

REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
JANUARY 22, 2024

Mayor Chegwidden called the Meeting to Order.

Mayor Chegwidden read the Open Public Meeting Statement.

Roll Call

Mayor Chegwidden requested Roll Call:

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

Also in attendance were Administrator Joseph Kovalcik Jr., Attorney Roman Hirniak and Deputy Borough Clerk Cheryl Muzzillo.

Flag Salute

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

Open to the Public

Mayor Chegwidden opened the meeting to the public.

Gary Cole, 6 Robert St.: Mr. Cole stated his concern regarding speeding on Robert Street, especially during workday commuting hours. He requested a traffic study be done between 6-8am and 3-6pm. Chief Young indicated they could do a traffic survey and explained the survey will be conducted 24/7 for a minimum of 4 days. The Police Department will report back to the Council after the survey is finished.

Mr. Cole expressed his concern about people moving into neighboring homes in the middle of the night. He was advised to report any incidents to the Zoning Officer.

Alexander McCusker, 34 Ford Ave.: Alexander asked about the status of the water park the town was going to build at the park. Mayor Chegwidden advised improvements to Columbia Street Park are planned, however, there will not be a water feature due to liability concerns.

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

Ordinance

Councilman Binkoski introduced O-01-24, “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 Councilman Binkoski and seconded by Council President Yeager to adopt O-01-24 on first reading.

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

Mayor Chegwidden set the date of February 5, 2024 for second and final reading.

Ordinance

Councilman Norton introduced O-02-24, “An Ordinance to Provide for Sewer 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 Councilman Norton and seconded by Council President Yeager to adopt O-02-24 on first reading.

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

Mayor Chegwidden set the date of February 5, 2024 for second and final reading.

Ordinance

Councilman Norton introduced O-03-24, “An Ordinance to Provide for Water 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 Councilman Norton and seconded by Council President Yeager to adopt O-03-24 on first reading.

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

Mayor Chegwidden set the date of February 5, 2024 for second and final reading.

Ordinance

Councilman Norton introduced O-04-24, “An Ordinance Amending Chapter 330, Section 20, H1 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 Norton and seconded by Councilman Binkoski to adopt O-04-24 on first reading.

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

Mayor Chegwidden set the date of February 5, 2024 for second and final reading.

Ordinance

Councilman Norton introduced O-05-24, “An Ordinance Amending Chapter 247 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 Norton and seconded by Councilman Binkoski to adopt O-05-24 on first reading.

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

Mayor Chegwidden set the date of February 5, 2024 for second and final reading.

Ordinance

Councilman Binkoski introduced O-06-24, “An Ordinance Fixing the Salary of Certain Officers and Employees of the Borough of Wharton, County of Morris, State of New Jersey” on first reading, by title only.

A motion was made by Councilman Binkoski and seconded by Council President Yeager to adopt O-06-24 on first reading.

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

Mayor Chegwidden set the date of February 5, 2024 for second and final reading.

Ordinance

Council President Yeager introduced O-07-24, “An Ordinance an Ordinance Amending Chapter 315, Article II, Section 7A 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 Council President Yeager and seconded by Councilman Binkoski to adopt O-07-24 on first reading.

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

Mayor Chegwidden set the date of February 5, 2024 for second and final reading.

Ordinance

Council President Yeager introduced O-08-24, “An Ordinance Adding Chapter 315, Article IV, Section 31 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 Council President Yeager and seconded by Councilwoman Wickenheisser to adopt O-08-24 on first reading.

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

Mayor Chegwidden set the date of February 5, 2024 for second and final reading.

Ordinance

Council President Yeager to introduce O-09-24, “An Ordinance Adding Chapter 315, Article IV, Section 32 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 Council President Yeager and seconded by Councilwoman Wickenheisser to adopt O-09-24 on first reading.

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

Mayor Chegwidden set the date of February 5, 2024 for second and final reading.

Ordinance

Council President Yeager introduced O-10-24, “An Ordinance Adding Chapter 315, Article IV, Section 33 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 Council President and seconded by Councilwoman Wickenheisser to adopt O-10-24 on first reading.

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

Mayor Chegwidden set the date of February 5, 2024 for second and final reading.

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
R-038-24 Refund for Street Opening Escrow

R-039-24 Overpayments Applied
R-040-24 NJDOT Grant Acceptance Canal
R-041-24 RFQ
R-042-24 Issuance of Bids
R-043-24 Water Connection Rate
R-044-24 Sewer Connection Rate
R-045-24 Exempt Vet Cancellation of Taxes - Block 702 Lot 5.37 Qual C0002
R-046-24 Tax Sale Redemption TSC 2022-009 Pro Cap 8 FBO
R-047-24 Appointment of Police Officer
R-048-24 Amend R-163-23 Volunteer Appreciation
R-049-24 Anti-Harassment Policy

Police Chaplain – Primary - Father Lemmuel A. Camacho, one-year term to expire 12/31/24

Police Chaplain – Alternate – James Gottshall, one year term to expire 12/31/24

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

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

MOTION CARRIED

Correspondence

- Hearing on Amendment to the Master Plan – Township of Mine Hill
- Notice of Ordinance – Township of Mine Hill
- Adoption of Ordinance – Township of Jefferson
- Notice of Public Hearing – JCP&L

Council Reports

Council President Yeager: He attended the Borough Holiday Party. It was a very nice event for the employees and volunteers in town, despite the snowy weather.

Councilman Binkoski: No report

Councilwoman Jones: No report

Councilman Norton: He thanked the DPW for their efforts during the recent storms. They did a tremendous job keeping the roads safe.

Councilwoman Vasquez: She acknowledged the traffic situation on Robert Street. She has witnessed many people using Robert Street to get around school buses and garbage trucks on Main Street in the morning.

Councilwoman Wickenheisser: She also acknowledged the traffic on Robert Street, which she sees when she walks in the morning. She thanked the DPW for their hard work during the winter storms.

Mayor Chegwidden's Report: He thanked the DPW and Police Department for their work in keeping the roads safe during the recent storms.

Open to the Public

Mayor Chegwidden opened the meeting to the public.

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

Adjournment

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

January 22, 2024

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

ATTEST:

**_____
WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN,
MAYOR**

**_____
Cheryl Muzzillo,
Deputy Borough Clerk**