

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES
300 SCHOOL STREET
NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

MEETING: June 24, 2025, 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
	Brittany Kohler	Present
	Wendy McClure	Present
	Sally Neiderhiser	Absent
	Mark Tarlecki	Present
	Sarah Whelan	Absent
	Mayor Neil McDevitt	Present

Also, in attendance were Gregory Gifford, Borough Solicitor, Alex Turock, Assistant Borough Manager, and David Erenius, Chief of Police.

President Amato led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

Andrew Berenson of 439 Washington Avenue thanked the Police Department, Public Works, and the volunteers who helped with the Summer Kick-off event.

Consideration: Acceptance of Resignation of Alex Turock, Assistant Manager

Member Fazio made a motion to accept the resignation of Alex Turock as Assistant Manager. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes 0 no.

Consideration: Appointment of Borough Manager as Zoning Officer

Manager Hart explained that in the past, they were able to use KMS Inspection Agency as a source for a Zoning Officer; however, they are currently short-staffed. She felt that it was not a good idea to obtain a Zoning Officer from another third-party agency since both the Zoning and Building Officers often work on projects together. Given that she has experience as a Zoning Officer, she agreed to take on the role temporarily until the Assistant Manager's role is filled.

President Amato asked what the effective date was for the appointment. Attorney Gifford responded that Manager Hart's appointment would go into effect once Assistant Manager Turock resigned his position, which is July 4, 2025.

Member Kohler made a motion to accept the appointment of Borough Manager as Zoning Officer. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes 0 no.

Consideration: Approval of Budget Transfer from Public Works – Part Time Wages to Public Works – Overtime Wages in the Amount of \$6,000

Manager Hart pointed out various instances where overtime was necessary due to short-staffing and recent events like the upcoming ribbon-cutting event and Summer Kick-off, in addition to the increase in expenses earlier in the year due to snow removal. She also indicated that this would not deplete the Part-time public works wage line item for this budget year.

Member Kohler made a motion to approve of Budget Transfer from Public Works – Part Time Wages to Public Works – Overtime Wages in the Amount of \$6,000. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes 0 no.

Consideration: Approval of Disbursements: \$1,284,514.77

Manager Hart reviewed the bills list, which includes payment #5 to CM3 Building Solutions for the North Wales Arts and Cultural Center, which makes the total disbursements so large for the month.

Member McClure made a motion to Approve Disbursements of \$1,284,514.77. Member Fazio seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Approval of Minutes: May 27th, 2025

Member McClure made a motion to Approve the Minutes of May 27th, 2025. Member Collins seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no.

Old Business / Committee & Board Reports / Zoning Applications / Parking Lot

Manager Hart shared the June 4th Planning Commission draft minutes and the draft minutes from the June 12th Parks and Recreation Board.

President Amato asked if there were any zoning applications. Assistant Manager Turock responded that there was one at 405 School St. for a use variance to turn the existing twin into a duplex and a parking variance to reduce the number of parking spots required. In addition, another application for multiple variances was received for 501 E. Walnut Street.

Andrew Berenson of 439 Washington Avenue asked if it was worth having the hearings separate from each other. Manager Hart responded that it is a timing issue and up to the applicants, although they will consult with the Zoning Board solicitor. Attorney Gifford added that any decision will be up to the Zoning Board, as Council can only recommend and not make the final decision.

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

Solicitor Gifford announced that there will be an executive session after the meeting to discuss a personnel matter, but did not anticipate that any action would be taken.

Mayor McDevitt shared that for the past three years, he has been fortunate to work with Star Little and the team at Little's Ice Cream to partner with the Borough Police Department to "ticket" kids who wear their helmets while riding bikes or scooters with a coupon for a free cone. He was thrilled to announce that they will be doing it again this summer. He also shared that during one of the previous years, a council member jokingly asked if adults got anything. That stuck with him, and this year, he is proud to say thank you to Bob Zimmerman and Soul Brothers Meats, who have joined the program. Officers can also give adults who are wearing helmets or parents of kids who are helmeted a coupon for a free snack stick.

It's partnerships from our small businesses to listen to crazy ideas like this and make them work that make North Wales an amazing community to live in.

Bob Zimmerman, owner of Soul Brothers Meats, shared that in his opinion, North Wales is the most helpful community to small businesses compared to other communities he has experienced.

Mayor McDevitt also said that with the unprecedented heat, he wants to remind residents to check on neighbors who may need additional help staying safe, and if they suspect there's an issue, please call 911 immediately.

He also wanted to thank all of the community resources for assisting during the storm last week, which knocked out power to parts of the community. From the Borough Police Department to the North Penn Fire Company to PECO crews - the Borough had power back the next day, while other communities that were harder hit are going through this heat wave without power.

He also wanted to recognize one of his former neighbors - Caleb Price was the pitcher for the North Penn Baseball team at the State Championship a few weeks ago. When Caleb and his family lived next door to me, he was a quiet leader who worked hard, whether it was doing lawn chores, helping with his siblings, or holding pickup football games in 9th Street Park. Caleb heads to Juniata College in the fall to study to become a pharmacist.

Member McClure pointed out that a branch is blocking the sidewalk on Pennsylvania and West Montgomery Avenues. Manager Hart responded that Public Works has been notified and that it should be removed by the end of the week.

Member McClure asked if the rain barrel was added to the Community Garden on 4th Street, to which Manager Hart responded, it was placed at the park during the planting session that took place on opening day of the Community Garden Event.

Member McClure also asked for an update on the Arts and Cultural Center. Manager Hart shared that in addition to the soft opening, there was a small graduation party held the other week, and the North Wales Area Library has two fall events scheduled there. Next steps will be installing

cameras and keyless entry, and furnishing the Flex Room, in addition to remain working on Phase 3 of the project.

Manager Hart thanked the sponsors and Council for their support for the Summer Kick-off. She also mentioned the upcoming Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening of the Arts and Cultural Center on June 30th. She offered that if anyone on Council wants to be part of the program, to let her or Assistant Manager Turock know. Additionally, the Fourth of July parade is coming up. Lastly, Community Day is on track for September 27th.

Adjournment

Member McClure made a motion to adjourn. Member Fazio seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no. Meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm.

Attest: _____

Christine A. Hart
Borough Manager