

BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON

The Regular Meeting of Council was held on Monday, March 10, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. in Council Chambers, 125 S. Walnut Street, Slatington, PA 18080.

Presiding: Daniel Stevens: President of Council

Recording Secretary: Gwyneth Neff, Council Vice-President

The meeting was called to order by President Stevens at 7:00 P.M. with the following in attendance:

ROLL CALL:

<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>	<u>OTHERS PRESENT</u>	<u>VISITORS</u>
Galen Freed	Jon Rinker	Mayor Niedermeyer	Robert Stettner Lori Sell
Bob Steets		Ed Healy	William Stein Ron Scheffler
Bryon Reed		Larry Turoscy	Kris Burek Carol Gildner
Daniel Stevens		Dave Rachman	Melvin Gildner George Moyer
David Schnaars			Ed Ziegler Jeff Singley
Gwyneth Neff			Bryan Fenstermacher Will Carreo
			Bill Carlton Nathan Stubbs
			Harry Ahner Robert Hertzog Jr.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – None at the present time

President Stevens noted that the Resolution pertaining to “Rules and Regulations of Good Conduct” are posted on the wall, to either turn off their cell phones or silence them, and he also reminded everyone about the procedure for signing in for attendance and for addressing the Council. He then clarified the following: when a motion and a second is on the floor and he asks for questions, this request pertains only to Council; there are no questions accepted when a motion is being considered. Any questions on the agenda items may be made during the Visitors Section. The only exception is when any items which are not on the agenda on which action is taken.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS –Councilor Freed made a motion seconded by Councilor Reed to approve the following sets of minutes as amended: Council Meeting February 10, 2014; Workshop Meetings, February 17 and February 24, 2014. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, 6 Ayes, No Nays

You will have five minutes to address Council from the podium. If you reach the five minute limit, you will be given thirty seconds to conclude your remarks. The five minutes applies to your time at the podium. If you exit the podium, you have yielded the floor, and any time you have remaining.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR (Agenda and Non-Agenda items)

Bill Carlton, Walnutport- noted that he was here in the past to get approval to move the Boy Scout Monument. He said that he was in contact with a concrete company and it will cost about \$500.00 in supplies for the footer to relocate the Monument. He said that he has also been in contact with John Bolton and he said that when we are ready to move it to contact him. Mr. Carlton asked in order for him to contact Mr. Bolton would he go through the Borough office; President Stevens said yes. Mr. Carlton said that he has also been in contact with Mr. Harding and he is going to remove the Monument, restore it and he is going to reset it when it’s finished.

George Moyer, 251 Main St – noted that at the last meeting he requested a copy of the Borough Manager Job description. He said he did receive a copy, he asked if the position was advertised yet; Councilor Schnaars said that it will start to run this weekend.

Ron Scheffler, 1335 Oakhurst Drive- asked Councilor Steets if he had a 5 year plan on the sewer plant; Councilor Steets said no. He suggested to Vice President Neff to implement a 3 year contract with the garbage hauler so that the Borough can save some money in the long run. Vice President Neff said we just updated our contract and they didn't raise the price. He informed Councilor Schnaars that in the news letter it stated that there is a snow removal ordinance to remove ice and snow from sidewalks within 10 hours after an event, he said he informed Linda Nails on February 17, 2014 of six properties has anything been done to these properties concerning penalties, he said as of Friday these properties still haven't been cleared. Mr. Scheffler asked President Stevens if you don't adopt an item that is listed on the agenda, do you address this in the next month's public comment, if not why? He also addressed Councilor Reed and asked him do you think we should adopt a Municipal vacant property registration. Vice President Neff asked Mr. Scheffler to elaborate on why we would need this form.

Carol Gildner, 528 Pine Street- asked Councilor Reed why the telephone bill for the water treatment plant is so high. Councilor Reed explained that we have communications between every reservoir to the filtration plant. They are called RTU units and it communicates how much water is in each reservoir to the filtration plant.

Ed Ziegler, 214 N. Walnut Street- noted that he received his utility bill and there isn't a date on when the meter was read. Vice President Neff said that is because the bills were estimated due to of all of the snow. Mr. Ziegler said that we really need to work on getting a recycling ordinance.

Melvin Gildner, 528 Pine Street- President Stevens noted that at the last meeting Mr. Gildner stated that he doesn't believe that Linda Nails is qualified for her position and that she doesn't tell the truth all the time on all matters; Mr. Gildner said yes I did state that. President Stevens asked Mr. Gildner what makes him an authority to judge whether she is qualified for her position and to publicly call her a liar. Mr. Gildner said that she has lied in his presence and he has witnesses. President Stevens said that Mr. Gildner is publicly trashing one of our employees and he would like to know why.

Mr. Gildner said that the notices that are being sent out by Linda Nails and Duane Dellecker are discriminating against tax payers in this town. Mr. Gildner said that the head of the Committees need to watch the employees more closely.

William Stein, 642 W. Franklin Street- asked Council if they received the letter from the Authority and if they had any questions.

Jeff Singley, 527 E. Church Street- said that he has been at the Borough twice about his sidewalks that he claimed were busted while doing a project. He said that the Borough did come down to verify that they were broken by the machinery that the company was using. He said that they were supposed to be fixed by September 30, 2013 and nothing has been done yet. He was wondering when it was going to be repaired. Councilor Reed stated that he believes the Borough has pictures from before the project was done.

Bryan Fenstermacher, 512 E. Church Street- noted that it took the Borough 3 days to clear the lot on E. Church Street. Vice President Neff said that our first priority is to clear the main streets.

Will Carrero, 522-524 E. Church Street- stated that the parking lot is a huge problem for him, he said that his house has been hit two times because his house is connected to the lot. He said that the Borough has already broken one of his windows by plowing the snow into his home. He noted that something needs to be done to protect his property.

Kris Burek, 1235 Fourth Street- said that in 2011 she worked with Attorney Healy on a recycling ordinance and it is about 70 percent completed. Ms. Burek said that she would be more than happy to share all of her notes to help get the ordinance completed.

REPORTS

The reports of various committees, officials and officers are on file in Borough Hall and are available for public inspection.

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE/TRANSFER

Councilor Freed made a motion seconded by Councilor Schnaars to approve payment of the Bills and transfers as presented by the Treasurer. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	
	Daniel Stevens	Gwyneth Neff	None
	Bryon Reed	Bob Steets	
	David Schnaars		
	Galen Freed		

MAYORS/POLICE CHIEF'S REMARKS

Mayor Niedermeyer noted that it was a slow month. He said that he met with Senator Pat Brown's people about possibly having an office in our Municipal Building. Mayor Niedermeyer said that he showed them the Authority's Office they were very interested in the space. Councilor Reed said that he was also there and they like this area of the County.

Chief Rachman said he would like President Stevens to take a look at the black top in the alley and under the carport. He said that he knows there was a lot of heaving and dropping. He said that it is a public entrance and there is a lot of people coming and going every day and we need to get it fixed. Chief Rachman stressed that he doesn't want to see anyone get hurt. President Stevens asked if the desks were put together; Mayor Niedermeyer said all but one.

STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Highway

1. Announcement: MS4 Permit "office" inspection- Councilor Reed noted that Alan Rinker, President Stevens and I went to Northampton Area Community College, for our in office inspection on storm sewers. He said it is a 5 year permit, we filled out the forms, and we already received notice that they have been approved.
2. 2013 CDBG- President Stevens noted that the bidding is going to the County tomorrow. Larry Turoscy informed Council that once it goes to the County they will review it, he said that the whole bid package plus plans need to be submitted by Friday, March 14, so we can begin the advertising process. President Stevens asked when the ad will be submitted; Mr. Turoscy said that it will be completed by Friday. A brief discussion took place on the 2013 CDBG.
3. 2014 CDBG-
 - a. R-06-14-President Stevens noted that the Resolution is the same as last year except we changed the dates. Councilor Freed made a motion second by Councilor Reed to adopt Resolution R-06-14, authorizing the submission of the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2014 Community Development Block Grant Sub-grant Application to the County of Lehigh. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	
	Daniel Stevens	Gwyneth Neff	None
	Bryon Reed	David Schnaars	
	Bob Steets		

Galen Freed

- b. 10 percent Liquid Fuels match for the 2014 CDBG- Councilor Freed made a motion second by Councilor Steets to commit Liquid Fuels for the proposed 2014 CDBG project application, for road related improvements at the funding level of 10 percent with the cost not to exceed \$15,000. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>
	Daniel Stevens	Gwyneth Neff
	Bryon Reed	David Schnaars
	Bob Steets	
	Galen Freed	None

B. Public Safety

- 1. Appointment of Timothy Wagner to Detective- Councilor Schnaars made a motion second by Councilor Freed to appoint Timothy Wagner to Detective. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>
	Daniel Stevens	Gwyneth Neff
	Bryon Reed	David Schnaars
	Bob Steets	
	Galen Freed	None

- 2. Fire Company’s Annual Carnival- Councilor Schnaars read the request from the Fire Department asking to hold their annual carnival, from May 6th to May 10th. Councilor Schnaars made a motion second by Councilor Steets to approve the request from the Fire Company with the same criteria as last year along with the addition that the Fire Company make sure that the trail is cleaned for 100 feet in each direction from the site. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, 6 Ayes, No Nays

C. Human/Community Services

- 1. DCNR Grant- Councilor Schnaars announced that the DCNR has approved our grant application in the amount of \$10,000, for the Peer to Peer Study. He said that he is in the process of filling out paperwork and scheduling the next meeting. He said we need one elected official and 2 residents from each community to volunteer their time; Councilor Schnaars noted that he has already volunteered as the elected official.
- 2. Slatington Public Library- Councilor Schnaars made a motion second by Councilor Freed to appoint Annabelle Fogal to the Library Board of Directors for a 3 year term. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, 6 Ayes, No Nays

D. Finance-

- 1. Resolution R-05-14- Vice President Neff made a motion second by Councilor Reed to accept Resolution R-05-14 authorizing interim billing. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>
	Daniel Stevens	Gwyneth Neff
	Bryon Reed	David Schnaars
	Bob Steets	
	Galen Freed	None

2. Payroll/Direct Deposit- Vice President Neff noted that we received quotes from 2 different payroll companies; ADP and Jet Pay. She noted the pricing ADP came in at \$71.25 per payroll and Jet Pay was \$196.96 per month. Vice President Neff noted that the W2's and the Quarterly's are included in this package from ADP. President Stevens asked if the W2's were an additional fee with ADP; Councilor Schnaars said not that he is aware of. President Stevens asked how much Direct Deposit is through the bank; Vice President Neff said that it is \$70.00 per month. A discussion took place. Vice President Neff made a motion second by Councilor Freed to accept the quote from ADP to process our bi-weekly payroll for 30 employees including quarterlies and W2's in the amount of \$71.25 per payroll with a \$25.00 set-up fee. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>
	Daniel Stevens	Gwyneth Neff
	Bryon Reed	David Schnaars
	Bob Steets	
	Galen Freed	

3. Approve 3 Tax Exemptions- Vice President Neff made a motion second by Councilor Schnaars to approve the Per Capita Tax Exoneration List as presented. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>
	Daniel Stevens	Gwyneth Neff
	Bryon Reed	David Schnaars
	Galen Freed	Bob Steets

E. Sewer/Solid Waste

1. Authority Bills- Councilor Steets made a motion seconded by Councilor Reed to authorize the affirmation of the Authority's Transfer request in the amount of \$5,604.94; request as listed: *Trickling Filter Media Project- Rettew and Associates (work through January 24, 2014)-\$2,054.08 and Steckel and Stopp (trickling filter)-\$333.20. Steckel & Stopp – (January) \$3,639.35, Rettew- \$1,640.59, Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Association (2014 Dues)-\$200.00 and Joan Cheesbrough- (January Minutes) \$125.00. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:*

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>
	Bryon Reed	Daniel Stevens
	Bob Steets	
	David Schnaars	
	Gwyneth Neff	

2. Digester and Cannon Mixer Update- Councilor Steets noted that the cannon mixer is hooked up and running in the right direction as of today it is working well. Councilor Steets noted that the digester has a concrete lid on it and there is proof that the lid did move. He said last year a contractor came in and suggested that we drill holes in the top and glue it however, if they glue it and it moves again all of that work will be ruined because once the lid moves it will crack the seal. Councilor Steets said that he met with Eastern Environmental and they suggested putting a rubber seal around it, which would prevent the gas from coming out. President Stevens said that we need to talk to the operators who wrote the report, because what you are

saying doesn't seem to agree with what they suggested. Councilor Steets said that he would obtain the paper work from the plant and bring it to the next Committee Meeting.

3. Helisieve Repair- Councilor Steets noted that the gear that runs around the shaft of the helisieve broke, and the casing cracked. Councilor Steets said he would like to get this repaired as soon as possible. Councilor Steets noted that he received a telephonic quote from Rapid Pump and Meter in the amount of \$11,000. We have also received a quote from Flow Data Industries in the amount of \$7,980.00. Councilor Steets made a motion second by Councilor Freed to accept the quote to repair the helisieve in the amount of \$7,980.00 as per estimate #146. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL

AYES

NAYS

Bryon Reed Daniel Stevens
Bob Steets Galen Freed
David Schnaars
Gwyneth Neff

F. Water/Special Sewer Committee

1. Water was tested and found safe for human consumption
2. Announcement: Estimated Bills- Councilor Reed noted that the utility bills were estimated this quarter because of the unsafe conditions outside along with it being hard to access the meters.
3. Street Lights- Councilor Reed said that the Borough spends about \$4,600.00 per month on street lighting, which is paid out of Liquid Fuels. Councilor Reed said we met with a light bulb sales man this week and we would like to change them out which would save us about 50% per month. Councilor Reed said that we would save a lot of money by purchasing the lights from PPL.

G. Slatington Sesquicentennial Committee

1. Update- Vice President Neff said that she knows they sent out the letters for the parade floats.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – President Stevens recessed the Regular Meeting at 9:03 and called for an Executive Session. At 10:19 P.M. he reconvened the Regular Meeting. In executive session matters of real estate, personnel and legal issues were discussed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS-

Councilor Schnaars made a motion second by Councilor Steets to adopt Resolution R-07-14 a Resolution of the Borough of Slatington concerning unwanted harassment and disrespect. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL

AYES

NAYS

Bryon Reed Daniel Stevens
Bob Steets Galen Freed
David Schnaars
Gwyneth Neff

Councilor Schnaars made a motion second by Councilor Reed to approve an agreement with SEIU Local 668 and the Slatington Police Association concerning reimbursement up to fifty percent (50%) of the health care deductible incurred between June 1-December 31, 2013 and that this offer will be extended to all Borough Employees covered by the health plan. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL

AYES

NAYS

Bryon Reed Daniel Stevens
Bob Steets Galen Freed
David Schnaars
Gwyneth Neff

Councilor Schnaars made a motion second by Councilor Reed to allow the amendment of the current 457 plan to allow employees to borrow against their respective contributions to the plan on such terms that may be designated by the plan administrator provided Mr. and Mrs. John Bolton agree to pay all legal and administrative fees associated with this plan change. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL

AYES

NAYS

Bryon Reed Daniel Stevens
Galen Freed
David Schnaars
Gwyneth Neff
Bob Steets

Councilor Reed explained that Councilor Steets received some quotes on repairing the trickling filter arm. He noted that the quotes were in the amount of approximately \$30,000.00. Councilor Reed said that it was suggested that the company who won the bid for the trickling filter should be able to submit a quote to repair this as well. He said there was a lot of discussion at the Authority Meeting they received a quote in the amount of \$33,000 which included the bypass pumping. Councilor Reed said that Stefan didn't believe that it was a priority at the plant, and this wouldn't be a part of the grant if would come directly from the General Fund. He said the permit isn't renewed yet and he knows that there is some concern on the ammonia levels, and if we can't get it down we will have to add another 15 feet to the media. Councilor Reed said that he doesn't think it is a wise decision to spend the \$30,000 now to repair the arm. A discussion took place on the project.

At 10:37 Councilor Schnaars made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Karen Gill
Assistant Borough Secretary