

BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON

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

Presiding: Gwyneth Neff: Vice President of Council

Recording Secretary: Bryon Reed, President Pro Tem

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Neff 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>	
Jon Rinker		Mayor Niedermeyer	Robert Stettner	Sharon Stanley
Bob Steets		Ed Healy	Nathan Stubbs	Ed Ziegler
Bryon Reed		Larry Turoscy	Kris Burek	Carol Gildner
Gwyneth Neff		Dave Rachman	Melvin Gildner	George Moyer
David Schnaars				
Galen Freed-7:09pm				
Joseph Wechsler				

EXECUTIVE SESSION – None at the present time

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS –Councilor Schnaars made a motion seconded by Councilor Reed to approve the following sets of minutes: Council Meeting October 13, 2014, Workshop Meetings, October 20, 2014, October 27, 2014, June 16 and June 23, 2014. Vice President Neff 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)

George Moyer, 231 Main Street- asked who determines what goes into the minutes once they are adopted. Vice President Neff stated what ever is transcribed from the recorder. Mr. Moyer stated that at the September 29, 2014 Special Meeting he had spoken about the grant for 10-15 minutes and he asked why his comments were not reflected in the minutes. Vice President Neff stated that if you do not address yourself, and speak at the podium your comments will not show up in the minutes.

Robert Stettner, 44 S. Walnut Street- noted that he was attending the meeting on behalf of the Vigilant Fire Company. He stated that during the 150th Celebration and Bike Night we had fundraisers, and we would like to present a check to the Borough in the amount of \$250.00 to purchase American Flags for Main Street. Council thanked Mr. Stettner.

Ed Zeigler, 214 N. Walnut Street- noted that he made sure the lights back on for the Halloween Parade on the Walnutport/Slatington Bridge. He also added that a resident hooked up to gas at 257 Main Street, and they didn't fill in the hole properly and now there is an indentation in the street. He asked what the status of the garbage contract is; Vice President Neff stated that we renewed it for another year at no increase.

Melvin Gildner, 528 Pine Street- asked about the customer detail report by number, that is generated in the Borough Office for all utility customers in the Borough. He stated that he and his wife tried to figure out how much revenue the Borough is losing by not billing individual apartments. Vice President Neff asked where Mr. Gildner got the customer detail report; Kris Burek stated that she gave it to him.

Kris Burek, 1235 Fourth Street- spoke about the utility billing to individual apartment units. A discussion took place between Councilor Rinker and Ms. Burek.

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. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>
	Gwyneth Neff Galen Freed	None
	Bryon Reed Bob Steets	
	David Schnaars Joseph Wechsler	
	Jon Rinker	

MAYORS/POLICE CHIEF’S REMARKS

Mayor Niedermeyer noted he attended the Halloween Parade. He also attended the 13.5K D&L Marathon. Chief Rachman stated that he and Councilor Reed worked on the budget for the police department. He also added that he received the new handguns and sent the trade-ins back. He added that they trained and qualified with new ones, he said that everyone shot better with the new guns. Chief Rachman commented that a municipality isn’t run by public opinion, if you don’t like the way that things are run then, vote in new candidates. He added that the business of the Borough is handled by Council. He stated that he understands the frustration, but what he doesn’t understand is why we have bickering back and fourth. He stated that it is an embarrassment to not only himself but to the Borough and to everyone in this room. Attorney Healy noted that this is a business meeting of the Borough Council, we are not here to vote according to the wishes of the majority of the public that are present. We are here to take comment from the members of the public that are present. He added that Council will use their judgment they wish, what ever standard it wishes, is free then to take any public action the majority of the board; of those present. Attorney Healy continued in a lengthy explanation.

STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Highway

1. Snow Blower- Councilor Rinker stated that he was told that the snow blower has been ordered. It’s an Aarons 32 inch, with a 16 horsepower.
2. Zero Turn Lawn Mower- Councilor Rinker stated that is was repaired and is back at the Borough garage.
3. 2013 CDBG Closeout- Larry Turoscy stated that the project is finished, and we have held 10 percent, until we get final word from the County that they are satisfied. He stated that they completed the ADA ramps. Larry Turoscy stated that unfortunately there is a minor sidewalk issue at the corner of First and Washington. The contractor can’t repair it because it’s beyond the limit of work, and by the county requirements they can’t make the repairs. Councilor Reed stated that we should repair it at the Borough’s expense. Councilor Reed explained that when the contractor sloped the sidewalks for the handicapped ramp it doesn’t meet up even with the existing sidewalk. Larry Turoscy stated that we will contact a local contractor to find out what needs to be done to repair it and how much it will cost. He stated that he will have some quotes at the Water, Sewer and Highway Committee Meeting. Councilor Schnaars made a motion seconded by Councilor Reed to authorize the highway committee to make all necessary repairs and decisions that need to be made to rectify the problem at First and Washington Street. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, Voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>
	Galen Freed	Gwyneth Neff
	Bryon Reed	David Schnaars
	Bob Steets	Joseph Wechsler
	Jon Rinker	None

Larry Turoscy stated that in the next two years there is a lot of grant money going out to local municipalities. He stated that we have been fortunate enough to receive a grant for \$60,000 for the sidewalks by Victory Park and \$160,000 for the intersection at Main and Church Street. He added that this will include the ADA ramps. Mr. Turoscy stated that we are going to try and get more funds so you can install a button in the police cars which will have the capabilities of changing the light. Attorney Healy asked if there was a match, Larry Turoscy stated that there was because the legal fees, engineering fees and inspection fees aren’t covered by the grant.

Larry Turoscy explained the Green Light Go Program. Which replaces all the traffic signals with LED lights, which could save the Borough approximately \$4.60 per day and are guaranteed for 5-8 years? Councilor Freed made a motion seconded by Councilor Schnaars to authorize the engineer to prepare the grant application for the Green Light Go Program. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>
	Galen Freed	Gwyneth Neff
	Bryon Reed	David Schnaars
	Bob Steets	Joseph Wechsler
	Jon Rinker	None

Councilor Freed stated that we are in good shape with salt for the upcoming winter season.

B. Public Safety

1. Child Abuse Investigator – Councilor Rinker made a motion seconded by Councilor Freed to give the annual donation in the amount of \$1,500 for the child abuse investigator for 2014. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>
	Galen Freed	Gwyneth Neff
	Bryon Reed	David Schnaars
	Bob Steets	Joseph Wechsler
	Jon Rinker	None

C. Human/Community Services

1. Peer to Peer Study Update – Councilor Schnaars stated that the ads went out to advertise the Ordinance. Councilor Schnaars asked Attorney Healy if we have up to date articles of incorporation; Attorney Healy said yes. Councilor Schnaars noted that there will be a public hearing on December 8 at 6:45 p.m. He added that at that time he will have a resolution with our financial commitment. Councilor Rinker asked what if Walnutport or Washington Township does not agree to the terms. Attorney Healy said if all three Municipalities do not agree then it will not be an approved organization.
2. Letter from Earl Snyder – Councilor Schnaars read the request from the family of Clayton Snyder. They are asking for the pavilion at Victory Park to be named the Clayton E. Snyder Pavilion. He said that there was a discussion at the Committee Meeting, and the committee didn't come up with a recommendation one way or the other. Councilor Schnaars stated that it was discussed and it may become a problem because; no building or pavilion should be named after a person. Councilor Rinker suggested that the family purchase a slate bench and place it on the trail in memory of Clayton. Councilor Schnaars tabled the letter.

D. Finance

1. Purchase & Installation of QuickBooks – Councilor Schnaars asked if we have a cost associated with the installation, Councilor Wechsler stated that we are meeting with Andy next week to go over the fees. Councilor Wechsler tabled this until the finance meeting.
2. Approve 1 Tax Exemption – Councilor Wechsler made a motion seconded by Councilor Reed to approve the Per Capita Tax Exoneration List as presented. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>
	Galen Freed	Gwyneth Neff
	Bryon Reed	David Schnaars
	Bob Steets	Joseph Wechsler
	Jon Rinker	None

3. Wireless for Borough Office – Councilor Wechsler tabled this until we receive an update from Andy.
4. Additional \$800 for custom letters for VUB – Councilor Wechsler made a motion seconded by Councilor Schnaars to approve the \$800 for custom letters for VUB. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>
	Galen Freed	Gwyneth Neff
	Bryon Reed	David Schnaars
	Bob Steets	Joseph Wechsler
	Jon Rinker	None

5. Tax Collector Alternate – Councilor Wechsler made a motion seconded by Councilor Schnaars to accept Tax Collector Reta Stein's appointment of Stephanie A. Druckenmiller as the alternate tax collector. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>
	Galen Freed	Gwyneth Neff
	Bryon Reed	David Schnaars
	Bob Steets	Joseph Wechsler
	Jon Rinker	None

E. Sewer/Solid Waste

1. Authority Bills – Councilor Steets made a motion seconded by Councilor Freed to authorize the affirmation of the Authority's Transfer request in the amount of \$702.50; request as listed: Rettew - \$577.50 and Joan Cheesbrough – (September Minutes) \$125.00. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>
	Galen Freed	Jon Rinker
	Bob Steets	Bryon Reed
	David Schnaars	Joseph Wechsler
	Gwyneth Neff	None

2. Waste Water Engineer - A discussion on both firms that were interviewed. Councilor Schnaars made a motion seconded by Councilor Freed to appoint Karl E. Schreiter as engineer for the Sewer Plant. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>
	Galen Freed Jon Rinker	None
	Bob Steets Bryon Reed	
	David Schnaars Joseph Wechsler	
	Gwyneth Neff	

3. Approval of combined NPDES Permit & Water Quality Management Permit transfer Application – Attorney Healy explained the process of the permit transfer. Councilor Steets made a motion seconded by Councilor Freed to accept the NEPDES permit and water quality management permit transfer application. Councilor Schnaars asked if this was pretty cut and dry, either we do it or we don't; Attorney Healy said yes. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>
	Galen Freed Jon Rinker	None
	Bob Steets Bryon Reed	
	David Schnaars Joseph Wechsler	
	Gwyneth Neff	

4. Approve Docket Transfer Application and Assumption Agreement – Councilor Steets made a motion seconded by Councilor Freed to approve the Docket transfer Application and Assumption Agreement. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>
	Galen Freed Jon Rinker	None
	Bob Steets Bryon Reed	
	David Schnaars Joseph Wechsler	
	Gwyneth Neff	

Larry Turoscy suggested that someone from Council along with Karl Schreiter should meet with DEP, as soon as possible and find out what repairs they want done because now Council has assumed all responsibility of the plant. Councilor Schnaars stated that we should have the Committee handle all of the necessary times. Vice President Neff added that everyone from Council should meet with Mr. Schreiter.

5. 2014 Manhole Rehabilitation Project – Larry Turoscy noted that we did receive the extension on the EPA Grant, so now we can move forward with the project. The grant will cover all but 7 of the 24 manholes which will cost an additional \$11,000. He asked if Council wanted to move forward and repair all of them. Mr. Turoscy explained the list of all the manholes that need to be repaired. Councilor Reed recommended that we do the remainder since the bidding process has been completed. He also added that the funds would come from the 2015 budget. Larry Turoscy recommended that Karl Schreiter inspect all of the manholes once the project has been completed. Councilor Steets made a motion seconded by Councilor Schnaars to add \$16,470.00 to the manhole rehabilitation project, so all 24 manholes can be repaired. The funds will come from the 2015 budget. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>
	Galen Freed Jon Rinker	None
	Bob Steets Bryon Reed	
	David Schnaars Joseph Wechsler	
	Gwyneth Neff	

Councilor Schnaars made a motion seconded by Councilor Reed to award the bid to SWERP, to repair all 24 manholes in the Borough, and to also authorize Lehigh Engineering Associates to award the contract and give the contractor notice to proceed. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>
	Galen Freed Jon Rinker	None
	Bob Steets Bryon Reed	
	David Schnaars Joseph Wechsler	
	Gwyneth Neff	

F. Water/Special Sewer Committee

1. Water was tested and found safe for human consumption.
2. Roof at the reservoir – Councilor Reed explained that the cheapest quote received was from Mint Construction to replace the roof at the reservoir. Councilor Reed made a motion seconded by Councilor Freed to proceed with the replacement of the reservoir roof as stated in the quote presented by Mint Construction with the amount not to exceed \$16,000, provided they submit a certificate of insurance. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>
	Galen Freed Jon Rinker	None
	Bob Steets Bryon Reed	
	David Schnaars Joseph Wechsler	
	Gwyneth Neff	

G. Slatington Sesquicentennial Committee

1. Springside – Councilor Schnaars stated that the 150th committee would like to open a museum and they asked the Borough if they could use the Springside building. Councilor Rinker stated it would be open on the weekends to the public. He added that they still have historical newspapers left, and they were wondering if they could store them there as well. Councilor Freed asked if they would be ok there, because its not climate controlled. Councilor Reed suggested that if they are stored on the second floor they should be fine. Attorney Healy suggested to Council not to let them take possession until they have a lease agreement, Council agreed. Councilor Rinker stated that he is just looking for a verbal ok at this point, so that they can see if the building will even work for us. A discussion took place on where to store the medical van. Councilor Rinker stated that it would be a perfect location, it’s a Borough building and it has historical significance. Council agreed that the Committee can begin looking into using Springside as a historical museum.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Vice President Neff recessed the Regular Meeting at 8:48 and called for an Executive Session. At 9:46 P.M. she reconvened the Regular Meeting. In executive session matters of personnel and legal issues were discussed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS-

Councilor Schnaars made a motion seconded by Councilor Reed to advertize for a part-time secretary for the office. Vice President Neff declared the motin passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>
Jon Rinker	Bryon Reed	None
Bob Steets	Joseph Wechsler	
David Schnaars	Galen Freed	
Gwyneth Neff		

At 9:48 p.m. Councilor Schnaars made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Karen Gill
Assistant Borough Secretary