

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES  
 300 SCHOOL STREET  
 NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

REMOTE MEETING: June 9, 2020 7:00 PM, EST

CALL TO ORDER made by President Sando.

ROLL CALL:	Salvatore Amato	Present
	James Cherry	Present
	Sherwin Collins	Present, joined at 7:15 PM
	Ronald S. Little, Jr.	Present, joined at 7:17 PM
	Wendy McClure	Present
	Sally Neiderhiser	Present, joined at 7:10 PM
	Eion O'Neill	Present
	James Sando	Present
	Mark Tarlecki	Present, joined at 7:03 PM
	Mayor Gregory D'Angelo	Present

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

This meeting was held remotely via Zoom due to COVID-19 restrictions.

President Sando led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Public Comment**

There was none.

### **Presentation: Owner of 501 E. Walnut St. – Plan Proposal**

Solicitor Gifford announced that the property owner was not ready to make a presentation, thus cancelling this agenda item.

### **Presentation: Mayor's Declaration Condemning Remarks of Commissioner Gale**

Mayor D'Angelo issued a proclamation, dated June 9, 2020, condemning Montgomery County Commissioner Joseph C. Gale's recent racially inflammatory comments in response to the recent mass protests that were triggered by the death of George Floyd. The Mayor also condemned Commissioner Gale for disparaging the character of Danielle Outlaw, Philadelphia Police Commissioner.

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to support Mayor D'Angelo's declaration. Member McClure seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote was taken. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

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

Manager Hart announced that North Wales Borough has been awarded a Montco2040 Grant in the amount of \$154,725 for the Center Street Pedestrian Connection and Gateway Project. She added that the Borough will be issuing a press release following the Council meeting.

Manager Hart expressed her empathy for people who suffered property damages because of recent powerful thunderstorms which were accompanied by high winds and power outages. She added that the Borough's Public Works Department is still cleaning up tree limbs and debris in the Borough's parks and grounds.

She then announced that the Shade Tree Commission will be meeting this Thursday, June 11.

She reminded everyone of an upcoming zoning hearing on Tuesday, July 7, regarding 623 East Walnut Street, for construction of an above-ground swimming pool and that the hearing would be conducted via Zoom.

Lastly, she announced that she is working closely with the Finance Committee on a loan application with the Delaware Valley Regional Finance Authority for road paving and concrete infrastructure projects.

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

Solicitor Gifford announced that Council has rejected a donation of land offer for Parcel #14-00-00024-00-7. He explained the Borough has rejected the offer given the small size and irregular shape of the Parcel as well as added maintenance costs for the Borough. He then stated that he notified the adjacent property owners at 453 Beaver Street of the opportunity and both owners are currently working out an agreement of sale.

Solicitor Gifford then announced that the Commonwealth Court has postponed the legal proceedings involving the Station Place Appeal to an undetermined date in either October or November due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He also added that this gives both parties more time to possibly seek a compromise prior to the proceedings.

Mayor D'Angelo announced that a peaceful protest was held on Sunday, June 7 in Weingartner Park and he thanked everyone for their good behavior.

Member O'Neill expressed his support for the protest. He asked how and when the Borough will be re-opening its parks and facilities. Manager Hart stated that only playground equipment and the tennis court are closed and will re-open sometime during the Green Phase. She then stated that the Borough offices re-opened on Monday, June 8 with recommended health and safety procedures in place.

President Sando asked Chief Eves if there have been any issues in the parks. Chief Eves stated there have not been any and the parks are all checked three times per day at shift changes.

Member McClure thanked Chief Eves for stepping up speed enforcement in Ward 1 due to recent complaints. She thanked everyone for their conduct and cooperation while attending the protest.

Member Tarlecki asked if there is an expedited process for someone who needs to take immediate action to either trim and/or remove a Shade Tree. Manager Hart stated that there is a procedure in place where a member of the Shade Tree Commission can assess whether or not immediate action needs to be taken; that way a property owner does not have to wait for the permit.

Vice President Cherry expressed his concerns with people not abiding by the Shade Tree Permit process. Manager Hart suggested that the Shade Tree Commission should complete an inventory to help educate homeowners and improve enforcement of the permit process. Vice President Cherry expressed privacy concerns with the voting procedures at his polling place on Primary Election Day, held on Tuesday, June 2 while casting his vote.

Member Neiderhiser expressed her support for the protest and thanked the organizers for allowing her to write a statement that was shared. She then asked if the Borough has been notified of any mosquito spraying in the parks. Manager Hart stated Montgomery County has not yet notified the Borough of any upcoming scheduled spraying, but if there were any, she would share it with the community. Manager Hart reminded everyone of Montgomery County's Montco Ready app which provides both emergency and non-emergency related alerts including when and where spraying is taking place, in addition to many other health and safety alerts.

Member Collins expressed his support for the protest and asked Chief Eves if he knew how many people attended. Chief Eves estimated there were about 200-300 people in attendance.

Manager Hart reminded everyone to fill out their 2020 Census forms. She announced that the Planning Commission is currently working on a Walkability Study and other 2020 work items. She then announced that the North Penn Volunteer Fire Company is holding a cheesesteak curbside pick-up fundraiser on June 19. Lastly, she announced that the Annual Fourth of July Parade and Picnic has been cancelled due to COVID-19.

Member Amato announced that he received a phone call from a resident who thanked Officer Daniel Carr for helping clean-up her yard after a recent thunderstorm which left fallen debris.

President Sando asked if there is any other public comment or anything else to come before Council. There was none.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:49 P.M.

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