

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES
 300 SCHOOL STREET
 NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

MEETING: November 9, 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	Absent
	Eion O'Neill	Absent
	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.

Presentation: Service Award (20 Years) - Officer Lynne Custer

Mayor D'Angelo presented Officer Lynne Custer with a 20 years of service award. Member Amato thanked Officer Custer for assisting with an emergency call for his wife and for providing him with a bike helmet. Officer Luke Miller congratulated Officer Custer and thanked her for helping him with his training. The Mayor and Chief both spoke of Officer Custer's dedication and accomplishments she has achieved with the Borough over the past 20 years.

President Sando asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of Jeffrey "Bo" Sands, "Life Member" of the North Penn Volunteer Fire Company who passed away on Friday, November 5.

Public Comment

Monica Tarlecki, 301 South Fourth Street, thanked all of the outgoing members of Council. She then requested that the new Council members introduce themselves, attend meetings and represent all of their constituents regardless of their political affiliation.

Anji Fazio, 111 South Seventh Street, stated she was pleased with the Borough's activities and felt disappointed with comments made at previous meetings that seemed to focus on politics and not the business of the Borough.

James Schiele, 307 East Montgomery Avenue, expressed his support for Mrs. Tarlecki's comments. He then condemned in-coming Mayor Neil McDevitt's 2018 Facebook post.

Mr. McDevitt stated he recognized Mrs. Tarlecki and Mr. Schiele's comments and he intends to serve everyone equally.

Consideration: Acceptance of Donation from Tex-Mex Connection

President Sando requested a formal thank you letter to Jane Keyes on behalf of Borough Council for the donation. Manager Hart confirmed she would send one.

Member Amato made a motion to accept a donation from Tex-Mex Connection in the amount of \$5,000 to be earmarked for green initiatives within the Borough. Manager Hart indicated the funding is typically deposited into the Recycling Fund and is used for Annual Earth Day recycling programs for residents and business owners. Member Tarlecki seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Approval of Final Certification and Payment No. 4 – Delaware Valley Paving - \$26,820.81

Council members asked for clarification on price escalation. Manager Hart provided an explanation of price escalation as per PennDOT's guideline.

Member McClure made a motion to approve final certification and payment No. 4 for the 2020-2021 Paving Project in the amount of \$26,820.81, made payable to Delaware Valley Paving. Member Amato seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Employee Handbook Revisions

President Sando requested that Council consider adding Juneteenth to the list of holidays since it is now a federal holiday. Manager Hart indicated that the incoming Council would vote on the 2022 Holiday schedule, and she would make note of his request. The handbook changes on the agenda reflect the proposed cost containment amounts being increased and the authorization for Part-time Police Officer to receive overtime on listed holidays if worked.

Member Collins made a motion to approve the proposed employee handbook amendments as presented. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Advertisement of 2022 Annual Budget

Manager Hart reviewed the proposed 2022 Annual Budget. A discussion ensued regarding the tax millage being increased for the fire company, highway aide, and general fund. A brief discussion took place regarding the amount set aside for the North Wales Area Library. Member Amato questioned if the NWAL had requested additional tax millage to date; Manager Hart indicated she had not received a request to date. Further review of the tax millage and assessed values of real estate were discussed and how the increase would affect parcel owners. Manager Hart gave a presentation explaining millage and assessed values in relation to property tax.

Member Amato made a motion to approve advertisement of the 2022 Annual Budget. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no.

Consideration: Adoption of Brake Retarder Prohibition Ordinance

Frank Baxter, NPVFC President, asked if this ordinance would apply to the Fire Company. Chief Eves confirmed it did not apply to the Fire Company emergency vehicles.

Vice President Cherry made a motion to adopt an ordinance prohibiting the use of brake retarders within the Borough's limits. Member McClure seconded the motion.

Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no.

Old Business / Committee & Board Reports / Zoning Applications

Chief Eves reported that he hired two new part-time officers and is in the process of hiring one more. He then reported that officers are attending mandatory training and he reported that Drug Take Back day was held on Saturday, October 23.

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 action may or may not be taken.

Mayor D'Angelo announced that he was made an honorary citizen by the Korean American Association of Greater Philadelphia. He then stated he would work with Mr. McDevitt on transitioning into the role of Mayor.

Member Tarlecki commended Manager Hart on a well-balanced proposed budget. He then took a moment to thank all veterans for their service. Vice President Cherry also thanked all veterans and announced that the Borough will be accepting donation items at Borough Hall for Soldier's Christmas until December 6, 2021.

Member Amato encouraged everyone to thank a veteran for their service. He announced that it has been 50 years since he completed his military service. Hearing, thank you for your service means a lot to those who have served.

Public Works Supervisor Sleicher requested that residents do not place their leaves along the roadways since the Borough does not perform leaf collection.

Manager Hart made the following announcements: Hess Park Cleanup on Saturday, November 13, the Norristown Garden Club Holiday House Tour on December 9, the Arts Alliance Fall-Winter class schedule, Boards and Commissions vacancies and Soldier's Christmas Collection.

Member Little made a motion to adjourn. Member McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

Attest: _____
Christine A. Hart
Borough Manager