BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON

The Regular Meeting of Council was held on Monday, December 8, 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:

PRESENT	ABSENT	OTHERS PRESENT	VISITORS	
Joseph Wechsler	Jon Rinker	Mayor Niedermeyer	Robert Stettner	Sharon Stanley
Bob Steets		Ed Healy	Mike Myers	Ed Ziegler
Bryon Reed		Larry Turoscy	Kris Burek	Carol Gildner
Gwyneth Neff		Dave Rachman	Melvin Gildner	George Moyer
David Schnaars			Linda Steets	Ron Scheffler
Galen Freed-7:09pm			Robert Herzog Jr.	

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 November 10, 2014, Workshop Meetings, November 17, 2014, November 24, 2014, July 28 and Special Meeting, November 24, 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)

Kris Burek, 1235 Fourth Street- asked if there was any progress on the Borough Manager. Ms. Burek also asked a few questions about the 2015 budget.

Melvin Gildner, 528 Pine Street- asked a few questions about the 2015 budget.

Ron Scheffler, 1335 Oakhurst Drive- addressed Council about the complaints that he submitted to Duane Dellecker about several properties in town. Councilor Reed questioned Mr. Scheffler about the comment he made in reference to Ross Township. Mr. Scheffler agreed that he made it, and stated that he wouldn't do it, however someone else may.

Ed Zeigler, 214 N. Walnut Street- asked why the Borough doesn't put auditing out for bid. Mr. Ziegler also spoke about the Borough possibly enacting a recycling ordinance.

Carol Gildner, 528 Pine Street- asked a few questions about the H2o Grant.

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	AYES		NAYS
	Gwyneth Neff	Galen Freed	None
	Bryon Reed	Bob Steets	
	David Schnaars	Joseph Wechsler	

MAYORS/POLICE CHIEF'S REMARKS

Mayor Niedermeyer stated that he attended the Christmas tree lighting ceremony. He noted that even though it was raining we had a nice turnout.

Chief Rachman explained the overages in the part-time salaries for 2014.

STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Highway

1. Final payment for the 2013 CDBG- Larry Turoscy stated that he is waiting for someone from the county to review the completed project. He added that he wouldn't recommend paying the final 10% until we get the approval from the County. Councilor Freed made a motion seconded by Councilor Schnaars to pay Glen G. Hale Inc. $9336.35 once we receive approval from Lehigh County from the 2013 CDBG Project. Vice President Neff declared he motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	AYES		NAYS
	Galen Freed	Gwyneth Neff	None
	Bryon Reed	David Schnaars	
	Bob Steets	Joe Wechsler	

2. Repairs to the Sidewalk at First and Washington Councilor Freed noted that the repairs to the slope have been completed. Council agreed that the contractor did a great job.

B. Public Safety

1. Emergency Generator Councilor reed noted that it wasn't included in the 2015 budget. He noted that we do have a surplus of about $20,000 in the general fund, so there is money available for it. Councilor Reed stated we do have one quote, in the amount of $15,000. Councilor Schnaars asked if the generator in the quote was adequate to run the police department in case of a power outage; Chief Rachman said yes.

2. ACO- Councilor Schnaars noted that a question had arisen about the ACO driving the Borough car on personal errands. Vice President Neff noted that she is on call 24 hours a day.

3. Resignation from part-time police officer Kevin Smith- Councilor Schnaars made a motion second by Councilor Reed to accept the resignation from Kevin Smith with regrets. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	AYES		NAYS
	Galen Freed	Gwyneth Neff	None
	Bryon Reed	David Schnaars	
	Bob Steets		
	Joseph Wechsler		

C. Human/Community Services

1. Peer to Peer Study Update- Councilor Schnaars made a motion seconded by Councilor Steets to adopt Ordinance 666 which will organize the Joint Recreation Authority between Slatington, Walnutport and Washington Township. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	AYES		NAYS
	Galen Freed	Gwyneth Neff	None
	Bryon Reed	David Schnaars	
	Bob Steets		
	Joseph Wechsler		

D. Finance-

1. Donations- Councilor Wechsler announced the donations:
   a. Active Life- $750.00
   b. NOVA- $10,000.00
   c. Slatington Library- $5,000.00
   d. Northern Lehigh Swimming Pool- $1,000.00

   Councilor Wechsler made a motion second by Councilor Schnaars to approve the donations. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	AYES		NAYS
	Joseph Wechsler	Gwyneth Neff	None
	Bryon Reed	David Schnaars	
	Galen Freed	Bob Steets	

2. Part- Time Secretary- Councilor Wechsler noted that we are looking to start interviewing tomorrow. Councilor Schnaars noted that we should table this until after executive session.

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 $3,409.35; request as listed: Steckel & Stopp – (September & October) $2383.10, Rettew- $776.25 and Joan Cheesbrough- (October & November Minutes) $250. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	AYES		NAYS
	Galen Freed	Joe Wechsler	None
	Bob Steets	Bryon Reed	
	David Schnaars		
	Gwyneth Neff		

2. Engineer Update- Councilor Steets asked about how much it's going to cost to get the digester cleaned out. Councilor Reed noted that Karl Schreiter hasn't gotten back to them yet. Attorney Healy noted that Mr. Schreiter wants him to review the first bid packet, and once that is complete it will be ready to advertize the sludge hauling in the Morning Call, because he feels the Borough will get better coverage going that route. Vice President Neff and Councilor Freed agreed that the Morning Call is over priced. Larry

Turoscy agreed that they are over priced however; the Times News doesn't have the coverage that the Morning Call has. Councilor Reed suggested that we do a posting at places where haulers would see it, and advertize in the Times News. A discussion took place on the sewer plant.

F. Water/Special Sewer Committee

1. Water was tested and found safe for human consumption

2. Roof- Councilor Reed noted that we received a call from Mint Construction notifying us that they will begin to replace the roof at the reservoir next week.

G. Slatington Sesquicentennial Committee

Councilor Schnaars stated that the books still aren't out; he added that they have about 50 more to sell.

H. 2015 Final Budget Discussion-

Council had a discussion on multiple line items in the budget. Councilor Reed noted that the final budget didn't change much from the preliminary budget. Councilor Reed noted there is no tax increase or increase in the water or sewer rates.

Resolution R-17-14- Councilor Reed made a motion second by Councilor Schnaars to adopt Resolution R-17-14, establishing the 2015 budget. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	AYES	NAYS
	Gwyneth Neff David Schnaars	None
	Bob Steets Bryon Reed	
	Galen Freed	
	Joe Wechsler	

Resolution R-18-14- Councilor Schnaars noted that he would love to give the retirees a raise however the fund isn't actuarially sound, he added that we are underfunded. Councilor Schnaars suggested we table R-18-14 - Cost of Living Adjustment for Retired Police Officers.

Resolution R-19-14-Councilor Schnaars made a motion seconded by Councilor Reed to approve Resolution R-19-14 – Establishing Payments into the Police Pension Fund for 2015. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	AYES	NAYS
	Joe Wechsler Gwyneth Neff	None
	Bryon Reed Bob Steets	
	Galen Freed David Schnaars	

Resolution R-21-14-Councilor Schnaars made a motion seconded by Councilor Freed to approve Resolution R-21-14 – Setting the Salary for the Chief of Police at $72,978.18 for 2015. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	AYES	NAYS
	Joseph Wechsler Gwyneth Neff	None
	Bryon Reed Bob Steets	
	Galen Freed David Schnaars	

Ordinance 665-Councilor Schnaars made a motion seconded by Councilor Reed to approve Ordinance No. 665 – Fixing 2015 Tax Rates as advertised. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	AYES		NAYS
	Gwyneth Neff	Bob Steets	None
	David Schnaars	Joe Wechsler	
	Galen Freed	Bob Steets	

Meeting dates for 2015- Councilor Schnaars made a motion second by Councilor Steets to advertise the meeting dates for Slatington Borough Council, Board of Health, Workshop Meetings, Parks and Recreation, Slatington Borough Authority. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, Voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	AYES		NAYS
	Gwyneth Neff	Joe Wechsler	None
	Bryon Reed	Bob Steets	
	Galen Freed	David Schnaars	

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Vice President Neff recessed the Regular Meeting at 8:39 and called for an Executive Session. At 9:54 P.M. she reconvened the Regular Meeting. In executive session matters of personnel and legal issues were discussed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS-

Resolution R-20-14- Councilor Schnaars made a motion seconded by Councilor Freed to approve R-20-14- Providing the wages of certain employees of the Borough for 2015. Vice President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	AYES		NAYS
	Gwyneth Neff	Bob Steets	
	Bryon Reed	David Schnaars	
	Galen Freed	Joe Wechsler	

Councilor Schnaars noted that he wanted to permanently table Resolution R-18-14.

At 9:56 p.m. Councilor Schnaars made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Karen Gill
Assistant Borough Secretary