

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES  
300 SCHOOL STREET  
NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

REMOTE MEETING: April 27, 2021 7:00 PM, EST

CALL TO ORDER made by President Sando.

|            |                        |         |
|------------|------------------------|---------|
| ROLL CALL: | Salvatore Amato        | Present |
|            | James Cherry           | Present |
|            | Sherwin Collins        | Present |
|            | Ronald S. Little, Jr.  | Absent  |
|            | Wendy McClure          | Present |
|            | Sally Neiderhiser      | Present |
|            | Eion O'Neill           | Present |
|            | James Sando            | Present |
|            | Mark Tarlecki          | Present |
|            | 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 no public comment at this time.

### **Presentation: 2020 Municipal Annual Audit and Financial Report Review**

Chris Herr, Maillie LLP, reviewed the 2020 Municipal Annual Audit and Financial Report. Council asked whom the audit questionnaire letters were sent to. Mr. Herr stated the letters were sent to Council members and the Borough Manager. Council thanked Mr. Herr for reviewing the report.

### **Consideration: Approval of Delaware Valley Property and Liability Trust Agreement**

Manager Hart reviewed the details of the Delaware Valley Property and Liability Trust Agreement. Member Amato asked how much the Borough would save as a result of executing the agreement. Manager Hart stated the net savings would be an estimated 18 percent. Member Amato then asked for clarification on Section 10.06 Subrogation. Solicitor Gifford explained that section is the agreement to guarantee third party settlements in order to keep rates low.

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to approve the Delaware Valley Property and Liability Trust Agreement, effective May 1, 2021. Member O'Neill seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

**Consideration: Approval of \$150,000 RACP Grant Match Request for the NPVFC**

The following members of the North Penn Volunteer Fire Company (NPVFC) were present to request approval of a \$150,000 Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program Grant match request from Council: Matthew J. Traynor, Fire Chief and Frank Baxter, President.

Member McClure stated that the Borough is not financially able to provide the full amount of the grant match request. She recommended as an alternative that \$50,000 be provided to be specifically for a needed generator. Council agreed with Member McClure's recommendation. Member Tarlecki added that he did not support providing any funding until more financial details on the overall project were provided to Council.

Member McClure made a motion to approve a RACP grant match request in the amount of \$50,000 to be earmarked for a generator installation for the NPVFC. Member Amato seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 1 no. Member Tarlecki voted no.

**Consideration: Approval of Change Order #4 (\$1,354.80) - 2020 Paving Project**

Manager Hart announced a change order request in the amount of \$1,354.80 to cover additional expenses relating to the disposal of plastic paving liner which was not disclosed in the project bid. Vice President Cherry asked why the previous administration would allow the liner to be installed. Manager Hart explained that the liner was most likely used as part of road base repairs.

James Schiele, 307 East Montgomery Avenue, stated that he found similar liner on the 200 block of South Third Street and he believes it is a binder that is similarly used for roofing projects. Manager Hart confirmed that the Borough will be sure to check if the liner is present on other roadways prior to bidding out paving projects.

Member O'Neill made a motion to approve a change order in the amount of \$1,354.80 for the 2020 Paving Project as presented. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

**Consideration: Acceptance of Center Street Sidewalk Extension Proposal**

Manager Hart presented a proposal prepared by McMahon Associates regarding engineering and planning related services for an extension of the Center Street Sidewalk and Gateway Project and new sidewalk installation on West Street. Manager Hart added that the completed plans and survey would allow for the Borough to apply for a Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside grant and other transportation related grants to cover the majority of the constructed expenses.

Member Amato asked if the McMahon would be surveying the entire Borough. Manager Hart stated they would only be surveying the highlighted areas on the project map provided in the proposal.

Member McClure made a motion to accept the Center Street Sidewalk Extension Proposal, dated April 1, 2021 as presented. Member O'Neill seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

**Consideration: Approval of COAs: 223 S. Main St. & 137-141 S. Main St. (NPVFC)**

Member McClure made a motion to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness as presented for 223 South Main Street. Member O'Neill seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness as presented for 137-141 South Main Street. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

**Consideration: Appointment of Labor Counsel**

Member Amato asked if the Borough has appointed labor counsel before and does a written contract for services need to be approved. Solicitor Gifford explained that the Borough has utilized special labor counsel services in the past for labor issues and police contract negotiations. He added that a written contract is not needed and they only need to be appointed by Council.

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to appoint Anthony R. Sherr as Labor Counsel. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

**Consideration: Approval of Minutes: 4/13/2021**

Member McClure made a motion to approve the minutes of April 13, 2021. Member O'Neill seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

**Consideration: Approval of Disbursements: \$138,207.59**

Member McClure made a motion to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$138,207.59. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no.

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

Manager Hart made the following announcements: no pending Zoning Hearing Board applications, the Borough finished planting 15 new trees on Borough properties and private property within 10 feet of the roadway, a summary of the annual Earth Day event held on April 27 and the Borough is in the process of setting up a community garden at Fourth Street Park.

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

Solicitor Gifford announced that an executive session was held after the previous Council meeting and no action was taken. He added that there will not be an executive session tonight.

Mayor D'Angelo announced he attended the following events: a funeral service for Harry Hartman who had previously served on Council and as the Borough's Tax Collector, another funeral service for Barbara Mengel and a PSABS seminar that Member Neiderhiser also attended. He then announced a proclamation, declaring the month of May as Mental Health Awareness Month. He added that there will be a training session for first responders and he would like to offer a seminar for residents in need.

Member McClure thanked the Fire Company for responding effectively to a house fire that occurred at 329 Elm Avenue. She added that she assisted the homeowner with filing the insurance claim.

Member O'Neill thanked Borough staff for their efforts with the Earth Day event. He also commended Rann Pharmacy for their efforts with vaccine distributions and added he had a good experience with receiving his first vaccine dose.

Member Amato stated he was impressed by the quality of membership on the Human Relations Commission. He then thanked Mayor D'Angelo for his proclamation and thanked Vice President Cherry for having tree stumps grinded at Borough Hall.

Member Neiderhiser announced she attended an informative PSABS seminar that Mayor D'Angelo also attended. She explained that the main focus points of the seminar were walkability issues and the impacts of the COVID pandemic. She added that she is happy with the Borough's efforts to address walkability issues. Mayor D'Angelo added that they were informed of a decline in Liquid Fuels taxes and there are concerns relating to the overall quality of paving projects due to the quality of today's quality of materials available.

Vice President Cherry expressed his commiserations to the homeowner of 329 Elm Avenue and thanked Member McClure for her assistance. He then thanked Manager Hart and staff for the Earth Day event and Mayor D'Angelo for his proclamation.

President Sando also thanked Manager Hart for Earth Day. He then thanked the Police Department for running the Drug Take Back Event that was held simultaneously with Earth Day and announced they had collected over 40lbs of unused medical prescriptions. He also thanked Rann Pharmacy and encouraged everyone to get their vaccine if they have not already.

Chief Eves made the following announcements: the house fire at 329 Elm Avenue is still under investigation, there was a burglary arrest at Artisan's Alley over the weekend and most of the Department has completed their required CPR training.

Manager Hart made the following announcements: Upper Gwynedd Township is seeking the Borough's input on their Comprehensive Plan update, the Bike Share program bikes will be made available to the public, COVID vaccines are now available for anyone ages 16 and older, the Montgomery County Voter Services has drop-off locations for ballots from May 1-18 for the Primary Election, Senator Collette and Representative Hanbidge will be holding an E-Waste Recycling event on May 1, information about the Boards and Commissions vacancies will be posted on the kiosk at Walnut Square and she thanked the Police and Fire services for their response to the house fire at 329 Elm Avenue.

Member McClure made a motion to adjourn. Member Amato seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 yes, 0 no. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

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