

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES  
 300 SCHOOL STREET  
 NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

MEETING: October 14, 2025, 7:00 P.M., EST

CALL TO ORDER made by President Tarlecki

ROLL CALL:	Candace Anderson	Present
	Sherwin Collins	Present
	Anji Fazio	Absent
	Alexander Groce	Present
	Star Litle	Present
	Wendy McClure	Present
	Sally Neiderhiser	Present
	Mark Tarlecki	Present
	Sarah Whelan	Present
	Mayor Neil McDevitt	Present

Also, in attendance were John Filice, Borough Solicitor and Junior Council member, Violet Anderson.

Manager Hart led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Public Comment**

None.

### **Consideration: Acceptance of Donation to NWPD from Tex Mex Connection**

Manager Hart explained that Tex Mex has been running the Tex Mex 5k for over 30 years and has graciously donated each year to the North Wales Police Department. She further stated that although she was invited to the Council Meeting, Jane Keyes, the proprietor, was unable to attend. The donation is made to express gratitude to the North Wales Police Department for their continued support and dedication of the Tex Mex 5k Race, as well as their overall work they do to keep the North Wales community safe. Manager Hart also stated that the funds are typically allocated to community policing. Member McClure made a motion to Accept the Donation from Tex Mex. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

### **Discussion/Presentation: 2026 Draft Budget Overview**

President Tarlecki emphasized the importance of paying attention to the information being provided, as it is important to understand the main source of income for the Borough as well as all the expenses required to run the Community.

Manager Hart explained that the reports she was using show the profit and loss through October 10<sup>th</sup>, the 2025 Budget, and the percentage of the budget spent. The reports are typically provided

to Council, with them having an opportunity to ask any questions, at which point, Manager Hart would respond.

Manager Hart started by explaining that she utilizes the Assessed Valuation Report to determine estimated income, as it shows the parcels in the Borough with the values that the Board of Assessments has placed on properties. This provides the basis for the real estate taxes charged. Currently, North Wales has a 7-mil tax rate. Taxes make up most of the budget's income. Because of March and May, when there were no property transfers, there was a significant decrease in the amount of tax revenue, which cuts into the Borough's general operating budget and can only be made up with tax increases.

She continued to give a detailed overview of each budget item, explaining the source and how each item works within the Borough's operating structure. President Tarlecki pointed out that, on the revenue side, while there are different sources of income, these sources are minuscule, and only property taxes are within the Council's control, with the remainder being controlled by the Commonwealth or governmental agencies.

Manager Hart summarized some upcoming considerations that still need to be finalized for the budget, one of which she requested an immediate decision as to whether the Council wanted to move ahead – single-hauler trash removal. She indicated that a consultant would need to be hired to consider the change, given the large time investment needed to perform the assessment and analysis. She further stated that she would consult other municipalities for an estimated price. President Tarlecki stated it was something the Council would want to move ahead with since it has been discussed for many years without any resolution or decision being made.

### **Consideration: Acceptance of Resignation of Star Little, Planning Commission**

President Tarlecki explained that only one member of Borough Council can be on the Planning Commission. Since he and Member Little serve as members, Member Little agreed to resign to adhere to the rule. Member McClure made a motion to Accept the resignation of Star Little from the Planning Commission. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

### **Consideration: Approval of Minutes: September 23, 2025**

Member McClure made a motion to Approve the Minutes of September 23, 2025. Member Collins seconded the motion.

Gregory D'Angelo of 915 E. Montgomery Avenue said the September 23 Minutes, pertaining to his comments about the September 14 candlelight vigil in Weingartner Park, contained an error and omissions. He pointed out that he did not say: "You missed an opportunity to show how you operate." (first paragraph) His statement was: "You missed a golden opportunity to show what you are." In other words, Mr. D'Angelo said, you would have been showing that you're open to meeting with and discussing matters with the "other side". Mr. D'Angelo said that there were two omissions from his reported comments. The Minutes omitted his welcoming remarks at the Vigil: "We are here on this somber occasion to remember and to pray for Charlie Kirk, and all those who have suffered violent deaths because of ideological differences, whether they were

political, or religious, or social.” He went on to say that it was critical for this to be included, in view of Member McClure’s comments, which she was entitled to make, that the event seemed to be all about Charlie Kirk. The other omission was his comments about Thomas Jefferson. At the Vigil, he had told the attendees that Jefferson spoke to the need for dialogue and, even, debate with those of different views “in order to get to the real truths. Otherwise, you’re just left with falsehoods.” He pointed out that Member Groce had even alluded to this in his comments about dialogue. Mr. D’Angelo also told Council that Dan Sokil’s article in The Reporter had correctly reported his comments. Manager Hart offered an alternative and efficient method for correcting the minutes. Rather than rewriting them for approval at the October 28 meeting, the corrections could be included in the October 14 Minutes. D’Angelo thought that this was a good solution, and Council agreed to have it done. D’Angelo also mentioned to Manager Hart that, while sometimes there is a need for meeting minutes to be concise, there are times when preserving our history for future reference necessitates more details.

Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

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

There was no Old Business.

Under New Business, President Tarlecki stated that he met with the Executive Committee last Thursday about concerns residents had about the need for park permitting in light of the September 14<sup>th</sup> Vigil. The Executive Committee included Members Fazio and Groce, along with Vice-President McClure. They agreed to create a sub-committee to analyze the pros and cons of doing a permit program for parks. The committee will hold a non-public meeting and present a report on its findings no later than the last meeting of December. It was further agreed that the Council would review the report at the first meeting of the new year. President Tarlecki asked that any Council member interested in participating should reach out to him.

Member Whelan asked for clarification as to the purpose of the sub-committee since prior discussions cited First Amendment considerations as being an obstacle to requiring permitting for events in which a large group wishes to assemble peacefully. President Tarlecki responded that the sub-committee was not creating a policy to permit the parks, but rather assess the pros and cons, investigate what other municipalities are doing, and make a recommendation as to whether Council should move ahead to establish a process for park permitting. Additionally, he stated that several residents have raised this as an issue and that he felt it warranted further review and an answer provided to the public.

President Tarlecki also shared a phone chain document to be used in situations where all Council Members need to be informed on a moment's notice of a situation or issues of an emergency. Manager Hart asked that Council review the contact list for accuracy.

Erin Thompson, who works at the North Wales Area Library and stated that she thought permitting was a good idea from a communication standpoint.

Member Neiderhiser added that constituents have asked about the potential for a permit process and agreed that Council should be able to provide an informed response.

President Tarlecki stated that the Planning Commission met on October 1<sup>st</sup> and weighed in on the Subdivision and Land Development (SALDO) amendments. They will have a presentation on November 18<sup>th</sup> and then have a public hearing, after which Council will vote, and the ordinances will then be enacted sometime in 2026.

There were no other Committee reports or zoning applications.

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

Solicitor Filice indicated that he did not have any updates and that there would not be an Executive Session.

The Mayor stated that it was his first meeting since July. He further explained that in early August, he went to Abington ER thinking he might have appendicitis and ended up having sepsis. He had major surgery to remove some of his intestines. Major surgeries with major incisions mean more opportunities for complications. Including the original visit, he has spent 31 days in the hospital across four separate visits.

He said he has been blessed with support from Borough Council members and staff, prayers from our faith-based communities, check-ins from all corners of North Wales, and some amazing neighbors who kept his family fed, visited them, and let their dogs out all those days. While his recovery still has a way to go, he is hopeful he is in the home stretch.

He also wanted to quickly remind the community that October is Fire Prevention Month. It's a great time to check our homes, our emergency plans, and our family's readiness to act on those. This year's theme focuses on lithium-ion batteries, and you can search "fire prevention week 2025" to find how you can keep your community safe.

He further stated that it may be a few weeks late, but he wanted to also recognize all the amazing volunteers, Borough staff, and partners for a wonderful North Wales Community Day. He couldn't move much, but what he saw was outstanding.

Lastly, he wanted to remind folks that we are less than a month from election day in Pennsylvania. In this political environment, there's no such thing as an "off" election. Residents can visit "<http://vote.pa.gov/>" to get more information about their registration, their polling place, etc.

Member Groce mentioned he represented the Borough at the PSAB's Conference. He had two major takeaways: 1) that North Wales Borough does not have the larger more significant problems that many other similar municipalities have; and 2) it was a tremendous coming together where everyone got along well and were able to share experiences.

Member Little thanked Manager Hart for including her in Montgomery County Planning Commission's tour along with Soul Brothers and Ten7. She explained that each business owner got to share their thoughts on the community before the Commission toured the North Wales Arts and Cultural Center.

Member Little also shared that Main Street North Wales is having their next Happy Hour at Ten7 on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 5-7 p.m. Additionally, they made T-shirts for the Phillies games. If anyone would like one, they can get one at Ten7 or Little's.

Manager Hart started her Management Update by saying that Public Works is working on fall activities, such as taking care of the leaves and preparing for the winter months.

She further shared that the Historic Commission has developed a QR code that links users to their historic blog with history relating to the Borough. The information is posted on the North Wales Borough web page as well as the Savvy Citizen application.

In addition, Upper Gwynedd Township has asked for the Borough's support to expand the Power Line Trail at Pennbrook Middle School. They are asking for a letter only and no funding.

SEPTA has announced that it will finally be replacing the Main St. Crossing and that the Borough is handling all the logistics that impact the Borough residents and their ability to drive through the Borough.

Manager Hart also mentioned she will circulate an updated budget to Council for their review.

Lastly, Manager Hart notified Council that the Montgomery County Planning Commission contract is up for renewal and will require additional costs. She has the contract with the summary information regarding the cost, which she will be sure to include in the next version of the Budget.

### **Adjournment**

Member Whelan made a motion to adjourn. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no. Meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

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