

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES  
 300 SCHOOL STREET  
 NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

MEETING: September 24, 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 John Filice, Borough Solicitor and Michael Eves, Chief of Police. Alan Guzzardo, Assistant Borough Manager, was absent.

President Sando led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Public Comment**

Charles Moran, 302 S. Pennsylvania Avenue, reported speeding and cut through traffic from Main Street when the train gates are down. Chief Eves explained speed enforcement details have been increased. He asked Mr. Moran to call the police when he witnesses speeding. Member Little suggested parking police cars in a prime location to deter speeding. Mr. Moran suggested speed bumps and/or stop signs. Member Amato asked about flashing signage on poles and Chief Eves said he would investigate pricing on same. Manager Hart thanked Mr. Moran for voicing his concerns and suggested that the Chief look into borrowing speed timing equipment from the consortium so we can than better determine the number of vehicles and their speeds since the recommendation of any traffic control device would require a traffic study, this would be a good indicator to see if that recommendation would be warranted.

### **Presentation: NWB Drug Education & Addiction Prevention (DEAP) Program**

Chief Eves, Member Amato, and Mayor D'Angelo have been attending educational meetings relating to the DEAP Program. Member Amato and Chief Eves presented an overview depicting the increase of drug use and drug related deaths not only in our county, but statewide. Opioid use, addiction, and deaths have risen significantly nationwide. This program is being explored locally to aid in deterring individuals between the ages of 18-26 who would be considered good candidates for the program. Several slides were presented explaining the program. The program is currently being utilized in Lower Providence Township. Montgomery County District Attorney's Office also supports participation in the program. President Sando questioned Chief Eves if additional patrolman or personnel would be required to administer successfully. President Sando asked Solicitor Filice if there would be any legal ramifications borne by the Borough if the program participant fails. Several comments and questions were addressed during

the presentation. President Sando asked our Solicitor's office to review the program procedures and legality of the program. Member O'Connell asked if the group had any statistical data to measure the success of the program. Member Amato answered with a set of stats from April 2019 indicating that 10 out of 62 candidates have successfully participated and had their charges dropped. Member O'Connell and Member Scott asked about repeat offender's data, cost of the drug testing kits, and therapy required. Mayor D'Angelo explained that cost is not an issue for the Borough but could be for the participant if they do not have insurance. Manager Hart asked what would happen if the participant fails to make the necessary appointments or abide by the program. She also asked who would be administering the program. Chief Eves indicated he would manage the program and each participant would be handled case by case. Solicitor Filice was advised to review the program rules and procedures with Chief Eves and weigh in as directed earlier by President Sando.

**Consideration: Supporting an Amendment to the Sterling Act of 1932**

Manager Hart asked for support regarding an amendment to the Sterling Act of 1932. She explained that currently any resident of North Wales Borough who works in the city of Philadelphia is required to pay city wage tax and the Borough is not entitled to collect their portion. This amendment would allow the local earned income tax to be returned to the residents' home municipality rather than stay one hundred percent in Philadelphia.

Member O'Neill made a motion to support an amendment to the Sterling Act of 1932. Member Amato seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

**Consideration: Parking Requirements Waiver: 555 Lagiola Tapas Empanada Lab**

Manager Hart reviewed a letter submitted by the owner of 555 Lagiola Empanada Lab, requesting a parking requirement waiver at 119 N. Main Street. Manager Hart explained that several businesses on Main Street have "zero-ground" lots and are in existing non-conforming situations, whereas the buildings are zoned commercial, but they cannot meet the requirements set forth in the zoning code. There is a provision in the code that allows for a waiver to be granted by Council. Member Cherry asked how this would affect the other businesses at that address that were already granted waivers for parking requirements. Manager Hart explained that it is important to consider the uses and the number of waivers that have been granted.

Member Little made a motion to approve a waiver of the parking requirements for 555 Lagiola Tapas Empanada Lab, located at 119 N. Main Street. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

**Consideration: 2020 Non-Uniform Minimum Municipal Obligation**

Member Hart reviewed the 2020 Non-Uniform Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO). She explained how the amount is derived using the full-time employee salaries estimated for 2020 multiplied by the rate of 7% which is the employer contribution. The amount is then reported to Pennsylvania Municipal Employee Retirement System (PMERS) on or before September 30<sup>th</sup> of every year. The 2020 amount is \$13,665.00, this includes a \$120.00 administrative fee.

Member McClure made a motion to approve the 2020 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the non-uniform employee's pension plan. Member O'Neill seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

### **Consideration: 2020 Police Minimum Municipal Obligation**

Manager Hart explained the MMO process for the police pension plan and explained that it is prepared and calculated by using an actuarial study. Joseph Duda, Borough appointed actuary, prepared the submitted report and has indicated the 2020 Municipal Police Pension MMO to be \$51,389.00.

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to approve the 2020 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Police Pension plan. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

### **Consideration: Disbursements: \$66,414.96**

Manager Hart reviewed the bills list.

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$66,414.96. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

### **Consideration: Minutes: July 23, 2019, August 13, 2019, August 27, 2019 & September 10, 2019**

Member Scott made a motion to approve the minutes of July 23, 2019. Member O'Neill seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Member Scott made a motion to approve the minutes of August 13, 2019. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Member Little made a motion to approve the minutes of August 27, 2019. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Member Scott made a motion to approve the minutes of September 10, 2019. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

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

Manager Hart reported no new zoning applications received to date and announced that she and Member Amato attended a Budget and Finance Class sponsored by PSABS. It was well taught and recommended other members of Council to attend PSABS sponsored classes. Member Amato also found the class to be informative and urged members to attend. Manager Hart encouraged all Council members to start thinking about the budget process and to address any concerns or questions

### **Solicitor / Mayor / Council / Chief of Police / Manager**

Mayor D'Angelo and Chief Eves thanked local police departments and fire companies for assisting with the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Parade. Mayor D'Angelo also thanked the parade committee and all the participants who attended.

President Sando asked Chief Eves on the status of the "No right-turn" signage onto Walnut St. from N. Main Street. Chief Eves advised that the Resolution supporting the application was approved and he is working on it with PennDOT.

Member McClure and Vice President Cherry remarked on how wonderful the 150<sup>th</sup> parade was, held on September 15, 2019 to mark the Borough's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Member McClure stated that Council members should consider recognition of the volunteers for their efforts throughout year on the events that marked the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

President Sando reiterated the success of 2019 and the events associated with same. He agreed with Member McClure and gave many thanks to all those involved who assisted with the 150<sup>th</sup> Committee and volunteered at all the events throughout the year.

Member Neiderhiser suggested getting the microphones and recording systems upgraded and/or repaired.

Manager Hart announced a reminder about 2019 Community Day on September 28, 2019 and asked for volunteers to help with vendor registration and the Kids Zone. She reviewed the map and list of events and vendors. She reminded business owners and residents that Main Street will be closed from 8:00 am until 6:00 pm, no parking notices were mailed to those affected.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

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