

BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON

The Regular Meeting of Council was held on Monday, May 12, 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:

PRESENT

ABSENT

OTHERS PRESENT

VISITORS

Galen Freed

Bob Steets

Bryon Reed

Daniel Stevens

David Schnaars

Gwyneth Neff

Jon Rinker

Mayor Niedermeyer

Ed Healy

Alan Ringer

Dave Rachman

Nathan Stubbs

Sharon Stanley

Carol Gildner

Laurie Schnauffer

Scott Schuckert

Jay Poplawski

Kris Burek

Tony Gnas

Ed Ziegler

Nancy Treskot

Robert G Herzog Jr.

EXECUTIVE SESSION –President Stevens recessed the Regular Meeting at 7:04 P.M. and called for an Executive Session. At 7:18 P.M. he reconvened the Regular Meeting. In executive session matters of personnel were discussed.

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 Schnaars made a motion second by Councilor Steets to approve the following sets of minutes: Council Meeting April 14, 2014; Workshop Meetings, April 21, 2014 and April 28, 2014. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, 7 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)

Ed Ziegler, 214 N. Walnut Street- Mr. Ziegler is asking what have we done in Slatington about getting a recycling program started.

Laurie Schnauffer, 114 E Washington Street- attended meeting representing Slatington Authority. She received a letter from PA Department of Environmental Protection and would like to share a copy with each of you and read to you. They are requesting the NPDES permittee without financial control over the operation of the facility to submit a transfer to the operator with control Slatington Borough Council and to contact the department of Monitoring and Compliance of such. Slatington Authority members authorized that the chair present the letter from DEP to the

borough council along with an unanimous recommendation of the borough authority that the NPDE permit, DRPC discharge authorization and all other regulatory obligations be transferred to Slatington Borough Council, as required per the DEP May 2, 2014 letter and commence the dissolution of the authority pending as the obligation allows. Rettew Engineering has renewed their remaining items 2 through 5 and will provide a response within a week. She spoke to James D Berger the engineer with Pennsylvania DEP and he agreed to June 10, 2014 to complete the application for the permit transfers along with the fee must be completed mailed and received by June 10, 2014. Authority members will continue to handle H2O grant and grant work which should be done by June.

Kris Burek, 1235 Fourth Street- following up to see if there have been any updates to questions she had from the past few months.

Nancy Treskot, 856 South Lincoln Avenue Walnutport and Jason Breidenger, New Tripoli, - both Nancy and Jason attended meeting to represent the Venture Group in particular the Trail Head located on Main St in Slatington. Ms. Treskot is now the acting chair of the Venture Group. The Chamber is offering a grant program for the Main St improvements, they allow up to \$2,000. They suggested maybe use the money for parking at trail, possibly angle parking spaces at Railroad St. Application is due by the end of month and work needs to be completed by end of year 2014 in order to get the money.

President Stevens gave Mr. Ziegler a verbal warning.

## **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:

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

## **MAYORS/POLICE CHIEF'S REMARKS**

Mayor Niedermeyer stated that the Venture Group is taking over the Gathering. He also stated he received a letter from Penn Dot regarding pot holes and that they have a maintenance force perform temporary patches on pot holes and also scheduled permanent repairs during the summer. Also, meeting is being scheduled with Penn Dot to go over work on the Morgan Stanley Bridge. There are 40 sand barriers that are destroyed.

Chief Rachman noted that the new 606 cruiser will be ready by end of week.

## **STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **A. Highway**

1. 2013 CDBG- Councilor Freed accepted the award on bids. The bids came in all but one did not comply with the bid packet. Councilor Freed made a motion seconded by Councilor Reed to accept the bid from Glenn G Hale Inc and reject all others. 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	Jon Rinker
	Galen Freed	

a. Councilor Freed made a motion second by Councilor Reed to award the bid to Glenn G Hale Incorporated in the amount of \$77,010.00. 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	Jon Rinker
	Galen Freed	

2. 2014 CDBG Update- President Stevens spoke to Paulette and Laurie and they recommended us for the grant for one our projects. Alan stated that this year they will do from 2<sup>nd</sup> to Park. He spoke to Rubin and will extend it all the way next year. Alan stated they also need to speak with Dwayne Dellecker regarding restoration.

3. Center Avenue Repair- Councilor Freed noted that he has no update at this time, because he is waiting on more quotes. Alan Ringer stated he will contact Glen G. Hale Inc. and ask them if they would like to look at the repair needed and provide a quote.

4. Part-Time Helper- Councilor Freed noted that we would like to hire part-time help to primarily mow grass and weed whack at Victory Park, West End, Main Street Park, sewer plant and filter plant. Councilor Schnaars moves that he authorizes additional seasonal person. President Stevens noted that we will work out details on pay rate and will then make a motion.

5. Venture Group Parking- Councilor Reed made a motion seconded by Councilor Schnaars that the Highway Committee has the authority to put together the details necessary to allow the Venture Group to submit their application to the Chamber Foundation for angle parking at the Trail Head. 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	Jon Rinker
	Galen Freed	

B. Public Safety

1. Knox-Box at Borough Hall- Councilor Rinker made a motion seconded by Councilor Freed to put in a Knox-Box in Borough Hall for a cost of \$150.00. 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	Jon Rinker
	Galen Freed	

2. Civil Service- Councilor Rinker stated that the individuals that applied for the full time police officer position did not meet the full qualifications and our standards. Councilor Rinker made a motion seconded by Councilor Schnaars to re-advertise for a full time police officer. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, 7 Ayes, No Nays

C. Human/Community Services

1. Replacement of swings at Victory Park- Councilor Schnaars received letter from Parks and Recreation Commission - Robert Stettner to replace swings at Victory Park. Total cost \$364.15 and may need some minor hardware. Councilor Schnaars made a motion seconded by Councilor Rinker authorizing replacement of swings with the price not to exceed \$400.00. 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	Bob Steets
	David Schnaars	Galen Freed
	Jon Rinker	

2. D & L Half Marathon- D & L is requesting the use of the Trail Head and the approval to cross Main St for their half marathon walk on Sunday November 2, 2014. Also asking for police, fire police assistance, and emergency medical services and permission to place temporary restrooms at the Trail head site. President Stevens noted that the Police will not be available for the event. Councilor Schnaars made a motion second by Councilor Rinker approving the use of the Trail Head and facilities as requested with the exception that it will be the fire police rather than police. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, 7 Ayes, No Nays
3. Peer Study Update- Councilor Schnaars noted that the grant has been sent to us and the next thing they need is the fully executed agreement between us and the peer. The contract describes the scope of work that we will be doing over the next year in terms of finding out whether or not this Regional Recreational Group is fees able and if so, exactly what will it do for each of the 3 communities. Councilor Schnaars made a motion second by Councilor Reed that we approve this contract between ourselves and Susan E Landis who is the peer consultant with funds that will be paid through the grant and through the resolutions that each of the 3 committees have already submitted and agreed to pay. Need 3 copies of this executed. 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	Bob Steets
	David Schnaars	Galen Freed
	Jon Rinker	

D. Finance-

1. Roof Quote Update- Vice President Neff noted that she is waiting on the roofers to give her quotes, which should be sometime this week.
2. Office Software- Councilor Schnaars briefly updated Council on the current software situation. Councilor Schnaars recommended that we update 3 of the computers in the Borough office to the most current Office Software which is 2011. Councilor Schnaars asked to table this until he is able to get more information from Andy.

Vice President Neff noted that from the beginning of the year to May 14, 2014 we paid out \$3,524.46 in Right to Know requests in the time it's been utilized on it.

E. Sewer/Solid Waste

1. Authority Bills- Councilor Steets made a motion seconded by Councilor Reed to pay the Slatington Borough Authority \$3519.60 or Steckel & Stopp for \$1,951.60, Rettew Associates for \$1,318.00 and Joan Cheesbrough for \$250.00. 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	Galen Freed
	David Schnaars	Jon Rinker
	Gwyneth Neff	

2. Councilor Steets made a motion second by Councilor Freed to pay the sewer plant discharge monitoring reports that show us being over. Each violation carries \$500.00 in a civil fine for a grand total of 3,500.00

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

3. Digester Update- Councilor Reed briefly updated Councilor on the digester.

F. Water/Special Sewer Committee

1. Water was tested and found safe for human consumption
2. TAP Grant – Councilor Reed spoke about the Transportation Alternate program. A representative from Lehigh Engineering is going to attend the Lehigh County planning commission meeting for us in regards to the grant for the sidewalks leading up to Victory Park and for the 100 step project.
3. PPL Lighting Rebate Update- Councilor Reed announced that the rebate for PPL has been complete. Rich DeFrain is sending applications for the rebate. Roughly \$26,000.00 worth of work has been completed, 18,700.00 will come back to us in a form of rebate from PPL. The total cost us is \$7,900.00 plus an extra \$500.00 charge because a light was missed on the back of the maintenance building. Rebate covered \$445.00, therefore we paid \$69.00. In addition, there were also small fixtures that were needed and the cost was \$285.00. He added that in total 58 lights were replaced and the cost for each came to \$91.00 after the rebate.

Grant thru DCED- Councilor Reed noted that is for water and sewer. Grant is between \$50,000 to \$150,000.00. Councilor Reed felt that we should apply for the grant for Shadow Oaks water line. Councilor Reed noted that we will take action on this after executive session.

G. Slatington Sesquicentennial Committee

1. Councilor Rinker made a motion second by Councilor Schnaars to close 2<sup>nd</sup> Street from Church to Main on August 10, 2014 for Art Festival. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, 7 Ayes, No Nays.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – President Stevens recessed the Regular Meeting at 8:29 and called for an Executive Session. At 10:03 P.M. he reconvened the Regular Meeting. In executive session matters of personnel were discussed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS-

Councilor Reed made a motion second by Councilor Schnaars to accept Resolution R-11-14 be at resolved the Borough of Slatinton, County of Lehigh, hereby request, a Pennsylvania small water and sewer program grant. 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 Galen Freed	
	David Schnaars	
	Gwyneth Neff	
	Jon Rinker	

Councilor Freed made a motion second by Councilor Schnaars to hire a part time employee for the summer months, which will be decided by himself and John Bolton for an hourly pay rate between \$10.00 - \$12.00 with no benefits. 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
	Jon Rinker	
	David Schnaars	
	Gwyneth Neff	

Councilor Schnaars made a motion second by Councilor Steets to authorize President Stevens, Councilman Freed and Councilor Schnaars to review applications, interview and hire a part time secretary to cover Amber's maternity leave at a pay rate of \$10.00 to \$15.00 per hour without benefits. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

President Stevens read the following letter to Council, Slatinton Borough Council has recently advertised for the position of Borough Manager. I have expressed an interest in the position, and have submitted my resume for your consideration. The Pa. Ethics Commission has advised me that I may remain a member of Borough Council while you are considering applicants. However, I personally do not believe it is appropriate for me to remain as a seated member of council while you are making this decision. Therefore, I will be resigning my position on Slatinton Borough Council effective at midnight on June 1, 2014. It has been an honor serving as President of Council, and I wish the Borough success in the future. Councilor Schnaars made a motion second by Councilor Freed that they accept President Stevens resignation in regret. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, 6 Ayes, No Nays, 1 abstain.

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

Karen Gill  
Assistant Borough Secretary