

BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON

The Regular Meeting of Council was held on Monday, April 14, 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		Mayor Niedermeyer	Robert Stettner     George Moyer
Bob Steets		Ed Healy	Nathan Stubbs     Ron Scheffler
Bryon Reed		Larry Turoscy	Carol Gildner     Richard Defrain
Daniel Stevens		Dave Rachman	Melvin Gildner     Ed Ziegler
David Schnaars			Robert Herzog Jr.
Gwyneth Neff			
Jon Rinker			

Councilor Schnaars asked for a moment of silence for William Stein and also for the families of the hate shooting in the Midwest.

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 March 10, 2014; Workshop Meetings, March 17 and March 24, 2014 and Special Meeting March 26, 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)

George Moyer, 251 Main Street- asked about 667 Main Street, he noted that some of the porch was falling down and asked if this has been addressed. Councilor Rinker said that there was a registered letter sent to the homeowner and they are aware of the problem. He also added that they have 30 days to respond to the letter.

Mr. Moyer suggested that at the last Committee Meeting there were some youngsters looking for a place to skateboard, he suggested that they use the piece of property that the Borough obtained from PPL.

Mr. Moyer asked who was appointed as the new Tax Collector; Councilor Schnaars said that the Borough appointed Reta Stein.

Ed Ziegler, 214 N. Walnut Street- said that he has mentioned several times about a recycle ordinance. He handed out some information to Council on what Walnutport collects for recycling.

Ron Scheffler, 1335 Oakhurst Drive- asked Councilor Schnaars what is the status of the properties he questioned at the March meeting. He said that he knows that Linda Nails only went to 2 of the 7 properties because he reviewed her report.

He also stated that at the last meeting he inquired about a vacant property registration, he said he has some good reasons why it would be beneficial to the Borough. He said a yearly registration fee would be collected, for the condition of the property which is vacant longer than 90 days. he added that if you write an ordinance you can track vacant properties, and also bring in revenue at the same time.

Mr. Scheffler asked Councilor Reed if there has been any headway on taping the sewer laterals; Councilor Reed said not at this time. Mr. Scheffler said he knows we had a bad winter. Councilor Reed said we also need a lot of rain, and now we are short handed on the crew. A brief discussion took place on Mr. Scheffler's personal sewer lateral.

Melvin Gildner, 528 Pine Street- asked Councilor Steets asked if the Authority budgeted for the 3 violations per month from November-May. He asked if the violation already occurred, and if it could have been prevented, and how does the Borough plan on paying for these fines. Mr. Gildner asked where we are at on purchasing the generator for Borough Hall and the Police Department. Councilor Steets said the 3 violations are being paid by the Authority. President Stevens pointed out that the other questions should be directed toward the Authority, because that conversation took place at their meeting.

**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	Jon Rinker	
	Galen Freed		

**MAYORS/POLICE CHIEF'S REMARKS**

Mayor Niedermeyer stated that he gave a tour of the building to Senator Pat Brown's office; he noted that it would be nice if we could rent the Authority room to them, and the Authority can meet in the executive room. He said it would be good for the Borough to bring in the extra revenue. He said on March 31, 2014 he delivered meals on wheels. On March 27<sup>th</sup> he swore in Reta Stein as Slatington's Tax Collector. Mayor Niedermeyer also pointed out that Detective Wagner apprehended the gentleman who has been robbing homes in town.

Chief Rachman noted that the new cruiser has been marked by Scribbles and Drips, and it is down in Allentown having all of the new equipment installed. He said we had a warrant for the man who has linked to 4 robberies in town. Chief Rachman stated that he admitted to everything and is now locked up in the Lehigh County Prison.

**STANDING COMMITTEES**

President Stevens noted that we are going to move to Water/Special Sewer for item #5 because the gentlemen who are here to speak have another meeting to attend.

F. Water/Special Sewer Committee

5. PPL Lighting Rebate- Councilor Reed said that he has been meeting with Richard Defrain about a lighting rebate that he got wind of, which can greatly help the Borough. He said that Mr. Defrain has put a lot of time into this already, and this rebate would be available to the Municipal Building and would apply to outside lighting along with the maintenance building, water plant, sewer plant and the Vigilant. He noted that now that we have a lower rate locked in for 4 years this will really help lower our usage. He said unfortunately we only have until May 9, 2014 to have the project completed. Mike Louety from PPL explained the rebate in depth, and answered all questions and concerns from council.

A. Highway

1. Agreement on Sagastume Property- Councilor Schnaars noted that he has a question on one of the paragraphs in the agreement; he asked if this can be tabled until after executive session.
2. Memorial Day Parade- Councilor Freed made a motion second by Councilor Schnaars to approve the Allen O. Delke Post #16 request for their annual Memorial Day Parade which will be held on Monday, May 26, 2013. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All Ayes Nays None

3. 2013 CDBG-

- a. Councilor Freed noted that both of the bids we received for the project weren't in compliance. Alan Ringer explained that both bids came in higher than expected and what Council had budgeted for, and that neither bidder complied with form STD 168. He said by County rules and regulations both bids must be rejected. Councilor Freed made a motion second by Councilor Steets to reject the 2013 CDBG bids. 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	Jon Rinker	
	Galen Freed		

- b. Councilor Freed made a motion second by Councilor Reed to re-bid the 2013 CDBG project, with minor revisions. 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	Jon Rinker	
	Galen Freed		

4. 2014 CDBG Update- President Stevens updated Council on the progress of the project and noted that he met with Tom Palmer and signed the rest of the paperwork. He added that Mr. Palmer was hand delivering the documents today. He added that Tom did change some of the amounts because of the bids that we received for the 2013 project.
5. Center Avenue Repair- A discussion took place on repairing the street outside of the Police Department. President Stevens asked if we are going to move forward with repairing the road where is the money going to come from. Councilor Freed recommended that we use Liquid Fuels.

President Stevens noted that we will not be able to use Liquid Fuels for under the canopy. He also added that there has been discussion on purchasing a new small dump truck. He noted that he did speak to Liquid Fuels and we can finance it through them over a period of years. However there aren't enough funds available to cover both of these projects, this year. Council agreed to table this discussion until the committee meeting.

B. Public Safety

1. Ratify the Hiring of a new part-time police officer- Councilor Rinker made a motion seconded by Councilor Schnaars to approve the affirmation of the hiring of Dominic Romagnoli as part-time police officer. 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	
	Jon Rinker		

2. Slatington Bike Night- Councilor Rinker made a motion second by Councilor Steets to grant permission to the Fire Company to hold Slatington Bike night on September 6, 2014 with the same criteria as last year. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, 6 Ayes, No Nays

3. Replace MDT's in 3 of the 4 police cars- Councilor Rinker noted that we have to replace the computers so that we can be compliant. Chief Rachman briefly explained why the computers need to be replaced. Councilor Rinker made a motion to replace the MDT's in three of the four police cars with the price not to exceed \$9,000.00. 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	None
	Bryon Reed	Bob Steets	
	David Schnaars	Galen Freed	
	Jon Rinker		

Councilor Rinker noted that this is why we can't afford to purchase a generator this year, because these types of things keep coming up.

4. Donation to Peaceable Kingdom- Councilor Rinker made a motion second by Councilor Schnaars to give a \$50.00 donation to Peaceable Kingdom for taking a small dog from the Borough. 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	
	Jon Rinker		

C. Human/Community Services

1. Concrete for the Boy Scout Monument- President Stevens noted that we are going to have to re-locate the monument. Councilor Schnaars made a motion second by Councilor Freed to pay for the concrete for the base of the monument with the cost not to exceed \$500.00. 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	None
	Bryon Reed	Bob Steets	
	David Schnaars	Galen Freed	
	Jon Rinker		

2. Repair water line at Walnut St. Playground- Councilor Schnaars noted that the Borough crew discovered the leak when they turned the water on for the playground. Councilor Schnaars said he would like to recommend that we repair the water line as soon as possible.
3. Mulch for Victory Park- Councilor Schnaars said we need mulch for Victory Park. He said the area is approximately 54'x54' and it needs to be about 6'' deep. He noted that there was some money set aside in the budget to cover the cost of the mulch; however it was more than we anticipated the cost to be. Councilor Schnaars said he received 2 quotes one from general recreation for 82 cubic yards, was cheaper than the mulch from Labar for a smaller amount of yardage. Councilor Schnaars made a motion second by Councilor Steets to order 60 cubic yards of certified playground mulch from general recreation with the price not to exceed \$1,500.00. 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	None
	Bryon Reed	Bob Steets	
	David Schnaars	Galen Freed	
	Jon Rinker		

Councilor Schnaars reminded everyone that "Keep Slatington Beautiful" is scheduled for April 19, 2014; he said we will be meeting at the borough maintenance building at 9:00 a.m.

D. Finance-

1. Resolution R-10-14 Signers on the pension plans- Vice President Neff made a motion second by Councilor Schnaars to adopt Resolution R-10-14 establishing approved signatures for the Borough of Slatington Police Pension Plan, Money Purchase Plan and the 457 Retirement Plans. 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	Jon Rinker	
	Galen Freed		

2. Payroll-W2 Cost- Vice President Neff noted that in the quote that we received from ADP for payroll the w-2 cost wasn't included and we were under the impression that they were included in the cost. She noted that they have agreed to give them to us for free this year, but in the future we will be charged.

3. Approve 7 Tax Exemptions- Vice President Neff made a motion second by Councilor Reed 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	None
	Bryon Reed        David Schnaars	
	Galen Freed       Bob Steets	
	Jon Rinker	

4. Resolution R-9-14 Establishing procedures for compliance with the Professional Service Contract- President Stevens noted that this was recommended and required by our auditors. Vice President Neff made a motion second by Councilor Schnaars to adopt Resolution R-9-14 establishing procedures for compliance with the Professional Service Contract. 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        Jon Rinker	
	Galen Freed	

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 \$3,710.37; request as listed: Steckel & Stopp – (February) \$1,295.37, Rettew-\$230.00, Joan Cheesbrough- (February Minutes) \$125.00, Delaware River Basin Commission (remainder of construction related project review fee)- \$560.00 and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania-\$1,500.00. 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. Strike Midge Control- Councilor Steets announced that the Borough is going to purchase 6 containers of midge control for the sewer plant in the amount of \$9,359.70.
3. Digester Update- Councilor Steets asked Councilor Reed about the digester pipe. Councilor Reed stated that they can’t cut the pipe on the top because of the sparks and the methane gas. A discussion took place on the digester.

F. Water/Special Sewer Committee

1. Water was tested and found safe for human consumption
2. Pool Chlorine- President Stevens said he received a call from Ferrell Snyder asking the Borough to purchase the chlorine for 2014. He also asked if the Borough could fill the pool up early, because they just completed re-tiling the pool. Councilor Reed made a motion second by Councilor Schnaars to pay for the chlorine purchases for the Northern Lehigh Swimming Pool for 2014. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL

AYES

NAYS

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

- 3. Flushing Schedule- Councilor Reed announced the 2014 flushing schedule.
- 4. TAP Grant – Councilor Reed spoke about the Transportation Alternate program. Larry Turoscy then explained the program in depth.

Alan Ringer gave a report on the Borough MS4, Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System audit which was held on February 25, 2014. The Borough passed the audit. Also as part of the MS4 Community Outreach, Mr. Ringer informed the residents in attendance and the Council, the need of Residents to keep the Borough Storm Water clean. He also stated that poster and pamphlets are on display at the Borough offices. He then opened up the floor for questions, of which there were none.

5. PPL Lighting Rebate- Councilor Reed thanked Rich Defrain for all of the time he has put into the project on behalf of the Borough. Council spoke about the rebate in depth.

G. Slatington Sesquicentennial Committee

- 1. Update- Councilor Rinker announced that the committee is going to clean-up Truckers Mill project and Kerns Dam. He said the Fire Company, Borough Crew, Parks and Recreation and the Centennial Committee will all be part of the clean-up.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – President Stevens recessed the Regular Meeting at 10:00 and called for an Executive Session. At 10:57 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 Rinker to authorize the signing of the license agreement for the Sagastume property for the use of Railroad Street next to their property at 102-104 Main Street. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL

AYES

NAYS

Bryon Reed Daniel Stevens  
Bob Steets Jon Rinker  
David Schnaars  
Gwyneth Neff

Councilor Schnaars made a motion second by Councilor Reed to advertize the position of part-time office employee to cover the period when Amber will be out on family leave. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL

AYES

NAYS

Bryon Reed Daniel Stevens  
Jon Rinker Bob Steets  
David Schnaars  
Gwyneth Neff

Councilor Schnaars made a motion second by Councilor Steets to authorize President Stevens and Councilor Reed to handle the PPL Lighting Rebate Project with the price not to exceed \$10,000.00 net cost to the Borough. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL

AYES

NAYS

Bryon Reed Daniel Stevens  
Jon Rinker Bob Steets  
David Schnaars  
Gwyneth Neff

At 11:13 Councilor Schnaars made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Karen Gill  
Assistant Borough Secretary