

**BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON**

The Regular Meeting of Council was held on Monday, June 8, 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	Robert Herzog, Jr. Ed Ziegler
Bryon Reed		Larry Turoscy	Kelley Andrade (Times News)
Gwyneth Jones		Duane Dellecker	Bruce Kern Robert Stettner
David Schnaars			Rhonda Roberts John Bolton
Joseph Wechsler			Jamie Sillett Jeffrey Hansman
Galen Freed			Jagger Bolton Nathan Green
			Ben Lehman Matt Peters

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – None**

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS** – Councilor Freed made a motion to accept the minutes, duly seconded by Councilor Rinker, for the following minutes: Council Meeting – May 11, 2015 and Special Council Meeting May 26, 2015; Committee Meetings – May 18, 2015 and May 26, 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		

(Note: Council President Gwyneth Neff is now known as Gwyneth Jones. Supporting documentation is on file in the Borough Office.)

**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.

Ed Ziegler signed in and was recognized to speak. He again raised concerns over UGI at Main Street.

Mel Gildner signed in and was recognized to speak. He questioned spending too much time on ordinance enforcement with regards to high grass, weeds and furniture on porches and not enough time with dilapidated buildings.

Rhonda Roberts signed in and was recognized to speak. She questioned when the burn ban would be lifted. The fire chief reported to the office earlier in the day that it would be lifted on Tuesday, June 9, 2015.

**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 Steets, 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	
	Bryon Reed Bob Steets		
	David Schnaars Joseph Wechsler		
	Jon Rinker		

**MAYORS/POLICE CHIEF’S REMARKS**

Mayor Niedermeyer reported that he attended the Memorial Day Parade, the D&L Bicycle event on June 6<sup>th</sup> where approximately 300 bikes participated and an Eagle Scout Award program at the covered bridge with Troop 47.

Police Chief Rachman reported that call volume has increased this year. Also, due to full-time office going on medical leave later this year, part-time budget will increase.

**STANDING COMMITTEES**

**A. Highway**

**Councilor Galen Freed**

- 1. Snow Policy – This policy was submitted for consideration. The Road Foreman was in attendance to address questions and concerns. Councilor Freed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to adopt the snow policy as presented. 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	
	Bryon Reed Bob Steets		
	David Schnaars Joseph Wechsler		
	Jon Rinker		

- 2. W. Church Street Parking Lot – Larry Turoscy discussed naming this joiner lot, from W. Church Street to Short Alley, as a “Way”. It can be dedicated as a street or way if it has a 16’ cart way.
- 3. Liquid Fuels Eligibility – Larry Turoscy spoke on liquid fuels funds and their use requirements. In a Borough, a road, alley or way can be included in the liquid fuels system provided there is a deed of dedication, ordinance and map of the roadway & the cart way is at least 16’ wide. Attorney Healey explained the difference between liquid fuels eligibility for funding versus liquid fuels fund usage. If the Borough is responsible for repair and maintenance of a roadway, liquid fuel funds may be used even if the Borough does not receive liquid fuel funds for that specific roadway.

A list of alleys and ways has been generated by the Road Foreman. The solicitor and Engineer will work on specifics to add these to the liquid fuels system by September 1, 2015, so they will be eligible for funding next year. This item is referred to the Highway Committee.

- 4. 2015 ARLE Grant Program - Larry Turoscy informed Council that the state has opened the 2015 Automated Red Light Enforcement program (ARLE) grant round. Applications must be submitted by June 30, 2015. No matching funds are required for this grant round. He suggested two possible projects for consideration; 1) Signal project at Main & Walnut with an estimated cost of \$165,000; and 2) Safety project at Shadow Oaks at the main access to the High School with an estimated cost of \$175,000. Councilor Freed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to approve both projects for ARLE grant consideration. 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	
	Bryon Reed Bob Steets		
	David Schnaars Joseph Wechsler		
	Jon Rinker		

**B. Public Safety**

**Councilor Jon Rinker**

- 1. Forestry Truck – The Slatington Fire Dept. desires to acquire a 2 ½ forestry truck from DCNR. Councilor Rinker discussed the use capabilities and merits of acquiring this unit. It is free to the Borough, with the exception of licensing, insurance and maintenance. The insurance carrier quoted \$502 for liability coverage of this vehicle. Councilor Rinker made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Freed, authorizing acquisition of this vehicle subject to the fire company paying for all repairs and maintenance. President Jones declared the motion failed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bob Steets	Galen Freed	
	Joe Wechsler	Bryon Reed	
	Jon Rinker	Dave Schnaars	
		Gwyneth Jones	

- 2. Part-Time Patrolman Resignation - Councilor Rinker made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to accept the resignation of Part-Time Patrolman Matthew Houser. 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	
	Bryon Reed Bob Steets		
	David Schnaars Joseph Wechsler		
	Jon Rinker		

The Boy Scouts in attendance were recognized. Jagger Bolton, Nathan Green, Ben Lehman & Matt Peters are working on securing their communication badges as part of acquiring Eagle Scout status.

**C. Human/Community Services**

**Councilor David Schnaars**

1. Electronics Recycling – Councilor Schnaars reminded everyone of the upcoming electronics recycling event being held on Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup> from 9am till noon at the Borough Garage.
2. Employee Manual – R-08-2015 – The committee presented the employee manual for consideration. Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Steets, to adopt the Employee Manual dated June 8, 2015, by Resolution R-08-2015 with a sentence structure change in Section 5, page 10. 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	
	Bob Steets	Joe Wechsler	
	David Schnaars	Jon Rinker	
	Bryon Reed		

3. NL Band Booster – Community Yard Sale June 26<sup>th</sup> - Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Freed, to approve a request waive the yard sale permitting requirements for this event to raise funds for the high school marching band. 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	
	Bryon Reed Bob Steets		
	David Schnaars Joseph Wechsler		
	Jon Rinker		

4. Peer to Peer – Adopt Ordinance #667 – Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Steets, to adopt Ordinance No. 667, rescinding Ordinance No. 666 adopted 12/08/14 that created a joint recreational authority with Washington Township and Walnutport Borough. 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	
	Bryon Reed Bob Steets		
	David Schnaars Joseph Wechsler		
	Jon Rinker		

**D. Finance**

**Councilor Joseph Wechsler**

1. Tax Exemption Request - Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to approve a tax exemptions for Samantha Strohl due to non-resident status, Michele Sullivan due to SSI low income status and Karen Maehrer due to paying elsewhere. 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	
	David Schnaars Gwyneth Jones		
	Bryon Reed Jon Rinker		
	Bob Steets		

2. Rentschler Paving Request – Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to approve a request by Rentschler, LLC to macadam additional parking area leased from the Borough subject to review of the Borough Engineer and reimbursement of engineering fees. 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	
	David Schnaars Gwyneth Jones		
	Bryon Reed Jon Rinker		
	Bob Steets		

3. Zoning Hearing Board Appointment – Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Freed, to appoint Ms. Jamie Sillett, 848 Main Street, to a vacant seat on the Zoning Hearing Board with term expiring January 1, 2018. 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
	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 Freed, to authorize the affirmation of the Authority’s Transfer request in the amount of \$8,046.85; Steckel & Stopp \$690.60; Rettew Associates \$431.25; Joan Cheesbrough \$125.00 (April minutes); and Campbell, Rappold and Yurasits (audit) \$6,800.00. 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
	David Schnaars	Gwyneth Jones	
	Bryon Reed	Jon Rinker	
	Bob Steets		

Councilor Reed reported that the digester at the sewer plant has been emptied and inspected. Inspection revealed no cracking inside the digester. A full report is forthcoming.

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

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

Councilor Reed reported a circuit panel at the water treatment plant failed; it is being run manually until it is repaired. Grey Electric and Roberts Controls are assisting with the repairs. Also, the corrosion control container is leaking. The chemical vendor will replace the tank at no charge.

**G. Slatington Sesquicentennial Committee** **Councilor David**  
No Report

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Councilor Schnaars discussed a letter received regarding parking near the West End Playground causing inconvenience to the neighboring church. The Road Foreman has set barricades to help.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – President Jones called for an Executive Session and recessed the Regular Meeting at 8:45 pm. At 9:23 pm she reconvened the Regular Meeting. In executive Session, matters of personnel and legal issues were discussed.

At 9:23 Councilor Rinker made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Karen Gill  
Assistant Borough Secretary