

Mayor's Corner - December 2022



2022 - what a year it's been! Since I had the privilege of being sworn in just under 12 months ago, we've done so much together. Let's review the greatest hits of the year gone by in North Wales!

- Worked with Council to bring David Erenius on as the Chief for the North Wales Borough Police Department. In his year of service, Chief Erenius has done many wonderful things to improve safety and security for Borough Residents.
 - Revamped the shift schedules to reduce overtime costs and improve part-time officer retention
 - Updated and created policies that bring our department in-line with current policing practices
 - Improved training records and standards to ensure officers are trained to meet departmental objectives
 - Proactively implementing active-shooter capabilities in the Department
 - Working toward creating a bike patrol capability
- I had the pleasure of working with Little's Water Ice and Ice Cream to set up a program that allowed Borough police officers to issue "tickets" to children seen riding around town with helmets on. The tickets could then be redeemed for free ice cream!
- Borough volunteers and staff worked together to host a number of community events that make our Borough a wonderful place to live, play, and enjoy.
 - Earth Day & Shred Day - April
 - Summer Kickoff - June (**brand new annual event!**)
 - 4th of July Day Parade and Ceremony - July
 - North Wales Community Day - September
 - Borough's Annual Tree Lighting - December

- Council and I worked closely with the Borough Staff to get funding to revitalize the North Wales Borough Arts & Cultural Center into a center that can support a

multitude of nonprofit programs and become a fully accessible center for our Borough! As a result of this work, we have received over \$2 million dollars in funding to make it happen!

Between all of this, we've dealt with snow emergencies, heat waves, a mini-drought, and periods of heavy rain. Our emergency responders and public works department have, as always, worked to keep us safe throughout.

I'm proud to be part of this amazing community of people who take care of each other. Thank you. Have an amazing holiday season and a wonderful new year!

Neil McDevitt, Mayor