

BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON

The Regular Meeting of Council was held on **Monday, August 10, 2015** at 7:00 P.M. in Council Chambers, 125 S. Walnut Street, Slatington, PA 18080.

Presiding: Gwyneth Jones: President of Council

Recording Secretary: Bryon Reed, President Pro Tem

The meeting was called to order by President Jones 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	Carol Gildner Mel Gildner
Bob Steets		Ed Healy	Ed Ziegler Bruce Kern
Bryon Reed		Larry Turoscy	Kelley Andrade (Times News)
Gwyneth Jones		Duane Dellecker	Jeffrey Hausman Frank Solt
David Schnaars		Chief Rachman	Kris Burek Rodney Trunk
Joseph Wechsler			Robert Herzog, Jr.
Galen Freed			Deborah Strohl

EXECUTIVE SESSION – None

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS – Councilor Freed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to accept the following minutes: Council Meeting – July 13, 2015; Committee Meetings – July 20, 2015 and July 27, 2015. President Jones declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

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

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.

Deborah Strohl from 252 Cherry Street signed in and was recognized to speak. She spoke on an anonymous letter she received regarding the Reed property along Cherry Street and about the improvements to the property in the last 15 years. She stated: if people who live there do not complain, why are others complaining.

Kris Burek signed in and was recognized to speak. She spoke on the format of meetings and questioned public comment and decorum.

Rodney Trunk from 231 Cherry Street signed in and was recognized to speak. He spoke on the Reed letter. He stated that he was more concerned about the feral cats in the neighborhood than the Reed property.

Ed Ziegler signed in and was recognized to speak. He spoke on the public hearing being held August 24th and suggested a street name of “Neff Alley” for the W. Church Street parking lot. He also spoke on lighting of the Borough welcome sign and a dim street light behind the Moose.

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, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to approve payment of the Bills and transfers as presented by the Treasurer. President Jones declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

MAYORS/POLICE CHIEF’S REMARKS

The Chief reported that one of the officers is on medical leave.

STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Highway

Councilor Galen Freed

- 1. 2015 ARLE – Shadow Oaks Updated Cost – Formerly estimated at \$175,000, the submitted grant application totals \$334,400; including Borough matching funds of \$14,500. Councilor Freed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Steets, to approve the increase. President Jones declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

- 2. Liquid Fuels Roadways

- a. Name Roadways - Larry Turoscy reported nine (9) roadways proposed for addition to the liquid fuels list totaling 3,456 linear feet or .665 miles. As a result, three (3) “ways” need names. The Committee proposed:
“Otto Altrichter Way” – Center Alley to E. Church St.
“John Freed Way” – W. Church St. to Short Alley
“Charles Moyer Way” – Main St. to Middle Alley
 Councilor Freed disclosed he is distantly related to Mr. John Freed.
- b. Ordinance #668 – The draft Ordinance was prepared. A public Hearing will be held on August 24, 2015, at 6:30pm for public comment followed by a Special Meeting of Borough Council to consider adoption of these roadways.

- 3. Main Street Projects - Larry Turoscy asked for approval to proceed with planning and designs for the Victory Park Sidewalk and the ARLE Main & Church Street Traffic Light projects. A pre-design meeting with affected residents for input is being planned. Councilor Freed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to authorize the Engineer to proceed on these two projects. President Jones declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

B. Public Safety

Councilor Jon Rinker

- 1. Borough Hall – Emergency Exit Door Repair – Councilor Rinker informed Council that the door on the South side of the Borough Hall exiting to the playground and panic hardware is deteriorated whereby the door is not secure. A quote was received from Walnutport Door Company in the amount of \$1,755 to replace the custom door, panic & closer hardware and alarm. Councilor Rinker made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Freed, to authorize replacing this door. President Jones declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

- 2. Borough Hall – Front Landscaping – Councilor Rinker presented Committee recommendations regarding the vegetation and deterioration of the planting beds in front of Borough Hall. He made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to approve the Borough Crew to remove old landscaping and cream colored bricks, repair deteriorated mortar joints and install top cap on the front planting beds. President Jones declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

Council also discussed the handicap ramp. The Office Manager was directed to contact masonry contractors for repairs to the handicap ramp and exit landing & stairs on the North side of Borough Hall.

Councilor Schnaars suggested working on developing a program for long-term building maintenance. This issue is referred to the Public Safety Committee.

3. District Attorney - Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – Chief Rachman presented this MOU authorizing the police department to participate in the District Attorney Naloxone Initiative. Councilor Rinker made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Freed, to authorize the President to execute the MOU & designate the Police Chief as Naloxone Manager. President Jones declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

C. Human/Community Services **Councilor David Schnaars**

1. R-10-15 – Employee Evaluation Form – Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to approve Resolution R-10-15, adding Section 8 to Chapter 2 of the Slatinton Borough Employee Manual. President Jones declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

2. NL Recreation Authority – Councilor Schnaars reported the proposed Ordinance is being updated to reflect action taken last month. A Public Hearing is being planned for October on the creation of the Authority.

3. Fire Department – Bike Night Parking Request – The Fire Department sent a request to have “No Parking” signs posted for Bike Night (September 12, 2015) from 9am to 9pm on Main Street, from 2nd to South Street; on 2nd Street, the first three spaces on each side; E. South Street, from Main to 2nd; the 600 block parking lot on Main Street; and the North side of W. Church Street, from Long Alley to Main Street. Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Rinker, to authorize the “no parking” as requested. President Jones declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

4. NL High School Student Council – Annual Homecoming Parade – The Student Council Advisor sent a request to conduct the annual Homecoming Parade on Friday, October 9, 2015. The parade will begin at 5:45pm at South & Main Street and end at the NL Bulldog Community Stadium. Fire Police are requested for traffic control. Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Freed, to approve this request. President Jones declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

D. Finance **Councilor Joseph Wechsler**

1. Committee on Committees – Councilor Wechsler discussed an issue that will occur in January when it comes time for the Committee on Committees to meet. Section 13-5 of the Slatinton Borough Code does not specify how members of this committee are determined when multiple members have the same seniority. After mature deliberation, the consensus of Council was to allow the members with the same seniority decide.
2. Committee Authority – Councilor Wechsler discussed modifying Section 13-5 of the Slatinton Borough Code to add authority over approved budget expenditures and respective department operations to Committee Chairpersons & Vice-Chairpersons when vacancy exists in the office of Borough Manager. This item was tabled pending further discussion.

3. Property Maintenance Code – Landlord Responsibility – Councilor Wechsler presented a proposal by Committee to modify the Property Maintenance Code to hold landlords accountable and responsible for tenants violating Slatington Borough Codes. Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Rinker, to prepare and advertise the draft ordinance for consideration at the next Council meeting. President Jones declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

4. Tax Exemption Request - Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Freed, to approve a tax exemption due to non-resident status to Samantha Valentini & Mark Spalding for being deceased. President Jones declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

E. Sewer/Solid Waste **Councilor Bob Steets**

1. Authority Bills – Councilor Steets made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to authorize the affirmation of the Authority’s Transfer request in the amount of \$522.30; Steckel & Stopp \$157.30; Rettew Associates \$240.00; Joan Cheesbrough \$125.00 (June minutes). President Jones declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

F. Water/Special Sewer Committee **Councilor Bryon Reed**

1. Water Test Statement – Water was tested and found safe for human consumption.

G. Slatington Sesquicentennial Committee **Councilor David Schnaars**

Councilor Schnaars reported on a pending report regarding the 150th Committee final distribution of funds.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. 2016 Police Contract – President Jones asked for volunteers to serve on a committee to negotiate the 2016 police contract. Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to appoint Councilors Wechsler, Rinker and Jones to serve on this committee. President Jones declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

2. Business Community – Councilor Reed discussed installing some type of signage at or creating flyers for use at the Trailhead to attract visitors to the downtown business community.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – None

At 8:52 Councilor Freed made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Karen Gill
Assistant Borough Secretary