

BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON

The Regular Meeting of Council was held on Monday, February 16, 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 Nathan Stubbs
Bob Steets		Ed Healy	Robert Herzog Ed Ziegler
Bryon Reed 7:15		Larry Turoscy	Kris Burke Mel Gildner
Gwyneth Neff		Dave Rachman	Stephanie Kemmerer
David Schnaars		Duane Dellecker	Jamie Sillett Bill Smith
Joseph Wechsler			
Galen Freed			

EXECUTIVE SESSION – President Neff called for an Executive Session and recessed the Regular Meeting at 7:12 pm. At 7:38 pm she reconvened the Regular Meeting. In executive Session, matters of personnel and legal issues were discussed.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS –The previous meeting minutes: Council Meeting – January 12, 2015; Committee Meetings – January 19, 2015 and February 2, 2015, and Special Council Meeting – February 2, 2015 were not included in the February 16th, 2015 Council package for review. They will be distributed and included on the next meeting agenda.

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.

Kris Burek signed in and was recognized by the council to speak but was not present.

Mel Gildner Signed in and was recognized by the council to speak but was not present.

Ed Ziegler, 208 N. Walnut Street – Questioned Council regarding concerns on the workers compensation provider. He also spoke about DEP grants, Recycling ordinance, fire company vehicle accident, community center and parking lots.

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 had nothing at this time.

STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Highway

1. 2015 CDBG – Larry Turoscy updated Council on CDBG projects. A booklet of projects was submitted with recommendations for consideration. Estimated costs range from \$50K to \$180K. He asked Council to review and prioritize this list. Further, he recommends the Church Street project as a top priority. Larry spoke with URDC and they offered to do the grant program submission for \$1,250.00. We have till April 15th, 2015, to submit paperwork.
2. ARLE (Automated Red Light Enforcement) - Larry Turoscy and Bryon Reed met with PENNDOT about the ARLE program regarding the signal at Main and Church. They reviewed the agreement the Borough is supposed to sign. Larry feels that rules are strict but must be adhered to in order to obtain the grant money. Larry said a

motion would be in order to authorize preparing a resolution & signing the agreement. Councilor Freed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to prepare a resolution & sign the agreement. 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. Public Safety

1. Emergency Generator- Councilor Rinker received three (3) quotes and, as a result, recommends the Borough select ARC Electric to install a 30KW, 3-phase generator at the Borough Hall with a 200 amp transfer switch for the police department at a cost not to exceed \$18,850. This generator is larger than the one authorized at the January Meeting but is large enough to add another transfer switch in the future to supply the Borough Offices with emergency power. A motion was made by Councilor Rinker, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to purchase this generator. 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	None	
	Bryon Reed David Schnaars		
	Bob Steets Galen Freed		
	Jon Rinker		

2. Dash Camera - Councilor Rinker made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Freed, to purchase a replacement dash camera for the police car at a cost not to exceed \$4,715.00 in accordance with the Digital-Ally quote. 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		

3. Cody System - Councilor Rinker made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Freed, to approve the purchase of the Remote Database Upgrade and Server Move Services from Cody Systems for the police department at a cost not to exceed \$1,250.00. 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		

4. Bicycle License - Councilor Rinker made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to provide bike inspections & licenses. It will be held three (3) Saturdays at Trailhead, near the school and at the West End Playground at dates & times to be determined. The Police will inspect bicycles and give instructions on safety. Licenses are voluntary for the purpose of tracking bicycles if lost or stolen. This lifetime license would cost \$2.00. 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		

5. Newsletter - Councilor Rinker made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to create a community newsletter utilizing the services of the HomeTown Press. There is no cost to the Borough for the newsletter itself, but mailing costs are \$.18 each. 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		

C. Human/Community Services

1. Running of the Dawgs - Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Rinker, to approve this fund raiser for the Northern Lehigh Education Foundation on June 6, 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	David Schnaars	None
	Gwyneth Neff	Galen Freed	
	Bryon Reed	Jon Rinker	
	Bob Steets		

2. Community Yard Sale – Councilor Schnaars motion, duly seconded by Councilor Rinker, to approve holding a community yard sale May 9th and 10th, 2015. Permit requirements will be waived. 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		

3. Borough Manager – Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to re-advertise for the position of Borough Manager in PSATS and Borough News magazines. 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		

4. Bike Night - The Slatington Fire Department has submitted a request to conduct a bike night/car show in honor of Milton Green on 9/12/15 from 12 noon to 8 PM on Main Street between South Street and 2nd Street. The event will serve alcohol at local bars in event mugs. One police officer is requested for scheduled times and the fire department will secure their own insurance. Concerns were raised regarding traffic flow in the past. Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Rinker, to grant the request with the conditions that a certificate of insurance is received naming the Borough as an additional insured and the fire department receive approval from the Police Chief for proposed traffic patterns. 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	Bob Steets	Galen Freed
	David Schnaars	Jon Rinker	Gwyneth Neff
	Bryon Reed		

5. Peer to Peer Update – Councilor Schnaars stated since Walnutport has decided against participating in the Peer-to-Peer program, the paperwork will need to be modified from three (3) to two (2) entities – the Borough and Washington Township. He would like to see a little more protection for the Borough in the arrangement. Tabled pending more information.

D. Finance

1. Hire an Accounting Firm (2015 Audit) - Councilor Wechsler noted that we are looking to hire an accounting firm to help with our books so we are better prepared for the 2015 Audit. One firm has been recommended by our Auditors. The Finance Committee will continue to look for other firms and pricing. A motion was made by Councilor Wechsler, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to charge the finance with interviewing accounting firms and making recommendations to the

council. 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		

2. UCC Inspection Service Options & Fees – Councilor Wechsler explained that this issue deals with the inspections required under the PA Uniform construction code (Act 45 of 1999). The Borough currently utilizes a single inspection service, Lehigh Valley Inspection Service (LVIS). The committee is suggesting allowing multiple inspection services to operate in the Borough so residents have a choice. They also suggest modifying the fee schedule to charge a flat rate for UCC permits - \$25.00 residential and \$75.00 for non-residential applications. This issue is tabled for the committee to work on.

3. Office Leases - A motion was made by Councilor Wechsler, duly seconded by Councilor Rinker, to renew leases for Julie Harhart, Florist Insurance and Steckel & Stopp. 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	Bob Steets
	Bryon Reed	Gwyneth Neff	Galen Freed
	David Schnaars		

4. Lighting Upgrades - Councilor Wechsler proposed to upgrade the lighting system in the Vigilant, Police Department and the Borough Building. The cost is \$28,762. However, with the rebate of \$25,431.55, the Borough investment would be \$3,330.90. This project projects annual energy savings of \$8,500. A motion was made by Councilor Wechsler, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to proceed with this project.

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		

5. Tax Exemptions - A motion was made by Councilor Wechsler, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to approve a tax exemption for Rose Reinhard – a non-resident in a nursing home. 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		

6. Water/Sewer Accounts CD's – Wells Fargo, on February 5, 2015, notified the Borough that a sewer fund CD and a water fund CD matured. A motion was made by Councilor Steets, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to transfer the matured CD's into the appropriate money market accounts. 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		

7. Delinquent Real Estate Tax Collection in Lehigh County – As of January 1, 2015, Lehigh County enacted an ordinance and resolution naming Northeast Revenue Service, Inc., as agent for the Lehigh County Tax Claim Bureau to begin collecting back taxes. This item is referred to the Finance Committee to obtain more information.

8. Office Manager Appointment – Duane Dellecker, in addition to his zoning and building code duties, is proposed for appointment to the position of office manager until the end of the year at his current hourly rate. His duties will be to manage & direct office staff only. He will receive all the same benefits as the

regular employees. A motion was made by Councilor Schnaars, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to make this offer to Duane Dellecker. 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	Galen Freed
	Bob Steets	Bryon Reed	
	David Schnaars	Gwyneth Neff	

E. Sewer/Solid Waste

1. Manhole Rehab Project - Larry Turoscy had a reconstruction meeting with the DEP at their office, they were suppose to start on this project this week, but is delayed due to weather. The project is suppose to take about three (3) weeks to finish; should be done by middle of March.

2. Slatington Borough Authority (SBA) Appointment - Councilor Steets made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to re-appoint Darrell Baus to the SBA for a 5-year term to expire 1-1-2019. 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		

3. Slatington Borough Authority (SBA) Appointment - Councilor Steets, duly seconded by Councilor Reed to appoint Joseph Wechsler to the Slatington Borough Authority to complete the term of Bill Stein which expires 1-1-2017. 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		

G. Slatington Sesquicentennial Committee

Councilor Schnaars said the sesquicentennial books will be available to be picked up this week. There will be a signing party at the Slatington Library on February 23rd.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – President Neff called for an Executive Session and recessed the Regular Meeting at 9:25 pm. At 10:01 pm she reconvened the Regular Meeting. In executive Session, matters of personnel and legal issues were discussed.

Property at 485 Kuehner Avenue – An issue came up regarding this property and notes that were uncovered through the title search process related to possible Borough interests in this property. Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, that the Borough hereby waives any actual or potential interest in this property. 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	Galen Freed	Bryon Reed*
	David Schnaars	Gwyneth Neff	

*A letter was received from Councilor Reed indicating the reason for abstaining was due to family affiliation.

At 10:02 Councilor Rinker made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Karen Gill
Assistant Borough Secretary