

BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON

The Regular Meeting of Council was held on Monday, April 13, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. in Council Chambers, 125 S. Walnut Street, Slatington, PA 18080.

Presiding: Gwyneth Neff: President of Council

Recording Secretary: Bryon Reed, President Pro Tem

The meeting was called to order by 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	Carol Gildner Mel Gildner
Bob Steets		Ed Healy	Robert Herzog, Jr. Ed Ziegler
Bryon Reed		Larry Turoscy	Kris Burek Dan Sell
Gwyneth Neff		Dave Rachman	Stephanie Kemmerer (Times News)
David Schnaars		Duane Dellecker	Bruce Kern Linda Steets
Joseph Wechsler			Ron Scheffler Robert Stettner
Galen Freed			Dwight Miller Eli Grover
			Brian Sell Gordon Giannotti
			Ted Kistler George Haas
			Jason Ruff James Rigg
			Lawrence Frey

EXECUTIVE SESSION – President Neff called for an Executive Session and recessed the Regular Meeting at 7:03 pm. At 7:14 pm she reconvened the Regular Meeting. In executive Session, matters of personnel and legal issues were discussed.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS – Councilor Freed made a motion to accept the minutes, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, for the following minutes: Council Meeting – March 9, 2015; Committee Meetings – March 16, 2015 and March 23, 2015. President Neff 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 Neff		

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.

Mel Gildner signed in and was recognized to speak. He asked questions on advertising for the position of Borough Manager. He feels the Borough could increase revenue if changes were made to the water/sewer billing whereby apartments would each pay a base rate.

Ed Ziegler signed in and was recognized to speak. He questioned bills for Hobbie Personnel and stated the report would be easier to read and audit if the Borough used an invoice numbering system.

Dan Sell signed in and was recognized to speak. He discussed safety regarding the road crew and stated how proper tools/equipment are essential to protecting workers and keeping workers' compensation rates low. He also spoke of problems in his neighborhood (200 block of Walnut St.) with a large group of kids being unruly.

Dwight Miller signed in and was recognized to speak. He spoke of problems with kids in his neighborhood (200 block S. Walnut St.) and perceived disrespect from the police toward residents who complained.

Brian Sell signed in and was recognized to speak. He spoke of problems with kids in his neighborhood (200 block S. Walnut St.). He said the trouble is not with the local kids but with a group from out of town.

Kris Burek signed in and was recognized to speak. She spoke regarding Councilor Wechsler's voter registration, his appointment to Borough Council and his re-election bid.

Gordon Giannotti signed in and was recognized to speak. He spoke on the American Legion's Memorial Day Parade.

Ted Kistler signed in and was recognized to speak. He spoke about the Trailhead and asked if the Borough Police could lock the bathrooms at night and if the Borough Road Crew could open them in the morning. He suggested closing the bathrooms from Christmas till April 1st. He also asked if the

Borough Road Crew could assist in repairing a drain line at the Trailhead. The Chief and Council indicated this was possible.

George Haas signed in and was recognized to speak. He questioned curfews and perceived disrespect from the police officers.

Jason Ruff signed in and was recognized to speak. He is the new owner of the diner at 662 Main Street. He stated that it was a joy to be in Slatington and invited all to visit the diner.

Lawrence Frey signed in and was recognized to speak. He owns the stained glass business at 273-277 Main Street and stated there are many good and positive things to focus on in town. He offered to help landscape the area in front of the public parking lot across the street.

Councilor Jon Rinker was recognized to speak. He spoke about Councilor Wechsler being an asset to the community and how he was instrumental in updating the website, creating a community newsletter and spearheaded the lighting upgrades in Borough buildings. Councilor Schnaars agreed.

James Rigg was recognized to speak. He questioned a parking ticket & asked if anything could be done about parking on E. Church Street during construction activities.

Chief Dave Rachman was recognized to speak. He told the residents from the 200 block of S. Walnut Street that he will speak with the officers on the matters discussed and reminded residents that respect goes both ways. He also proposed having more patrols in the neighborhood.

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 Schnaars, to approve payment of the Bills and transfers as presented by the Treasurer. President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

MAYORS/POLICE CHIEF’S REMARKS

Mayor Niedermeyer said he contacted Representative Harhart’s and the County PENNDOT office regarding the Morgan Bridge abutments.

STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Highway

Councilor Galen Freed

1. 2014 CDBG Projects - On motion made by Councilor Freed, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, the April 6, 2015, bids were accepted for the E. Washington Street & Center Alley paving projects. President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

2. 2014 CDBG E. Washington Street (Phase II) – Councilor Freed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to award this project to the low bidder Bruce George Paving & Excavating at a cost of \$94,574.89 President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

3. 2014 CDBG – Police Station Paving – Council tabled action on this project and referred it to the Highway Committee for further review.

4. 2015 CDBG Projects (for 2016 Funding):

- a. R-05-2015 – W. Church Street - Councilor Freed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to approve submitting the CDBG application for this

project with an estimated cost of \$89,436. President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

b. R-06-2015 – W. Franklin Street – Councilor Freed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to approve submitting the CDBG application for this project with an estimated cost of \$89,867. President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

c. Municipal Certifications/Fair Housing Statement – Councilor Freed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to approve the Municipal Certifications and Fair Housing Statements required as part of the CDBG applications. President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

5. 2014 Green Light Go Program – Councilor Freed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to accept the \$12,859 grant, authorize Councilor Reed to sign, date & complete the grant agreement and authorize the use of liquid fuel funds as matching funds. President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

6. Road Repair - Councilor Freed reported that the intersection of Williams and Center Street needs to be repaired. The Road Crew will take care of this project.

B. Public Safety (2 additions to Agenda) Councilor Jon Rinker

1. Part-Time Police Officer - Councilor Rinker made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to appoint Stephen Kiefer as a part-time officer on the police department. President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

2. Burn Ban – Councilor Rinker announced a burn ban in effect in the Borough until further notice and asked that a SWIFT 911 call be broadcast to the residents.

C. Human/Community Services Councilor David Schnaars

1. Electronics Recycling - Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Freed, to hold an electronics recycling event with RRS recycling at a cost of \$395. President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

2. Fire Dept. Spring Carnival – Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Freed, to approve the request for the fire department’s Spring Carnival May 5-9, 2015, supply a dedicated police officer for Friday &

Saturday nights and to supply a garbage dumpster to be emptied Wednesday & Friday of the event. President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Gwyneth Neff	None	
	Bryon Reed		
	David Schnaars		
	Jon Rinker		

3. Delaware & Lehigh 5th Annual Half Marathon – Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Rinker, to approve the request for a Marathon to be held Sunday, November 1, 2015, use of the D&L Trail within Borough boundaries, close Main Street from about 8:15-8:45am for runners/walkers to cross and allow EMS support at the Main Street crossing. President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Gwyneth Neff	None	
	Bryon Reed		
	David Schnaars		
	Jon Rinker		

4. American Legion Memorial Day Parade – Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Freed, to approve the request for the Memorial Day Parade to be held Monday, May 25, 2015. The parade will form at 9:30am at Main & 2nd Streets, proceed south on Main Street to the Fairview Cemetery then back to the Legion Post. Request includes a police escort and police/fire traffic control. The Legion will make application to PENNDOT. President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Gwyneth Neff	None	
	Bryon Reed		
	David Schnaars		
	Jon Rinker		

D. Finance

Councilor Joseph Wechsler

1. Uniform Construction Code (UCC) – Councilor Wechsler discussed modification being proposed under the administrative sections of the PA UCC (Act 45 of 1999).
a. R-03-2015 – Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Rinker, to approve resolution R-03-2015, providing for three (3) inspection firms. President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Joseph Wechsler	None	
	David Schnaars		
	Bryon Reed		
	Bob Steets		

- b. R-04-2015 – Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to approve resolution R-04-2015, outlining procedures and fees under the Building Code. President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Joseph Wechsler	None	
	David Schnaars		
	Bryon Reed		
	Bob Steets		

- c. Inspector Contracts – Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Rinker, to authorize the President to execute the contracts with the three (3) approved inspection firms: Lehigh Valley Inspection Services, Buyer's First Inspection Service and KeyCodes Inspection Services. President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Joseph Wechsler	None	
	David Schnaars		
	Bryon Reed		
	Bob Steets		

2. Accounting Firm - Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to approve hiring Gurniak & Gurniak as the Borough Accounting Firm to assist the auditors. President Neff 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	
	David Schnaars	Gwyneth Neff		
	Bryon Reed	Jon Rinker		
	Bob Steets			

3. VUB – Utility Training Workshop – Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by councilor Reed, to authorize the Office Manager and Billing Clerk to attend the Diversified Technologies workshop in Allentown on Wednesday, June 17, 2015. President Neff 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	
	David Schnaars	Gwyneth Neff		
	Bryon Reed	Jon Rinker		
	Bob Steets			

4. Tax Exemption Request – Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Rinker, to approve a tax exemption for Faye Eckhart – a deceased resident. President Neff 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	
	David Schnaars	Gwyneth Neff		
	Bryon Reed	Jon Rinker		
	Bob Steets			

E. Sewer/Solid Waste

Councilor Bob Steets

1. Trickling Filter – Councilor Steets made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, repair the trickling filter at the sewer treatment plant at a cost of \$32,250 by Eastern Environmental. President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

2. Flow Meters – Councilor Council tabled action on this project and referred it to the Sewer Committee for further review.
3. Leveling of Clarifiers – Councilor Steets made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Freed, to adjust and re-level the steel plate weirs in the clarifiers at a cost of \$19, 830 by Eastern Environmental. President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

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

No Report

- H.** 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 \$2,712.70; Steckel & Stopp \$24.20, Rettew Associates \$1,563.50; and Joan Cheesbrough \$125.00 (January minutes). President Neff declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL

AYES

NAYS

ABSTAIN

Joseph Wechsler	Jon Rinker
Bob Steets	Bryon Reed
David Schnaars	Galen Freed
Gwyneth Neff	

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Larry Turoscy stated the manhole project should be completed by April 24, 2015.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – None

At 9:35 Councilor Schnaars made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Karen Gill
Assistant Borough Secretary