

BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON

The **Public Safety, Finance/Planning/Zoning, and Human/Community Services Committee Workshop Meetings** were held on **July 27, 2015** in Council Room, 125 South Walnut Street, Slatington, PA 18080.

The meeting was called to order by Councilor Rinker at 6:30 PM with the following in attendance:

<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>	<u>OTHERS PRESENT</u>	<u>VISITORS</u>
Joseph Wechsler		Duane Dellecker	Bruce Kern Kris Burek
Jon Rinker		Bryon Reed	Carol Gildner Mel Gildner
David Schnaars			James Marcucci Brian Perry
			Janice Perry Rodney Moreira
			Deborah Moreira

FINANCE/PLANNING/ZONING

Joseph Wechsler – Chairman; Members: David Schnaars, Jon Rinker

1. Standing Committees/Authority – Councilor Wechsler discussed the “Committee on Committees”. The three (3) most senior members of Borough Council make up this committee. Section 13-5 of the Slatington Borough Code makes no allowance for selecting members of this committee when multiple members have the same seniority. The Committee asked for this item to be put on the agenda for the next Council meeting.

Councilor Wechsler also discussed giving Committee Chairs & Vice-Chairs added authority over approved budget expenditures and respective department operations when a vacancy exists in the office of Borough Manager. Section 13-5 of the Slatington Borough Code makes no allowance for this added authority. The Committee asked for this item to be put on the agenda for the next Council meeting.

2. Rental Housing/Transfer Inspections – Borough Ordinance #557, enacted 8/09/99, established a rental housing/transfer inspection program. Ordinance #632, enacted 3/10/08, repealed Ordinance #557. Councilor Reed gave a brief history and explained that Ordinance #627, enacted 12/27/07, established a rental occupancy registration program dealing with absentee landlords and disruptive tenants. The Office Manager was directed to contact Walnutport for a copy of their Ordinance dealing with inspections. The committee asked for better enforcement of Ordinance #627 and tabled this issue till the committee meeting next month.
3. Property Maintenance Code – Landlord Responsibility – Councilor Wechsler discussed holding landlords accountable and responsible for tenants violating Slatington Borough Codes. He proposed modifying Chapter 141 (Property Maintenance) of the Slatington Borough Code accordingly. A draft Ordinance was reviewed. The committee asked for this item to be put on the agenda for the next Council meeting.

There were no questions from the committee members; the Finance Committee Meeting was adjourned.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Jon Rinker-Chairman; Members: Joseph Wechsler, David Schnaars

1. Roofing Quotes – The committee reviewed a memo based on quotes received as a result of the RFP as prepared by the Office Manager for roofing work at the Pump House near Buzzy’s and the Water Authority Filter Building. Councilor Wechsler asked to table this issue for the next committee meeting to allow time for an on-site evaluation of proposals.
2. Borough Hall – Front Landscaping – Councilor Rinker discussed landscaping improvements to the primary entrance at the Borough Hall. Three areas of concern were addressed: a. the evergreen shrubs are overgrown and need to be removed; b. the cream colored brick at the two (2) raised beds straddling the entryway are deteriorating; and, c. the handicap ramp is showing signs of deterioration.
 - a. The evergreen shrubs are overgrown and need to be removed in order to work on the raised beds. The Office Manager was asked to contact the Women’s Club to suggest a planting schedule for the area and beds.
 - b. The Committee favored the option of removing all cream colored brick, repair deteriorated mortar joints and install a top cap. This would lower the height of the raised beds. The Committee asked for this item to be put on the agenda for the next Council meeting.
 - c. The handicap ramp deterioration was discussed. The Borough crew made minor repairs to the stucco. The office manager was directed to contact the contractor for repair options and report back to the committee.

There were no questions from the committee members; the Public Safety Committee Meeting was adjourned.

HUMAN/COMMUNITY SERVICES

David Schnaars – Chairman; Members: Joseph Wechsler, Jon Rinker

1. Committees & Duties – Councilor Schnaars discussed having a general guide describing committee oversight responsibilities for the various committees of Council. He presented an outline prepared by the Office Manager for discussion and asked the committee members to review the document. This item was tabled for the next committee meeting.
2. Memorial Park – 2nd Street Parking – Complaints were received regarding the narrowness of the parking spaces along Second Street at Memorial Park. Upon review, the plans called for the 8’ wide spaces that were marked. The zoning ordinance requires 10’ wide parking spaces. Councilor Schnaars directed the Office Manager to prepare a work order to mark these parking spaces in accordance with the zoning requirements.
3. Street Trees – Councilor Schnaars reported that a Gaming Revenue grant was applied for to help offset the cost of replacing street trees. A quote from Lang’s Landscaping to plant five (5) Locust street trees was \$1,950.

There were no questions from the committee members; the Human Community Services Committee Meeting was adjourned.

SLATINGTON SESQUICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

David Schnaars – Chairman; Members: Joseph Wechsler, Jon Rinker

1. No Report

There were no further questions from the committee members; the Sesquicentennial Committee Meeting was adjourned.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Several property owners in the neighborhood of Rentschler were in attendance to question rumors about the intentions of Mr. Rentschler regarding 216 Center Street. The Office Manager asked them to schedule a meeting in his office to discuss their questions and concerns.

Being no further business, Councilor Rinker made a motion to adjourn at 8:09 P.M.

Karen Gill
Assistant Borough Secretary