

REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 4, 2019

Mayor Chegwidden Called the Meeting to Order

Mayor Chegwidden read the Open Public Meeting Statement

Mayor Chegwidden requested Roll Call:

Council President Corbett- Present
Councilman Binkoski- Absent, Excused
Councilwoman Hayes- Present
Councilwoman Veres-Present
Councilwoman Wickenheisser- Present
Councilman Yeager- Absent, Excused

Also in attendance were Administrator Jon Rheinhardt, Borough Clerk Gabrielle Evangelista, and Attorney Matthew Petracca.

Flag Salute

Mayor Chegwidden led those in attendance with the salute to the American Flag.

Open to the Public

In accordance with Local Ordinance O-18-03, "Persons making public comment at the first public portion shall be limited to five (5) minutes. During the second public portion repetitive, irrelevant or excessive public comment in the interest of permitting all members of the public time to speak on any governmental issue and completing the public business within a reasonable period of time".

Mayor Chegwidden opened the meeting to the public.

Library Director, Eileen Burnash and Library Board of Trustees President, Mary Ryan were in attendance. Ms. Burnash advised that they were there to answer any questions or give any more information that the Mayor and Council may need about the Resolution relating to the Library that is on tonight's Agenda. Mayor Chegwidden advised that Councilwoman Veres had previously explained the Resolution.

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

Ordinance

Council President Corbett introduced O-01-19, "An Ordinance to Provide for General Capital Projects Enumerated Within for the Borough of Wharton, County of Morris and to Provide for the Funding Thereof," on first reading, by title only.

A motion was made by Council President Corbett and was seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to adopt O-01-19 on first reading.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-4 NAY-0 ABSENT-2 ABSTAIN- 0

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Chegwidden set the date of February 25, 2019 for second and final reading.

Discussion

- Morris County request to replace the culvert on the West Central Avenue bridge. Mayor Chegwidden explained that they are making the request for

the Borough to allow them to open the road since we had paved it in 2017. Mr. Rheinhardt advised that the bridge is falling apart, it is a really small bridge, but it needs to be fixed. Mayor Chegwidden continued that the County is responsible for 1000 bridges throughout the County and they will be fixing this one as well as making some other fixes. Mr. Rheinhardt advised that they agreed to re-pave it using infrared technology so it shouldn't be a problem. Everyone agreed that they didn't have a problem with the County doing this.

Consent Agenda

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.

Approval of Bills: All bills referred to the Finance Committee to be paid if found correct.

Approval of Minutes from 1/14/19

Resolutions: R-39-19: Supporting Current Levels of Statewide Library Delivery Services
R-40-19: Approve Tax Sale Redemption TSC 2018-015
R-41-19: Approve Tax Sale Redemption TSC 2017-016
R-42-19: Professional Services Architecture for Library Bathroom Renovations
R-43-19: Payout LoBue
R-44-19: Safe and Secure Grant Application P-6780-16
R-45-19: Safe and Secure Grant Application P-7080-17
R-46-19: Safe and Secure Grant Application P-19-1439
R-47-19: Professional Services Engineering for Wharton Memorial Park
R-48-19: Professional Services Landscape Architecture for Wharton Memorial Park
R-49-19: Awarding a Competitive Contract for the Borough of Wharton
R-50-19: Authorize Municipal Alliance FY2020 Application

Approve Jr. Fire Fighter Application for Santiago Herrera

A motion was made by Council President Corbett and was seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to approve all items listed on the Consent Agenda.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-4 NAY-0 ABSENT-2 ABSTAIN- 0

MOTION CARRIED

Correspondence

- Morris County Planning Board Minutes
- Monthly Reports from Clerk and Construction

Council Reports

Council President Corbett: He attended a Finance Committee meeting on 2/1 with the Public Works Department and Mr. Rheinhardt to discuss the capital projects for this year. There are a number of projects moving forward this year including Veteran's Park. Another item they discussed is possibly re-doing Sterling Street park by removing the asphalt that was a roller hockey court and planting grass to make a small soccer field. They discussed buying some new equipment to make things more efficient, including a new jetter that is much more versatile than the old

one that needs to be replaced. They also discussed the tax rate for next year. It looks like the tax rate is going to go up 1.986%, most of which is not the municipal tax. Our municipal tax rate is going up .91% The impact from the municipal rate will be about \$41 on the average house. The RVRSA's Finance Committee met on 1/24 to discuss capital projects. They had another meeting that included all of the member towns that needed to be rescheduled because the necessary information wasn't provided to the towns. Due to the meeting being rescheduled, the public hearing on their capital project will be rescheduled for March. On 2/4 the User Charge Committee of the RVRSA met to primarily discuss requests for gallonages from Mine Hill. Mine Hill has a contract where they can send up to 200,000 gallons a day to the RVRSA plant and they are currently using about 118,00 gallons a day. They made an application for an additional 27,000 gallons a day. The problem is that it is for a location that is not within the service area of the RVRSA, so they've asked them to extend it. They have decided to find out how much more is needed from within the service area before they extend the service area. They also discussed a fine that is being issued to Refresco for failure to inspect and other violations. They indicated that since January Refresco has been much better about keeping up with things. They also discussed that they anticipate that the NJDEP is going to say that the plant can take up to 15 million gallons a day, but that may require costly upgrades to the plant so they are going to look into it further.

Councilman Binkoski: Absent.

Councilwoman Hayes: She attended the Finance Committee meeting. It was nice to hear from DPW Director Mr. Hutchins and Utility Supervisor Mr. Quillinan about the department's needs. She attended the Dog Park Committee meeting which Councilwoman Veres will discuss. The DPW is finishing their winter clean out. The final day for Christmas Tree pick up is 2/11. They also signed up two employees for classes on tree planting and pesticides. The Wharton Kids First Foundation Lotsa Pasta Dinner is on Friday, February 21st. She hopes to see everyone there.

Councilwoman Veres: On 2/1 she attended the Dog Park Committee meeting where they looked at the proposed site on West Dewey Ave. This used to be a volleyball court so there is already parking there. They then looked into various items that could be purchased for the park. Councilwoman Hayes advised that the Finance Committee thought they would pay for the fencing and then let people start using it and go from there. Councilwoman Veres continued that she is looking forward to working on this project.

Councilwoman Wickenheisser: We started advertising for our Summer Recreation Director and Assistant Director positions and have a received a great response so far. She was able to secure CPR/AED training from St. Clare's hospital for the recreation program.

Councilman Yeager: Absent.

Mayor Chegwiddden's Report: The Veteran's Park Committee will be having another meeting soon and will report back to the Council with an update. They are working on putting together a schedule for it so everyone knows what is happening each month with the project. He's also received some feedback about the street signs that are being replaced. First people didn't like them, now he's hearing that they do and that people would like the old signs. They are going to come up with a program so people can buy the old sign from their street and they will donate the money into the recreation program.

Open to the Public

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 was made by Council President Corbett and was seconded by Councilwoman Wickenheisser to close this meeting.

February 4, 2019

ATTEST:

**Gabrielle Evangelista,
Borough Clerk**

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

**WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN,
MAYOR**