

REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
DECEMBER 30, 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., Borough Clerk Gabrielle Evangelista. Attorney Roman Hirniak attended via phone.

Flag Salute

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

Volunteer Appreciation

Council President Yeager presented Resolution R-191-24 “Honoring Qualified Members of the Wharton Fire Department.”

A motion was made by Council President Yeager and was seconded by Councilman Binkoski to adopt Resolution R-191-24.

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

Mayor Chegwidden presented the volunteer incentives to Chief O’Malley Dorr and Battalion Chief Michael Marks Jr.

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.

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-192-24: Budget Transfers			
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

- Notice of Ordinances Roxbury and Jefferson
- Morris County Planning Board Minutes

Council Reports

Council President Yeager: The Fire Department had 28 calls last month, including on Christmas Day. He appreciates all of their dedication. Happy New Year to everyone.

Councilman Binkoski: He attended a Finance/Personnel Committee Meeting with the Police Chief. Happy New Year to everyone.

Councilwoman Jones: No report. Happy New Year to everyone.

Councilman Norton: Happy New Year to everyone, he's looking forward to it.

Councilwoman Vasquez: She thanks the Mayor and Council for everything as well as Mr. Kovalcik, Council President Yeager and Councilman Binkoski for always working with her on the Finance Committee. It was a bit of a tough year and she thanks Mr. Hirniak for all of his guidance. Everyone here really makes a great team. Happy New Year to everyone.

Councilwoman Wickenheisser: Happy New Year to everyone. Thank you to all of town departments for all of their hard work this year, it has been a big one.

Mayor Chegwidden's Report: As he's sure everyone is aware, there was a sinkhole on the side of Rt. 80. He thanks the Governor and the DOT for their quick response to it. They really moved quickly and did a great job with the repair. He thanks the residents for putting up with the traffic from the detour during the repair. He thanks Senator Bucco's office, Assemblywoman Dunn's office and Assemblyman Barranco's office for reaching out and offering their assistance as well. The library repairs are moving along, there was some unexpected rotted wood that is making things take a little longer. He thanks all of the departments in town for all of their work all year long. They had to deal with a lot this year. Happy New Year to everyone.

He asked Chief Young if he'd like to say anything about the sinkhole- Chief Young advised that he echo's the Mayor's comments. The State Police has a Sergeant that responds to these situations and they were very helpful. They had good communication from them and the DOT did an excellent job. He also would like to thank the residents for putting up with the traffic.

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 to adjourn was made by Councilman Binkoski and was seconded by Councilwoman Wickenheisser.

December 30, 2024

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

ATTEST:

WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN,
MAYOR

Gabrielle Evangelista,
Borough Clerk