

REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MAY 3, 2021

Mayor Chegwidden called the Meeting to Order

Mayor Chegwidden read the Open Public Meeting Statement

Mayor Chegwidden requested Roll Call:

Council President Wickenheisser- Present
Council Binkoski- Present
Councilwoman Hayes- Present
Councilman Norton- Present
Councilwoman Vasquez- Present
Councilman Yeager- Present

Also in attendance were Administrator Jon Rheinhardt, Borough Clerk Gabrielle Evangelista, Police Chief David Young, and Attorney Roman Hirniak.

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.

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

Ordinance

Councilwoman Hayes introduced O-10-21, “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 second reading, by title only.

Mayor Chegwidden opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments on this Ordinance only.

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

A motion was made by Councilwoman Hayes and was seconded by Councilman Binkoski to adopt O-10-21 on second and final reading.

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

Ordinance

Councilwoman Vasquez introduced O-11-21, “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 second reading, by title only.

Mayor Chegwidden opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments on this Ordinance only.

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

A motion was made by Councilwoman Vazquez and was seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to adopt O-11-21 on second and final reading.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-6 NAY-0 ABSENT-0 ABSTAIN-0	MOTION CARRIED
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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: Approve all bills referred to the Finance Committee.
Approval of Minutes: Approve Minutes from 4/19/21 Meeting
Resolutions: R-77-21: Renew Agreement Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council R-78-21: Authorize Signing of Agreements NJDOT R-79-21: Tax Sale Redemption TSC 2020-005 R-80-21: Apply Municipal Alliance Supplemental Funding R-81-21: Approve Reciprocal Easement Agreement
A motion was made by Council President Wickenheisser and was seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to approve all items listed on the Consent Agenda.
ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA: 6 NAY: 0ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0
MOTION CARRIED

Discussion

- Request for permission for movie filming:

Jamie Cheatham, Randolph: Mr. Cheatham is a former Wharton resident who has written a horror novel that is set in Wharton. The novel is now getting made into a movie. They are hoping to be able to film some of scenes in Wharton since it is set here and are requesting to do so. Everyone was agreeable to this idea. Chief Young and Ms. Evangelista advised that there may be some issues with dates, due to the Primary Election and upcoming Parking Lot project, but they can work with Mr. Cheatham on this. They can also work with him on what locations may work for the project. They also advised that anything involving the Library would need to be approved by the Library Board of Trustees, but Councilwoman Vasquez can help with that as necessary. Mr. Hirniak advised that insurance from the film company will be required as well. Council President Wickenheisser made a motion to approve the request providing that the dates and locations can be worked out and the proper insurance is provided to the Borough, which was seconded by Councilman Binkoski.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA-6 NAY-0 ABSENT-0 ABSTAIN-0	MOTION CARRIED
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Correspondence

- Notice of Ordinances Dover
- Morris County Planning Board Minutes

Council Reports

Council President Wickenheisser: She attended the opening ceremonies of the new County road, which was a nice event. She congratulates Mayor Chegwidden on the road being named after him.

Councilman Binkoski: He also attended the opening ceremonies of the new County Road and echoes the Council President's congratulations. He attended meetings with the Police and Fire Departments on their budgets.

Councilwoman Hayes: She has a question about whether or not you can turn left out of the Main Street side of the new road. Chief Young advised that you can. There are a few issues with it that he has spoke with the County about including some sight issues. They are working on addressing them. The Finance Committee has received a request from a resident who is requesting a waiver of interest on tax payments. After discussing it, their recommendation is to not waive the interest. They cannot start making exceptions because that will escalate. The resident asked not to be publicly identified, so a formal vote was unable to be taken, but the consensus of the full Council was to agree with the recommendations of the Finance Committee and to not approve waiving the interest.

Councilman Norton: He also attended the opening ceremonies of the new County Road and echoes the Council President's congratulations.

Councilwoman Vasquez: She also attended the opening ceremonies of the new County Road and echoes the Council President's congratulations.

Councilman Yeager: He met with Chief Young about the sight issue with the new road and they also spoke with the County about it. They are working on addressing it.

Mayor Chegwidden's Report He thanks everyone for recommending naming the new road after him. It was a really emotional moment for him and he deeply appreciates that they would do that. The new building on Main Street is moving along. Wharton Woods will be appearing before the Planning Board at their next meeting with a revised plan.

Open to the Public

Mayor Chegwidden opened the meeting to the public.

Chief Young: He thanked everyone at the County and our DPW for their work in getting everything ready for the opening ceremonies for the new County road.

Everyone wholeheartedly agreed with these thanks, it was a very nice event.

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

Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilman Binkoski and was seconded by Councilman President Wickenheisser to close the meeting. This motion was approved by voice vote.

May 3, 2021

ATTEST:

Gabrielle Evangelista,
Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN,
MAYOR