

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES
300 SCHOOL STREET
NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

REMOTE MEETING: March 23, 2021 7:00 PM, EST

CALL TO ORDER made by President Sando.

ROLL CALL:	Salvatore Amato	Present
	James Cherry	Present
	Sherwin Collins	Present
	Ronald S. Little, Jr.	Present
	Wendy McClure	Present
	Sally Neiderhiser	Present
	Eion O'Neill	Present
	James Sando	Present
	Mark Tarlecki	Present
	Mayor Gregory D'Angelo	Present

Also in attendance were Gregory Gifford, Borough Solicitor, Alan Guzzardo, Assistant Borough Manager and Michael Eves, Chief of Police.

This meeting was held remotely via Zoom due to COVID-19 restrictions.

President Sando led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time.

Discussion: American Rescue Plan Act

Manager Hart provided an overview of the American Rescue Plan Act. The Borough anticipates receiving approximately \$323,000 in relief; however, the funds must be used for specific purposes outlined in the Bill and will most likely not be disbursed in one lump sum. Future discussion and review of this topic will take place once more information becomes available from the Federal Government.

Member Amato announced that more information is available through the National League of Cities.

Discussion: Keystone Grant Program – North Wales Area Library

Manager Hart announced that the North Wales Area Library is seeking permission to apply for the Keystone Grant to cover expenses for repairs to the Library's roof. The submission requires the Borough to be the applicant. President Sando asked Solicitor Gifford if there are any issues with the Borough applying for the grant on behalf of the Library. Solicitor Gifford stated he did not see any issues with it.

Consideration: Approval of Certificate of Appropriateness Amendment - 129 Shearer St.

Member McClure made a motion to approve an amendment to a Certificate of Appropriateness as presented for 129 Shearer Street. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Planning Commission Appointment, Term Ending 12/31/2021

Vice President Cherry expressed his concerns with filling vacancies on the Borough's Boards and Commissions with those who have previously served. He suggested that the Borough do more to notify residents of vacancies which he said would attract newcomers with fresh ideas and perspectives. Therefore, he announced he would make a motion to table the appointment for at least another 30 days to allow more time for people to submit a letter of interest.

Vice President Cherry made a motion to table the nomination for at least 30 days. Member Collins seconded the motion. Motion denied, 4 yes, 5 no. The following members voted no: Little, McClure, Neiderhiser, O'Neill and Sando.

Council deliberated on the appointment which had already been posted for at least 30 days. Member Little stated that the Borough has followed its appointment procedure and the term ends at the end of this year. Member Tarlecki suggested posting the vacancy on the North Wales Community Facebook page. Solicitor Gifford cautioned against that practice and recommended that the Borough only post official business on its own Facebook page.

Member McClure made a motion to appoint Jocelyn Tenney to the Planning Commission, term ending 12/31/2021. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 1 no. Vice President Cherry voted no.

Consideration: Approval of Minutes: 3/9/2021

Member O'Neill made a motion to approve the minutes of March 9, 2021. Member Little seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Approval of Disbursements: \$78,648.00

Member O'Neill made a motion to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$78,648.00. Member Amato seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Old Business/Committee & Board Reports/Zoning Applications

Manager Hart announced that the Borough received a Zoning Hearing Board Application, regarding 404 School Street. She provided the legal ad for the public and Council's review. President Sando asked if the Borough would be mailing out notices to all the nearby property owners. Assistant Manager Guzzardo confirmed that the notices were mailed out, legal notices were published in The Reporter, the property was posted, and it has been posted on the Borough's website.

Manager Hart announced that Brian Sleicher has been promoted to Public Works Supervisor and she congratulated him on his promotion.

Solicitor / Mayor / Council / Chief of Police / Manager

Solicitor Gifford announced that an executive session will be held following tonight's meeting to discuss a real estate matter and no action would be taken following the session. Mayor D'Angelo announced that Clifford Park, former NWWA Board member and lifelong resident who volunteered frequently in and around the Borough had recently passed away. Mayor D'Angelo also expressed his concerns with recent acts of violence against the Asian population and had informed Council that he had reached out to members of our community to ensure open lines of communication.

Vice President Cherry announced that the Borough will be receiving 15 trees to be planted on Borough owned properties and within the right-of-way on private property. He then expressed his concerns with the diminishing tree canopy in the Borough. Member Tarlecki asked if the Borough can do more to educate the residents on the Shade Tree Ordinance. Manager Hart suggested that the Shade Tree inventory should be completed which will help prevent issues. Assistant Manager Guzzardo stated that Lisa Byrne, Shade Tree Commission member, is working on an education flyer that will be distributed in the Borough's welcome packets and to Shade Tree owners.

Manager Hart announced that McMahon Associates is seeking Council's approval to submit a PennDOT Traffic Signal Application for a pedestrian crossing on Walnut Street at the Walnut/Main intersection in connection with the Center Street Pedestrian Connection and Gateway Project.

Member O'Neill made a motion to approve the submission of a PennDOT Traffic Signal Application as presented. Vice President Cherry seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Manager Hart made the following announcements: Earth Day Extravaganza to be held on Saturday, April 24, the Montgomery County Household Hazardous Waste drop off-dates, the DEP Southeastern Household Hazardous Waste drop-off dates, the Partnership TMA of Montgomery County's 2020 report and the Borough's Boards and Commissions vacancies.

Member Little made a motion to adjourn. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

Attest: _____
Christine A. Hart
Borough Manager