

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES  
 300 SCHOOL STREET  
 NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

MEETING: May 24, 2022, 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	Absent
	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, David Erenius, Chief of Police and Alan Guzzardo, Assistant Borough Manager.

President Amato led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Amato requested a moment of silence for the victims of a school shooting that occurred this afternoon at Robb Elementary School, in Uvalde, Texas.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **Presentation: DCED 2021 Annual Audit Report**

Christopher Herr, Maillie, LLP, presented the PA Department of Community & Economic Development 2021 Annual Audit Report.

President Amato asked several questions relating to the scope of the audit. Mr. Herr provided clarification on the process and was able to answer Mr. Amato's questions.

Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, asked if there was any financial activity that warranted an unqualified audit or opinion. Mr. Herr could not think of a specific reason why that would be required.

Manager Hart requested that Mr. Herr provide an explanation of what reporting is required if the Borough expenses the full amount of a Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) grant that the Borough was awarded, in a single year.

Mr. Herr explained that if the Borough spends more than \$750,000.00 of federal grant funds in a single year, a special audit would be required. Member Collins asked if the Borough would have

to pay an additional fee for that. Manager Hart confirmed the Borough would need to pay a separate fee.

**Consideration: Preliminary/Final Subdivision Plan Approval – 426 E Montgomery Ave**

Member McClure made a motion to grant preliminary/final subdivision approval with the requested waivers for Application #22-01 regarding 426 East Montgomery Avenue. Member Whelan seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

**Consideration: Appointment of Parks & Recreation Board Member, Term Expiring 12/31/2024**

Member Fazio made a motion to appoint Timothy Pilcher to the Parks and Recreation Board, term expiring 12/31/2024. Member Whelan seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

**Consideration: Approval of Certificate of Appropriateness: 223 S Main St**

President Amato expressed his concern with regrading of an embankment for the proposed egress window. Assistant Manager Guzzardo answered that the work is subject to a permit and the Borough will ensure that the work is done properly.

Member McClure made a motion to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness regarding 233 South Main Street. Member Fazio seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

**Consideration: Budget Transfer from D.A.R.E. to Police Operating Budget**

President Amato asked what the Borough will be losing if the program ceases. Member Whelan stated that the research has shown that the D.A.R.E. program has failed, and it would be better to transfer the funding to other initiatives. Manager Hart expressed an opinion that moving the funds would allow Chief Erenius to focus on other initiatives. President Amato asked how the account will be sustained and why the amount is high. Manager Hart explained it was provided by Jane Keyes and it is high due to the program not being administered the previous two years due to COVID. Member McClure commented that it would be good for the funds to be spent on the Bike Rodeo and other initiatives to help the children. Member O'Neill asked if there is an issue to transfer the funds when the funds were earmarked for a specific purpose. Solicitor Gifford explained that Council should seek the approval of the donor for the program before it is transferred.

Member Whelan made a motion to approve a budget transfer from the D.A.R.E account to the Police Operating Budget. Member McClure seconded the motion.

Manager Hart recommended the matter be tabled until the Chief has obtained Ms. Keyes's approval of the transfer. Council agreed to table the matter.

**Consideration: Approval of Minutes: May 10, 2022**

Member Whelan made a motion to approve the minutes of May 10, 2022. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

**Consideration: Approval of Disbursements: \$253,736.23**

Member McClure made a motion to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$253,736.23. Member Whelan seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

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

Member McClure stated that the Nor-Gwyn Pool Commission met recently, and they are looking for someone to hang a screen door at the pool and they are looking for a part-time maintenance person for 20 hours per week.

Manager Hart announced that the Borough received a Zoning Hearing Board Application (#Z-22-04) regarding a land development proposal of 501 East Walnut Street. She added that the Planning Commission will review the application at their next meeting on Wednesday, June 1 and the hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, July 5.

Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, asked if this is the McKeever's property. Mr. Berenson asked if the Borough needed to vote on sending legal Counsel to the Zoning Hearing Board meeting. Mr. Guzzardo explained that more details would be provided and there are two upcoming meetings that the Borough can chose whether to send the Solicitor to the hearing.

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

Mayor McDevitt encouraged everyone to be registered for Ready Montco, details on Borough website.

Member O'Neill thanked the VMSC for their services and he explained that he has dealt with them personally. He then thanked those who have served our Country and honored those for Memorial Day.

Member Fazio said that her kids enjoyed the D.A.R.E. program and she would like Borough Council to offer more initiatives to help resolve drug issues.

Member McClure thanked Mayor McDevitt for his blurb about clearing stormwater grates and echoed Member Fazio's comments relating to D.A.R.E.

Vice President Tarlecki thanked those who served and the first responders. He encouraged people to fly the American Flag on Memorial Day.

President Amato expressed his concerns with school violence and encouraged everyone to keep the victims in their thoughts and prayers.

Manager Hart made the following announcements: Montco Trail Challenge Kick-Off and Community Art Day on Saturday, June 4, the Summer Kick-Off and Food Truck Festival on Saturday, June 4, Summer as well as the current list of Borough Boards and Commissions vacancies. She then announced that the Borough has created links on the homepage for the logo links relating to MuniciPay and Montco Ready.

Chief Erenius announced that his officers will be visiting schools. He then added that the Department has conducted 197 traffic stops and issues 97 citations within the past month. He

added that enforcement will be stepped up during the commute times. He added that he is seeking to get new speed radar technology and their vehicles are no longer left idling. He said that they will be given clear directives and ensured Council that the electronics in the cars power up immediately once the cars are turned on. He added that he has completed 18 policies for the Department. He added that they are getting Power DMS which will clearly provide their policies and provide test taking procedures for accountability. Manager Hart added that the Borough Administration and Public Works will also be able to use it. Member Whelan asked about the camera policy. Chief Erenius said that the cameras turn on when the lights are activated. Member Fazio asked if the detour is the cause of additional traffic stops, Chief Erenius indicated to some extent, but he will continue to add traffic patrols for the ongoing speeding complaints and issues.

Member O'Neil asked about food truck regulations. Manager Hart stated she would put a request out the Consortium to see what other municipalities are doing or have in place.

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to adjourn. Member Fazio seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no. Meeting adjourned at 8:36 P.M.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Christine A. Hart  
Borough Manager