

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES  
 300 SCHOOL STREET  
 NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

MEETING: September 23, 2025, 7:00 P.M., EST

CALL TO ORDER made by President Tarlecki

|            |                     |                                   |
|------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ROLL CALL: | Candace Anderson    | Remote                            |
|            | Sherwin Collins     | Present                           |
|            | Anji Fazio          | Present                           |
|            | Alexander Groce     | Present                           |
|            | Star Litle          | Sworn in at 7:55 p.m.             |
|            | Wendy McClure       | Present                           |
|            | Sally Neiderhiser   | Present                           |
|            | Mark Tarlecki       | Present                           |
|            | Sarah Whelan        | Remote attendance until 7:30 p.m. |
|            | Mayor Neil McDevitt | Absent                            |

Also, in attendance were David Erenius, Chief of Police and Gregory Gifford, Borough Solicitor. Junior Council member, Violet Anderson, was remote.

Manager Hart led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Public Comment**

Gregory D'Angelo, 915 E. Montgomery Avenue thanked Chief Erenius for his efforts with the recent Candlelight Vigil in keeping everyone safe. He further shared his disappointment that no members of Council attended the event. He went on to say that had somebody been there to represent the Borough Council, that person most likely would've been invited to say a few words. He felt strongly that Council missed an opportunity to show such a large crowd how they operated.

Member McClure responded that since it appeared to be focused on honoring Charlie Kirk, she felt she did not want to appear to be supporting his beliefs, as she felt the event was focused solely on him and not on other instances of violence that should also be mourned. She also raised concerns about how safe the event would be with so many people, many of whom were not from the Borough.

Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, asked how long the construction on W. Prospect was going to last. Manager Hart answered that she was not sure, but could get a definitive answer, as this is a project being managed by Upper Gwynedd Township.

Emily Marbot, 408 Smith Street, read a statement regarding her concerns about the rally. Her comments focused on her concern for her and her family's safety both at the event and in the community, as well as the use of armed law enforcement officers on the roof of her child's elementary school.

Chief Erenius explained how the event came about and that the Borough does not require permitting for public assembly. He further explained that as the weekend went on, more attention was given to the event, and the potential for a larger crowd also increased significantly. This was all inferred from social media posts. As a result, he consulted neighboring municipalities for support. Securing the elementary school roof with observers was necessary, as that was the highest point in the area to discover any potential dangers on the ground. He also stated that in his role, he does not consider politics or which side someone is on – he and his officers are there to protect everyone.

Solicitor Gifford explained that he received an update from Chief Erenius and felt that the situation was handled flawlessly and that there were no issues. Communications were handled effectively by all parties.

Member Collins was unaware that the event took place and that assumptions should not be made that everyone knew about the event. He also stated that the police personnel were armed with their sidearms and not rifles, and were therefore not snipers, and the danger people are assuming existed did not exist.

Fred Gissubel, 406 Smith St., didn't understand why the event wasn't moved to a different location or allowed to occur in the Borough. President Tarlecki explained that the Borough does not issue permits and that, regardless of political beliefs, people may assemble without permission at the parks. He also explained that the social media page where all the information and conversation was being shared regarding the event is a group managed by private individuals and not the Borough. Solicitor Gifford explained that requiring a permit is unconstitutional because you cannot deny a group access to the park when gathering for peaceful assembly or demonstration where people exercise their First Amendment right to free speech and assembly, as protected by the U.S. Constitution.

Several council members added thanks to the chief for his efforts in protecting the vigil and the residents, and councilwoman Candace Anderson said that response “makes me feel safe, to be in this town,” while councilman Alex Groce said he was proud of the discussion. “What happened here this evening was a beautiful thing. We had peaceful discourse, and to say we are lucky is an understatement,” he said.

He has known “many individuals who grew up under the hells of communism and in oppressive, authoritarian regimes,” Groce added, and has met one Holocaust survivor who fled Nazi Germany for the United States. All have had a similar message: “The common theme from all of these individuals was and is — you don't know how lucky you are, and you are the envy of so many around the world,” Groce said.

### **Consideration: Appointment to fill Council Seat Vacancy (Ward Three)**

Council received an application for one candidate for the Ward 3 Council vacancy: Star Little of 301 Sixth Street.

President Tarlecki called for nominations to fill the Ward Three Council vacancy. Member Fazio nominated Star Little. No other nominations were called for, and nominations were closed.

Manager Hart took a roll call vote for Star Little. Motion passed, 7 yes, 0 no. Member Whelan did not vote as she had dropped off the call.

In the absence of the Mayor, Manager Hart swore Member Little into office, term expiring 12/31/2025, fulfilling the Council Seat Ward Three vacancy left by former President Sal Amato.

### **Consideration: Acceptance of Donation from Linda McAdoo**

Manager Hart explained that Linda McAdoo donated \$5,000 to be used towards the addition of downtown decorations and possibly something to commemorate next year's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Nation's independence. Member Neiderhiser made a motion to Accept the Donation from Linda McAdoo. Member McCure seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

### **Consideration: Approval of Minutes: September 9, 2025**

Member McClure made a motion to Approve the Minutes of September 9th, 2025. Member Fazio seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

### **Consideration: Approval of Disbursement: \$159,032.36**

Member McClure made a motion to Approve the Disbursements for \$159,032.36. Member Fazio seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

### **Consideration: Approval of 2026 Non-Uniform MMO**

Manager Hart reviewed the Borough's financial obligations for the Non-Uniform Minimum Municipal Pension Obligation (MMO).

Member McClure made a motion to Approve the 2026 Non-Uniform MMO. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

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

There were no Old Business, New Business, or Zoning Applications. Manager Hart mentioned that the meeting minutes from the Planning Commission and Parks and Recreation Board were included with the agenda packet.

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

Solicitor Gifford announced that there was an executive session the night before to give an update on communications without violations of the law and Sunshine Act. No vote was taken.

There was no Mayor's report.

Chief Erenius gave an update on the accreditation process and indicated that the police department is now accredited.

Manager Hart gave an update on the continuing work on Community Day. She also asked for Council volunteers to man the Borough table during the event.

She also reminded Member Little and President Tarlecki that one of them will need to resign from the Planning Commission. She gave an update on the budget process and said that it will be gaining momentum with more updates to come. She shared the budget calendar with the Council.

Manager Hart clarified that the swearing in of Member Anderson was null and void as there was no official transfer of power from the Mayor to the then President Amato. All business votes were recalculated from the August 26, 2025, Council Meeting excluding her vote as follows:

**Consideration: Approval of Minutes: August 12th, 2025**

Member McClure made a motion to Approve the August 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

**Consideration: Approval of Certificate(s) of Appropriateness: 134 W. Walnut Street**

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to Approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for 134 W. Walnut Street. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

**Consideration: Approval of Certificate(s) of Appropriateness: 519 E. Montgomery Avenue**

Member Fazio made a motion to Approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for 519 E. Montgomery Avenue. Member Whelan seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

**Consideration: Approval of Certificate(s) of Appropriateness: 307 School Street**

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to Approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for 307 School Street. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

**Consideration: Approval of Disbursements: \$68,556.22**

Member McClure made a motion to Approve the Disbursements of \$68,556.22. Member Groce seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

**Consideration: Acceptance of Resignation of Robin Parker, Parks and Recreation and Shade Tree Commissions**

Member Fazio made a motion to Approve the Acceptance of Resignation of Robin Parker from Parks and Recreation and Shade Tree Commissions. Member Whelan seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

**Consideration: Acceptance of Resignation of Salvatore Amato, Council Ward 3**

Member Groce made a motion to Approve the Acceptance of Resignation of Salvatore Amato, Council Ward 3. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Member Anderson was officially sworn in on September 18, 2025, by Manager Hart.

**Adjournment**

Member Fazio made a motion to adjourn. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no. Meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm.

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