Ninth Street Park Stream Restoration Project to Kinsely Construction. Vice President Groce seconded the Motion. Member Collins asked for clarity on the wide range of bid amounts. Solicitor Gifford explained that the Borough goes with the lowest bid and that, legally, everything has been reviewed.

Member Catanese asked if Kinsely Construction was present at the bid meeting. Solicitor Gifford confirmed Kinsley is aware of the scope of the project. Member Catanese questioned if the contract specified any penalties or cost reduction if Kinsley Construction does not meet the deadline for project completion. Solicitor Gifford stated that language is standard and included in the contract, however weather conditions can occur. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

**Consideration: Approval of Minutes: January 13, 2026**

Member Neiderhiser made a Motion to Approve the Minutes from January 13, 2026. Vice President Groce seconded the Motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

**Consideration: Approval of Disbursements**

Approval of Disbursements was deferred due to unforeseen circumstances and will be approved at the next meeting of Council.

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

Member Catanese shared that she was approached by two residents regarding a snow ordinance to move cars to one side of the street for plowing. Solicitor Gifford explained that the Borough cites for snow removal. President Tarlecki said that the scenario can be looked into further.

Member Manning asked where future pending snow will be placed since we already have snow on the ground. President Tarlecki stated he spoke to Manager Hart; they discussed the difficulty of plowing and snow placement due to the lack of an open area to dump it. Often, it is impossible not to plow snow on the corners. Public Works do their best to remove snow that may create line of sight issues; however, it is the residents' responsibility to shovel their property.

Member Little requested that Council receive a summary of new business licenses.

Member Neiderhiser shared her concern for a neighbor who is unable to shovel their property due to health concerns. She questioned whether the Borough would give the residents a citation. President Tarlecki explained that the Borough does have an Ordinance; however, they are understanding of extenuating circumstances. Solicitor Gifford clarified for the record that North Wales Borough does enforce all of its ordinances to remove the snow and ice for the safety of the residents.

Member Anderson commented that residents have mentioned their concerns regarding cars not stopping for pedestrians at the crosswalk at Main Street and Shearer Street. She suggested looking into installing a flashing light like the one at Walnut and Center Streets. Chief Erenius explained that grant funding and engineering studies would be required.

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

Solicitor Gifford announced there would be an Executive Session pertaining to a legal matter. No action is expected to be taken.

Mayor McDevitt, “If it's January, that means in the two weeks since our last meeting, I've done two separate snow emergency declarations. As always, a huge thank you to our public works crews, our Borough police, the NPVFC, and our staff who stay on top of keeping us all safe. I've always believed that the true first responders are our neighbors - when my snowblower's auger belt broke - my new(ish) neighbor Lamar immediately offered his snowblower, and I was able to use that for two rounds of snow clearing for myself and our other neighbors! As we enter a period of extreme cold and yet another weekend storm is anticipated, I ask residents to continue to support and check on their neighbors. I hear stories of neighbors shoveling out driveways, sidewalks, and cars and making grocery runs. This is vital because when we're able to stay warm, healthy, and fed, it reduces the need for our emergency responders to hit the streets.

As a matter of governance, I try to refrain from commenting on national affairs. However, the killing of yet another American citizen exercising their First Amendment rights in Minneapolis by federal law enforcement should not be tolerated by anyone who is committed to civil and human rights in our constitutional republic. I'm proud of our Borough PD for all of the work it's done in the past three years to achieve accreditation and to ensure that our residents are served by professionals who are committed to public safety in an era where threats are ever-changing.” Lastly, Mayor McDevitt shared how much he enjoyed the final organ recital at the North Wales Arts and Cultural Center.

Council Members shared their appreciation for the Firefighters who assisted with snow removal, for Manager Hart keeping everyone abreast of the developments, and the community as a whole for pitching in to assist. They also thanked Tex Mex Connection for providing meals during the storm.

President Tarlecki explained that Member Fazio, Vice President Groce, and/or President Tarlecki will be meeting with two Council members at a time via Zoom for orientation and training purposes. They will explain the responsibilities of Council and the financial operations of the Borough. He discussed the upcoming Newly Elected Municipal Officials Orientation (NEMO) training as well.

Junior Council Member, Violet Anderson shared her concerns and perspective as a younger member of the community regarding the current immigration and how it may affect diverse communities in the Philadelphia area.

### **Adjournment**

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Danielle Ervin  
 Assistant Borough Manager