

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES
 300 SCHOOL STREET
 NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

MEETING: October 12, 2021, 7:00 P.M., EST

CALL TO ORDER made by President Sando.

ROLL CALL:	Salvatore Amato	Present
	James Cherry	Present
	Sherwin Collins	Present
	Ronald S. Little, Jr.	Present
	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, Michael Eves, Chief of Police and Brian Sleicher, Public Works Supervisor.

President Sando led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

Joseph Orbell, 416 South Main Street, expressed his support for the proposed ordinance, prohibiting the use of brake retarders within the Borough limits.

Presentation: MCPC 2021 Walkability Report

Timothy Konetchy, MCPC, presented a draft of the 2021 Walkability Audit Report. Member Amato asked if there is an implementation plan included in the report and if every street in the Borough was assessed. Mr. Konetchy answered there is no specific plan, but the report provides options for improving infrastructure and he confirmed the entire Borough was assessed. Vice President Cherry expressed concern with residents who do not want to have a sidewalk installed on their property. Manager Hart explained that the Borough has the right to require sidewalks be installed within the right-of-way and Council has discretion over where sidewalks are installed.

Albert Tenney, 801 East Walnut Street, asked when the Borough plans to install sidewalks around the area known as the Wawa Triangle. Assistant Manager Guzzardo explained that the Borough has met with the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission to discuss applying for a Safe Routes to Transportation grant to cover the cost of installing sidewalks within that area and the Borough plans to follow-up on the project once it finishes up the Center Street improvements.

Anji Fazio, 111 South Seventh Street, asked if there is an implementation plan in place. Manager Hart explained the Borough is currently working on sidewalk improvements and is considering implementing a cost share sidewalk program with residents to cover the cost of installing new

sidewalks and replacing deteriorated sidewalks. Budgetary restraints and an official bidding process are factors that need consideration, hence Manger Hart indicated that implementation will take some time.

Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, asked if the proposed sidewalks along Center Street and West Street (Center Street Sidewalk Extension Project) will be installed simultaneously. Manager Hart confirmed they would be assuming the grant funding is awarded.

Consideration: Advertisement of TOD Zoning Text Amendments

Member Amato made a motion to approve advertisement of the Transit Oriented Development zoning text amendments. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Advertisement of Brake Retarder Prohibition

Manager Hart asked if the ordinance should be revised to only prohibit the use of brake retarders on Main Street since that is where they are primarily used. Solicitor Gifford explained that it should be remain as is so the Borough will not have to amend the ordinance if they wish to prohibit them on other streets. He added that the Borough has discretion over where it deems necessary to post signage.

Albert Tenney, 801 East Walnut Street, asked if the Borough were allowed to post signage on roadways that border both the Borough and Upper Gwynedd Township. Manager Hart explained that the Borough would work cooperatively with the Township if they were to consider posting signage along boundary roadways.

Lisa Vogel, 329 South Fourth Street, asked if there would be a grace period for offenses. Chief Eves confirmed warnings would be appropriate initially and Manager Hart recommended the Police Department will send notices to the larger shipping companies who frequent the Borough.

Member McClure made a motion to approve advertisement of an ordinance prohibiting the use of brake retarders within the Borough limits. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Approval of On-Street Handicap Parking Space: 210 School Street

Member Tarlecki asked if the applicant knows that the space would not be designated for them specifically. Manager Hart confirmed they were aware.

Anji Fazio, 111 South Seventh Street, asked what happens to the space if the person who applied for it no longer resides at the residence. Manager Hart answered the space is removed.

Member McClure made a motion to approve an on-street disabled parking space to be installed in front of 210 School Street. Member Neiderhiser seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Approval of Minutes: September 28, 2021

Member McClure made a motion to approve the minutes for September 28, 2021. Member Collins seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Discussion: 2022 Budget Calendar

Dan Sokil, The Reporter, asked if the Finance Committee will be holding meetings in-person to discuss the 2022 Budget. Manager Hart confirmed they would be, but they are not required to meet in public since the number of members on the Committee does not constitute a quorum.

Old Business / Committee & Board Reports / Zoning Applications

Manager Hart announced the Borough did not have any pending Zoning Hearing Board Applications. Manager Hart then announced that FEMA is offering funding to municipalities impacted by Hurricane Ida through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and will be seeking funding to cover streetlight repairs along Beaver Street that were damaged during the storm. Manager Hart added that a letter of intent for the program is due by October 15 and she requested a motion from Council authorizing her to submit the letter of intent.

Member McClure made a motion to authorize Manager Hart to submit a letter of intent for the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Member Amato seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no.

Solicitor / Mayor / Council / Police / Public Works / Manager

Solicitor Gifford announced an executive session was held after the previous meeting to discuss a personnel matter and no action was taken. He then announced that another executive session will be held after tonight's meeting to discuss a personnel matter and no action would be taken.

Mayor D'Angelo announced that he wanted to discuss an e-mail his political opponent had sent to Council. Solicitor Gifford intervened and said it was not an appropriate matter to discuss at Council meeting under the "Mayor's Comment." Andrew Berenson, 439 Washington Avenue, asked if the Mayor could discuss the matter in his resident capacity. Solicitor Gifford explained that it was a political matter and not appropriate to discuss at an official meeting under the Mayor's Comment.

Member O'Neill asked if the Borough could do anything about illegally placed signs. Mr. O'Neill used an example of the sign posted by a developer for new homes being built outside the Borough. Mr. Sleicher stated that Public Works removes any illegally placed signs while traveling the Borough routinely.

Vice President Cherry reminded everyone to treat everyone with respect during election season. He then insisted that political candidates should be running for North Wales residents, not their political parties. Council applauded Vice President Cherry's remarks.

Chief Eves cautioned everyone about the rise in unemployment fraud cases. He then announced that the Police Department conducted 264 traffic stops and he hired two new part-time officers.

Manager Hart made the following announcements: solicitation permits were issued to Waste Management and Power Home Remodeling, the Arts Alliance Fall 2021-Winter 2020 class schedule, Drug Take Back Day on October 23, Selfie Scavenger Park Tour, Hess Park Clean-up Day on November 13 and the Boards and Commission vacancies. She added that there will be a real estate matter for executive session tonight and no action will be taken.

Member O'Neil asked about the solicitation permit requirements. Manager Hart reviewed the requirements.

Member Neiderhiser made a motion to adjourn. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 9 yes, 0 no. Meeting adjourned at 8:14 P.M.

Attest: _____
Christine A. Hart
Borough Manager