

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**MAYOR AND COUNCIL**  
**AUGUST 14, 2023**

Mayor Chegwidden called the Meeting to Order

Mayor Chegwidden read the Open Public Meeting Statement

Mayor Chegwidden requested Roll Call:

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

Also in attendance were Attorney Roman Hirniak, and Deputy Borough Clerk Cheryl Muzzillo.

**Flag Salute**

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

**Open to the Public**

Mayor Chegwidden opened the meeting to the public.

**Joe Macasek & John Manna, Canal Society of New Jersey:** Mr. Macasek indicated he would be attending Canal Day. The Canal Society has a budget of \$10,000 they want to use in Wharton this year and will have another \$10,000 in the budget for next year. Project ideas for the funds were discussed.

**Ken Loury, 22 Wilcox Ave.:** Mr. Loury explained he has had problems with the sewer line backing up into his home causing extensive damage on three occasions. Mr. Loury asked the town to consider bringing a sewer line hook-up to his property to alleviate the problem when the road is opened. Mr. Quillinan will look into the cost and get back to Mr. Loury.

**Mike Bezney, 1 Bartek Ln.:** Mr. Bezney requested a curb stop to run a sewer line to his empty lot when the water main is being done for Wharton Woods and while the road is still open. Mr. Quillinan indicated the infrastructure is already there and connected and the water main is already in. Mr. Bezney was told the paving of the road would not be done until the Wharton Woods project is done.

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

**Ordinance**

Councilman Yeager introduced O-13-23, “An Ordinance Amending Chapter 315, Article II, Section 8 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Wharton, County of Morris, State of New Jersey on first reading, by title only.

A motion was made by Councilman Yeager and was seconded by Councilwoman Hayes to adopt O-13-23 on first reading.

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

Mayor Chegwidden set the date of September 11, 2023 for second and final reading.

**Consent Agenda**

The following items are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Mayor and Council and are approved by one motion. There is no separate discussion of these items unless a council member or citizen so requests, in which case, the item is removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in a normal sequence on the agenda.

|   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| <b>Approval of Bills: Approve all bills referred to the Finance Committee</b>   |  |  |  |
| <b>R-118-23: Appoint Utility Supervisor and Water/Sewer Operator</b>  |  |  |  |
| <b>R-119-23: 2024 Health Benefits Opt Out</b>   |  |  |  |
| <b>R-120-23: Civil Rights Policy</b>  |  |  |  |
| <b>R-121-23: Support Hopatcong LEAP Implementation Grant</b>  |  |  |  |
| <b>R-122-23: Confirm Endorsement of HOME Funded Project</b>   |  |  |  |
| <b>R-123-23: Apply Municipal Alliance Supplemental Funding</b>  |  |  |  |
| <br><b>A motion was made by Council President Binkoski which was seconded by Councilman Yeager to approve all of the items on the Consent Agenda.</b> |  |  |  |
| <br><b>ROLL CALL VOTE: YEA: 5      NAY: 0      ABSENT: 1      ABSTAIN: 0</b>  |  |  |  |
| <b>MOTION CARRIED</b>   |  |  |  |

**Correspondence**

- Morris County Planning Board Minutes
- Notice of Ordinance from Mine Hill

**Council Reports**

**Council President Binkoski:** He attended the Winslow concert, which was a great event.

**Councilwoman Hayes:** No report.

**Councilman Norton:** No report.

**Councilwoman Wickenheisser:** No report

**Councilman Yeager:** He reported the Fire Dept. had 18 calls in the month of July, which is a very busy month. He appreciates all of their work.

**Mayor Chegwidzen's Report:** He heard from Diamond Communication about whether or not we would be interested in putting cell on our water tower. They are talking with JCP&L as well. After discussion, it was agreed Wharton was not interested and it would be better if Diamond Communication worked with JCP&L. Woodbridge Mayor John McCormick is looking for people to come out to support the Senior Olympics on September 8, 9 & 10 if anyone is interested.

The Irondale at Wharton on project on Kossuth Street doesn't have enough water pressure going up to the 4<sup>th</sup> floor, which they need for fire suppression. The developer is willing to do the work if the hook-up fees are waived. In addition, they would do the re-hookups for the other residents in the area at no charge. Work would be done to Borough standards and supervised by a Borough professional assigned by our Engineering group. It was agreed that the developer could do the work quicker and cheaper than if we do it. The Mayor and Mr. Hirniak will discuss further with the developer.

He visited the Summer Rec camp to thank the Rec Director and staff from the program. He has heard great things about this year's program and they did an unbelievable job this year.

**Open to the Public**

Mayor Chegwidden opened the meeting to the public.

**Ken Loury, 22 Wilcox Ave.:** Mr. Loury asked that the Council send a letter to the Planning Board. He would like to discuss the Irondale at Wharton water pressure problem at that level. He stated the Planning Board would never have approved it if the water main wasn't large enough. He would like to put verbiage in their future Resolutions that if something like this happens, it will be a cost to the developer.

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

**Closed Session**

Council President Binkoski introduced R-124-23 to close the meeting to the public for discussion on Contracts.

A motion was made by Council President Binkoski and was seconded by Councilman Yeager to approve R-124-23.

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

A motion was made by Council President Binkoski and was seconded by Councilman Yeager to return to open session. This motion was approved via voice vote.

**Adjournment**

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

August 14, 2023

ATTEST:

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

\_\_\_\_\_  
WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN,  
MAYOR

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Cheryl Muzzillo,  
Deputy Borough Clerk