

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES
 300 SCHOOL STREET
 NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

MEETING: May 28, 2019 7:00 PM, EST

CALL TO ORDER made by President Sando.

ROLL CALL:	Salvatore Amato	Present
	James Cherry	Present
	Ronald S. Little, Jr.	Present
	Wendy McClure	Present
	Sally Neiderhiser	Present
	Daniel O'Connell	Present
	Eion O'Neill	Present
	Paula Scott	Present
	James Sando	Present
	Mayor Gregory D'Angelo	Present

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

President Sando led the Pledge of Allegiance. Solicitor Gifford announced no action was taken following the executive session from the previous Council meeting. He then announced an executive session was held at 6:30 to discuss a personnel matter.

Swearing-in Ceremony: Part-Time Police Officers

Mayor D'Angelo provided some words of encouragement and advice to the newly hired part-time police officers. The following officers were sworn in as follows: Kyle Crawford, Robert Fulmer and Mark Hopwood.

Public Comment

Gerry Viglietti, co-owner of Ten7 Brewing Co. thanked the Borough and the 150th Anniversary Committee for allowing them to serve their beer products at the Celebrate North Wales Event, held at Weingartner Park on May 18, 2019. He stated he is very pleased with the way things are going for their business and they are proud to be a part of the community. Manager Hart thanked everyone who helped to make the event a success. She also thanked Gerry for coming out.

Discussion: Human Relations Commission

President Sando explained the topic was discussed at the previous Council meeting and it was tabled to be discussed this evening. Manager Hart reviewed the topic. Member Scott expressed her opposing opinions on forming a commission to review acts of discrimination. She then asked Manager Hart and Solicitor Gifford a series of questions. Member Neiderhiser stated she supported forming a committee. Member Amato reviewed the history of anti-discrimination committees and how they function in Pennsylvania. Member Little asked what qualifications volunteers must have to serve on a commission. President Sando stated they wouldn't need to have any qualifications; however, they would require training after being appointed. Member

McClure asked if Council could table the issue one more time so Council can review the issue further. President Sando stated the commission could set the tone for the committee and show that the local government is there to assist its residents. Vice President Cherry expressed his concern with Council members being discriminated against if they don't support this commission. Member O'Neill expressed his support for the commission. Donna Mengel, 427 S. Main Street, expressed her concern with the legal liability this could potentially have on the Borough, the cost of having the commission and the level of importance this topic would have. Member Amato expressed his concern with whether this ordinance would be needed. However, he wanted to set the tone and show support for anti-discrimination. Solicitor Gifford explained that there have not been legal cases in Pennsylvania. Jocelyn Tenney, 801 E. Walnut Street, asked if Solicitor Gifford had reviewed the ordinances and if he had any opinions on the matter. Solicitor Gifford explained he has looked at other ordinances and explained the function of the commissions. Mrs. Tenney then asked is it possible to have a commission to not make a decision, but rather advise or guide individuals what proper channels they need to go through. Solicitor Gifford explained the committees try to address acts of discrimination in their communities, rather than go through the state channels. Mrs. Tenney then suggested facilitating would be a good alternative to being a decision maker. President Sando clarified that the commissions don't have "real" power. All they can do is mediate issues.

Member O'Connell requested that Council revisit the issue after discussion has been had with the public. Members of Council deliberated further on this issue. Manager Hart stated the best course of action would be to review a draft ordinance. Solicitor Gifford was granted permission to provide Council with a model ordinance from Lansdale Borough.

Vice President Cherry made a motion to table the topic for the Council meeting on June 25. Member Scott seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 2 no. President Sando and Member Amato said no.

Consideration: Approval of 2019 Budget Transfers

Manager Hart recommended budget transfers for line items that have been overspent as of the April 2019 financials. She provided a detailed listing and explanation for each item.

Member Amato made a motion to approve the 2019 budget transfer items as presented. Member O'Neill seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Approval of On-Street Disabled Parking Space at 223 S. Seventh St.

Chief Eves recommended approval of the off-street disabled parking space.

Member McClure made a motion to approve an on-street disabled parking space for 223 S. Seventh Street. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Final Escrow Release: 912 E. Prospect Avenue

Member Amato asked Manager Hart if the Borough has received any recent complaints. Manager Hart stated there were complaints in the beginning, however, there haven't been any recent complaints since the field corrections were made.

Member McClure made a motion to approve a release of escrow in the amount of \$5,177.79 for 912 E. Prospect Avenue. Member Little seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Authorize Payment #3 for SRTS Program of \$324,174.17

Member Scott asked what the total grant amount is. Manager Hart stated the grant was for over a million. However, the Borough was able to have the work done for under that amount and Washington Avenue was able to be paved.

Diane Wampole, 225 Washington Avenue, stated the 100 and 200 block were not paved.

Member McClure made a motion to approve payment #3 in the amount of \$324,174.17 for the Safe Routes to School Program. Member O'Neill seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Disbursements: \$475,280.33 (Includes SRTS Payment #3)

Manager Hart reviewed the bills. Member Scott asked about the Certa-Pro Painters bill. Member McClure asked about the Gwynedd Blue payment. Certa-Pro was for stripping wallpaper, preparing walls and painting at 125 N. Main Street. Gwynedd Blue was an escrow release previously approved by Council for the 715 E. Walnut Street SALDO.

Member Scott made a motion to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$475,280.33. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Approval of Minutes: May 14, 2019

Member McClure made a motion to approve the minutes of May 14, 2019. Member Scott seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Old Business/Committee & Board Reports/Zoning Applications

Assistant Manager Guzzardo stated the Borough has not received any zoning applications this year. Manager Hart reviewed the items in her manager's report. She also thanked the members of the 150th committee.

Solicitor / Mayor / Council / Chief of Police / Manager

Mayor D'Angelo reminded everyone they need to have their headlights on when their windshield wiper blades are on. He also reminded people to please wear reflective tape or have a flashlight if they are walking/running at night.

Member O'Neill thanked the 150th committee for all their hard work. He then asked who did the work over at the cemetery because it looks great. Manager Hart announced Troop 84 cleaned up and placed flags at the cemetery. Member Scott echoed that Mr. O'Neill's comments. Member McClure thanked Gerry from Ten7 and stated she will be into his business. Member Amato expressed his enjoyment for the Steam and Stroll event. He also thanked President Sando for bringing the HR Commission discussion to Council. Member Neiderhiser thanked everyone who helped to support her after the loss of her husband, Edward Neiderhiser. Vice President Cherry also thanked all the 150th committee members and Borough officials for helping out on May 18.

He specifically thanked Manager Hart and Chief Eves for all their efforts in organizing and helping out. He then announced the Yard Sale event on Saturday, June 1 and the Grand Parade on September 14, 2019. President Sando also thanked everyone for all their efforts on May 18.

Chief Eves reviewed the shift change that will go into effect mid-June 2019. Mayor D'Angelo then stated the shift change would allow Chief Eves more time to fulfill administrative duties.

Manager Hart then announced the Reading Phillies event on June 9th for the Community honoring its 150th Anniversary and invited all to attend.

Collette D'Angelo, 921 E. Prospect Avenue, asked Chief Eves when the transition will take place. Chief Eves announced it would be on June 17. Doreen Fox, 428 S. 10th Street, expressed concern with coverage and opposition to raising taxes. Colleen Little, 247 S. 7th Street, expressed concern with state police coverage. Chief Eves explained public safety will not be compromised and he assured her that the weekend nights will be staffed. Mayor D'Angelo encouraged residents to come out to more meetings so they can stay informed. Liz Ann Iacovetti, 346 W. Walnut Street, stated she is concerned with her business at night with the lack of coverage. She said she comes to all the meetings and was not aware of the shift change. Karen Gillespie, 707 E. Montgomery Avenue, stated she also is concerned with coverage. Chief Eves assured her too that any incidents will be covered by either Upper Gwynedd Township or State Police.

Member Scott made a motion to adjourn. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

Attest: _____

Christine A. Hart
Borough Manager