

RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
JANUARY 4, 2016

Mayor Chegwidden Called the Meeting to Order and Read the Open Public Meeting Statement as follows:

"This is the Annual Re-Organization meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wharton which was advertised in the print media as required by law. A copy of the annual meeting schedule is posted in the Municipal Building."

Swearing in of Council Members

Mayor Chegwidden announced that that the Morris County Clerk's Office has determined that at the last General Election, Nicole Wickenheisser and Thomas Yeager were duly elected to the positions of Council Members for the Borough of Wharton for a term of three years.

Mayor Chegwidden called both members to the platform to be sworn in.

Councilman Yeager was sworn in. Congratulations were offered by all in attendance.

Councilwoman Wickenheisser was sworn in. Congratulations were offered by all in attendance.

Remarks:

Mayor Chegwidden invited the newly elected members to address the public.

Councilman Yeager: He'd like to thank the residents of Wharton for allowing him to serve them for three more years.

Councilwoman Wickenheisser: She'd like to thank everyone for their support and will do her best in the next three years.

Roll Call

Mayor Chegwidden requested Roll Call:

Councilman Vincent Binkoski- present
Councilman Glenn Corbett- present
Councilwoman Sandra Hayes- present
Councilman Robert Norton- present
Councilwoman Nicole Wickenheisser-present
Councilman Thomas Yeager- present

Flag Salute

Mayor Chegwidden led those present in the Salute to the American Flag.

Election of Council President

A motion by Councilwoman Wickenheisser and was seconded by Councilman Yeager to elect Councilman Norton as Council President for the year 2016.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-5 NAY-0 ABSENT-0 ABSTAIN- 1- Norton
MOTION CARRIED

Fire Department Appointments

Mayor Chegwiddden announced the Fire Department appointments.

The following appointments are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Mayor and Council and will be approved by one motion. There was no separate discussion of these appointments unless a council member requested, in which case, the appointment will be considered separately.

Wharton Borough Fire Chief, Chris Krasnick, for the year 2016 - term to expire 12/31/16.

Wharton Borough Fire Department Deputy Chief, Tim Drake, for the year 2016-term to expire 12/31/16.

Wharton Borough Fire Department Battalion Chief, Gary Cole, for the year 2016-term to expire 12/31/16.

Wharton Borough Fire Department Captain:

- **Jim Ricker**

Wharton Borough Fire Department Lieutenants:

- **Louis Ploth**
- **Larry Biehler**

All one year terms to expire 12/31/16.

A motion to confirm all appointments was made by Councilman Binkoski and was seconded by Councilman Yeager.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-6 NAY-0 ABSENT-0 ABSTAIN- 0	MOTION CARRIED
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Mayor Chegwiddden and Councilman Binkoski administered the Oaths of Office for the Fire Department. Congratulations were offered by all in attendance.

<p><u>Consent Agenda</u></p> <p>The following items are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Mayor and Council and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a council member or citizen so requests, in which case, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in a normal sequence on the agenda.</p> <p>Resolutions: R-1-16: 2016 Meeting Schedule for Mayor and Council Meetings R-2-16: Setting Hourly Fee for Independent Attorneys R-3-16: Liability Search Officer for 2016 R-4-16: Tax Search Officer for 2016 R-5-16: Fixing Interest Rate on Delinquent Taxes for 2016 R-6-16: Designating Official Newspapers for 2016 R-7-16: Designating Public Agency Compliance Officer R-8-16: Cash Management Plan for 2016 R-9-16: Professional Resolution R-10-16: Appointment of 2016 Local Emergency Planning Committee R-11-16: Authorizing the Tax Collector and Utility Collector to Cancel Any Balances under \$10.00 as Deemed Necessary R-12-16: Authorizing required Notice of Tort Claims R-13-16: Authorizing Mayor to Execute Agreement with for Risk Management Consultant Services for the Year 2016 R-14-16: Authorizing Re-Establishment of Petty Cash Funds</p>

R-15-16: Temporary Budget for 2016
R-16-16: Volunteer Appreciation Program for 2016
R-17-16: Authorizing Participation in the Morris County Co-Operative Purchasing Program
R-18-16: Authorizing Participation in the State Co-Operative Purchasing Program
R-19-16: Authorizing Signatures on Borough Checks
R-20-16: Authorizing Certain Payments Outside of Scheduled Council Meetings
R-21-16: Establish Bid Threshold
R-22-16: Authorizing Mayor, Administrator and Borough Clerk to Execute and Submit Grant Applications if Due Date is Outside of Scheduled Council Meetings
R-23-16: Authorizing Treasurer to Sign and Approve Purchase Orders in the Event the Administrator/CFO is not Available
R-24-16: Authorizing Returned Check Fee
R-25-16: Authorizing Participation in the Somerset County Co-Operative Purchasing Program
R-26-16: Authorizing Participation in the Bergen County Co-Operative Purchasing Program
R-27-16: Authorizing Participation in the HGAC Co-Operative Purchasing Program

Mayor's Appointments that Require Council Consent:

Alternate Member to the Community Development Revenue Sharing Committee- Sandy Hayes, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Alternate School Crossing Guard- Mary A. Bizzarro, Alice Doblosky, Grace Schomp, and Laura White. All one year appointments to expire 12/31/16.

Assistant Administrator- Gabrielle Evangelista, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Assistant to Construction Official- Rita Sharp, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Board of Health Member- Margaret Corbett, three year term to expire 12/31/18.

Board of Health Member- Nancy Leone, three year term to expire 12/31/18.

Board of Health Secretary for Licensing- Robin Ghebreal, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Certifying Payroll Officers- Diana Fernandez, Jon Rheinhardt, and Katelin Lorito one year terms to expire 12/31/16.

Clean Communities Coordinator- Patricia Craven, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Community Affairs Coordinator- Robin Ghebreal, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Deputy Borough Clerk- Robin Ghebreal and Diana Fernandez, one year terms to expire 12/31/16.

Deputy Emergency Management Coordinators- David Young and Leon Stickle, one year terms to expire 12/31/16.

Deputy Fire Official- Frank Steinberg, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Deputy Housing Enforcement Officer – Patrick Lavery, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Deputy Tax Collector- Patty Craven, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Deputy Water/Sewer Collector- Diana Fernandez, one year term to expire 12/31/16

Director of Public Works – Scott Hutchins, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Fire Official- Richard Cloughley, one year term to expire, 12/31/16.

Grant Coordinator– John Manna, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Matrons- Alice Doblosky, Debra Malson, Jen O'Malley-Dorr, Vicky Santana-Stickle, and Bonnie Sullivan. All one year appointments to expire 12/31/16.

Mayor Representative to the Morris County Community Development Revenue Sharing Committee–Vince Binkoski, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Morris County Open Space and Farmland Preservation Representative – John Manna, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Municipal Alliance Coordinator – Robin Ghebreale, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Municipal Housing Liaison for COAH – Patrick Lavery, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Personnel Administrator- Gabrielle Evangelista, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Planning Board Class 4 Member- Ken Loury, four year term to expire 12/31/19.

Planning Board Class 4 Member- Roger Steele, four year term to expire 12/31/19.

Planning Board Class 4 Member- Marc Harris, four year term to expire 12/31/19.

Planning Board Secretary- Patty Craven, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Public Health Nurse - Carol Miller, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Qualified Purchasing Agent- Jon Rheinhardt, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Recreation Director- Robin Ghebreale, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Recycling Coordinator – Scott Hutchins, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Rockaway River Watershed Cabinet Representatives- Glenn Corbett and Tom Yeager, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

School Crossing Guards – Martha Hoffman, Joyce Hon, Peggy Husti, Kathleena Jackson, Jackie Kelly, Maureen Macalalag, Penny Moraga, and Lois Werts. All one year appointments to expire 12/31/16.

Treasurer – Katelin Lorito, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Trustee of Library- Mary Ryan, five year term to expire 12/31/20.

Water/Sewer Clerk- Patty Craven, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Water/Sewer Operator- Jeff Mayhew, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Zoning/Housing Enforcement Official/Road Opening Official - Pedro Moreno, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Committee Appointments:

Alternate Members to Finance Committee - #1 - Councilman Binkoski and #2 – Councilman Norton

Community Relations- (includes Recreation Committee, Celebration Public Events, Library, Senior Citizen Association) – Councilman Norton

Environmental Commission- Consists of Mayor and Council Members

Finance- (includes Insurance, Budget, Personnel, CFO, Street Lighting, Tax Assessor, Tax Collector, Community Development) - Councilman Corbett

Finance Committee- Councilman Corbett (Chair), Councilwoman Hayes, and Councilman Yeager

Health/Welfare- (includes Board of Health, Public Assistance, Regionalization Committee - Shared Services) – Councilwoman Wickenheisser

Personnel Committee- Councilman Corbett, Councilwoman Hayes (Chair), and Councilman Yeager

Public Affairs- (includes Building Inspector, Housing Inspector, Land Use Board, Licenses, Zoning Officer, School Sub-Committee, Youth Advisory) - Councilman Yeager

Public Safety- (includes Police Department, Fire Department, First Aid Squad, Municipal Court, Emergency Management, Elections) - Councilman Binkoski

Public Works- (includes Parks, Building/Grounds, Sanitation, Maintenance Shop, Engineering, Streets and Roads, Water and Sewer) – Councilwoman Hayes

Council Appointments in Accordance with State Statutes:

Council Representative to the Morris County Community Development Revenue Sharing Committee- John Manna, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Planning Board Class III Member- Councilman Thomas Yeager, one year term to expire 12/31/16.

Councilman Norton made a motion to approve all of items on the Consent Agenda which was seconded by Councilman Yeager

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-6 NAY-0 ABSENT-0 ABSTAIN- 0

MOTION CARRIED

Council Remarks

Council President Norton: He'd like to wish all of the new officers congratulates and good luck. He would also like to congratulate Councilwoman Wickenheisser and Councilman Yeager, he know they will continue to do a great job. Happy New Year to all. He was able to attend the Municipal Alliance trip to the Morris County crime lab, it was a great tour and a nice facility.

Councilman Binkoski: He'd also like to congratulate Councilwoman Wickenheisser and Councilman Yeager as well as all of the new Fire Department Officers. A few accomplishments from this year include the Police Department moving back into their renovated headquarters. Chief Fernandez and Lieutenant Young continue to do a great job managing the force. This year, with the support of outgoing Chief Cronin and the Mayor and Council, we were able to approve the purchase of a new fire truck. Lastly he'd like to thank the people of Wharton for their continued support and he is looking forward to a good new year.

Councilman Corbett: He also would like to congratulate Councilwoman Wickenheisser and Councilman Yeager, as well as all of the Fire Department Officers, who have been doing a great job all of these years. He would like to congratulate all of the other appointees on the Agenda as well. Happy New Year to everyone.

Councilwoman Hayes: Congratulations to the Fire Department Officials and Councilwoman Wickenheisser and Councilman Yeager. Happy New Year to everyone.

Councilwoman Wickenheisser: Thank you to everyone for their support. She'd like to congratulate Councilman Yeager and everyone on the Fire Department. Hopefully we have a great 2016. Happy New Year to everyone.

Councilman Yeager: Congratulations to all of the officers and happy New Year.

Mayor Chegwiddden's Remarks:

Some accomplishments from 2015 include water main replacements on Second Street, Church Street, and Kitchell Avenue. Most of these projects were funded with grant money including \$80,000 for Second Street and \$80,000 Church Street. There is a \$160,000 grant that is coming in this year for West Central Avenue. We worked with the Morris County Parks Commission to complete some of the walking loop at the Canal. The County Road is finally moving forward. We acquired the property for the new water tank and received funding for the construction of the tank from our negotiations with Pondview. The estimated cost of that project is three million dollars. This will help to solve the water pressure issues on the north side of town. Looking ahead, we are planning on road improvements in Sterling Heights, East Central Avenue, and some others. We have teamed up with the Park Commission and a train group to revitalize the old railroad tracks with trolley cars. All of which will be paid for by the train group. Main Street improvements will continue. Morris County will pave the road this year and we will be putting in new crosswalks. Some developments that have happened include the opening of Avalon Bay. The traffic fears that were expressed prior to the development have not materialized and the impact on the school is very minimal. A new apartment complex that is going in where the green tent blighted property is has been approved. We are talking with Chase Bank to acquire that property to create a central parking lot for our businesses and residents in the center of town. Financially we are very sound, the books have been closed for 2015. We remain the second lowest municipal tax per capita in Morris County. We are the fourth lowest in per capita tax in total taxes. He'd like to wish everyone a happy New Year and to thank all of the employees and all of the volunteers of Wharton who make this little town what it is. He would also like to thank the Council for working as a team year in and year out, it really is a pleasure. One last thing he'd like to point out is that this year our debt is paid off. You'll see that some of the projects that will be done this year and are able to be done because we no longer have debt payments to make and can use the money to repair the things that we need to.

Public Portion:

Mayor Chegwiddden opened the meeting to the public.

No one wishing to be heard, Mayor Chegwiddden closed the meeting to the public.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Corbett and was seconded by Councilwoman Hayes. This motion was approved by a voice vote.

January 4, 2016

ATTEST:

Gabrielle Evangelista,
Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN,
MAYOR