

BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON

The Regular Meeting of Council was held on **Monday, October 10, 2016** 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:

PRESENT

ABSENT

OTHERS PRESENT

VISITORS

Gwyneth Jones
Joseph Wechsler
Bryon Reed
Jon Rinker
David Schnaars
Bob Steets
Michael Brogan

Mayor Niedermeyer
Larry Turoscy
Duane Dellecker
Tom Dinkelacker, Esq.
Roxann Steelman

Tina Brogan Shawn Rios
Mel Gildner Carol Gildner
Kelley Andrade (Times News)
Kris Burek Ed Ziegler
Jeffrey Hausman Crystal Hausman
Susan Chandler Jordan Beggan
Jason Nicholas Chris Pascoe
Alice Wanamaker Megan Pascoe
Marlyn Kissner Robert Reph
Michael Frey Dave Vallette
Robert Herzog, Jr. Justin Frable
Dean Heffelfinger, Jr. Harry Ahner
Jason Ruff Matt Fink
Jarred Scheffler

President Jones announced that all public sessions of Borough Council are electronically recorded, and such recordings are maintained as part of the meeting record until the minutes are transcribed and approved by the Board, at which time the recordings shall be erased.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – President Jones adjourned to executive session at 7:03pm. The meeting was reconvened at 7:25pm. Matters of personnel were discussed in executive session.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS – Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Brogan, to accept the following minutes: Council Meeting, September 12, 2016; Committee Meetings September 19, 2016 & September 26, 2016. President Jones declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Agenda and Non-Agenda items) You will have three minutes to address Council from the podium. The three 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 – Slatington - Signed in and was recognized to speak. Mr. Gildner spoke on street lights and property maintenance enforcement issues.

Jason Ruff – 662 Main Street – Signed in and was recognized to speak. Mr. Ruff spoke on behalf of the Main Street Merchants Committee. They are committed to improving the appearance of Slatington. He thanked the Mayor and several Councilors for their assistance and asked for a commitment to continued property maintenance code improvements along Main Street.

Ed Ziegler – Resident – Signed in and was recognized to speak. Mr. Ziegler reported that street lights are all working. He also spoke on the recent Church Street project and new proposed parking lot.

Kris Burek – Slatington – Signed in and was recognized to speak. Ms. Burek requested draft ordinances listed on the agenda be made available to the public prior to board approval for advertising.

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

ROLL CALL

<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
Gwyneth Jones	None	None
Joe Wechsler		
David Schnaars		
Jon Rinker		
Bryon Reed		
Bob Steets		
Michael Brogan		

MAYORS/POLICE CHIEF'S REMARKS

The Mayor reported that PP&L will be changing street lights to LED. He also read a thank you letter from the Northern Lehigh Field Hockey Team thanking the Borough for allowing the car wash fundraiser at the Trailhead.

STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Highway

Councilor David Schnaars

1. Draft Ordinance #677 - Loading Zone 267 Main Street – Last month, Borough Council approved creating a 30 minute loading zone at 267 Main Street at the on-street parking space nearest the Main & Walnut Street traffic signal in front of their business. Draft Ordinance #677 has been prepared. Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Steets to specifically list the loading zone location, authorize legal review & advertise Ordinance #677. President Jones declared the motion passed, following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.
2. New Little Dump Truck – Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to include in the 2017 budget \$79,000 over 3-years for a new little dump truck through Kovatch with COSTARS pricing to be paid out of the Liquid Fuels account. President Jones declared the motion passed, following a Voice Vote, 5 in Favor, 2 Opposed.

B. Public Safety

Councilor Jon Rinker

1. Speed Display Signs – The Police Chief asked the Committee to consider purchasing a radar speed sign for the hill at Victory Park to help reduce vehicle speed. The cost is \$2,500 for one solar unit; a 2nd unit is discounted at 10%. The total cost for 2 units would be \$4,750. The company (ElanCity) will guarantee the price till 1/31/17. Councilor Rinker made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to purchase 2 solar radar speed signs. President Jones declared the motion passed, following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

With the new crosswalk being created near Victory Park, Larry Turoscy suggested requesting PENNDOT conduct a speed study for all of Main Street.

2. Fire Chief Termination – Councilor Rinker made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to terminate the appointment of Keith Weaver as Fire Chief for the Borough of Slatington due to insubordination. President Jones declared the motion passed, following a Voice Vote, 6 in Favor, 1 opposed.
3. Acting Fire Chief Appointment – Councilor Rinker made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to appoint Jason Nicholas Acting Fire Chief. President Jones declared the motion passed, following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

C. Human/Community Services

Councilor Michael Brogan

1. Application for Use of Facilities – The Solicitor has recommended updating our application for use of Borough facilities to include an indemnification clause. Currently, we have applications for use of Victory Park and Memorial Park, but none for other Borough facilities. Councilor Brogan made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to approve the new Application for Use of Facilities. President Jones declared the motion passed, following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.
2. Draft Ordinance #678 – Parks & Recreation Membership – The Parks & Recreation Commission has asked for a modification to Chapter 40 of the Slatinton Borough Code dealing with membership of the Commission to allow for up to two (2) members of the five (5) member Commission to be residents of the Northern Lehigh School District area. Attorney Dinkelacker supported the Ordinance as the Parks & Recreation Commission is a recommending body only. Councilor Brogan made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to authorize legal review and advertise Ordinance #678. President Jones declared the motion passed, following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.
3. Victory Park Amphitheatre – Larry Turoscy informed Council that a group met recently to plan & design an amphitheatre for Victory Park. A temporary one has been erected since 2014 for the Day in the Park. This group would like to create a permanent amphitheatre. They will keep Council informed as plans become more complete.

Councilor Rinker suggested surveying the perimeter of Victory Park since acquiring the additional lots. Larry Turoscy will put together a plan showing the property pins.

D. Finance

Councilor Joseph Wechsler

1. Generator Service Agreement – Last year we combined the service agreement for the Borough’s five (5) generators. A quote of \$3,296.80 has been received from Emergency Systems Service Company to service our generators. Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Rinker, to approve this service agreement. President Jones declared the motion passed, following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.
2. Draft Ordinance #679 – Tax Collector Fees - The tax collector has requested a \$10 fee for duplicate tax bills. Ordinances 521 & 622 have been adopted dealing with fees charged by the tax collector. Currently there is no fee for a duplicate tax bill. This draft ordinance would authorize the tax collector to collect a \$10 fee for duplicate tax bills. Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Rinker, to authorize legal review & advertise Ordinance #679. President Jones declared the motion passed, following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.
3. RCN Cable Agreement – RCN Cable is being acquired by TPG affiliate, Radiate Holdings, L.P. RCN currently holds a franchise for cable TV services in the Borough. Under FCC rules, no action is required on our part. If no action is taken within 120 days, under federal law, the application will be deemed granted. If we choose to act, a draft Resolution has been supplied. Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Rinker, to take no action. President Jones declared the motion passed, following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

E. Sewer/Solid Waste

Councilor Bob Steets

1. Nothing to Report

F. Water/Special Sewer Committee

Councilor Bryon Reed

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

2. South Street Water Line Replacement – Larry Turoscy discussed options for looping the water line down 6th street into the line on W. Washington Street to end the turbidity in the line. Councilor Reed informed Council that this section of line was not replaced as part of the 1995 project and needs to be done. Councilor Reed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to proceed on bidding this project as proposed. President Jones declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

1. Borough Hall – Roof Repair – Councilor Reed and the Office Manager met with the contractor who completed roof work in the past. We are waiting for a quote to be submitted.

NEW BUSINESS –

President Jones announced Trick-or-Treat night will be Wednesday, October 26, 2016, from 6-8pm.

The Mayor reminded everyone that the Halloween Parade is scheduled for Saturday, October 22, 2016, at 6:00pm. The rain date Sunday, October 23, 2016.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR (for agenda items only)

Fire Chief Discussion – Borough Council and members of the public discussed the former Fire Chief and his service to the Fire Company for the past decade. President Jones will send a letter of appreciation to the former Chief Weaver for his years of service to the community.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – President Jones announced an executive session scheduled for Thursday, October 13, 2016, at 6:30pm for personnel purposes. No action will be taken at that time.

Being no further business, President Jones declared the meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.

Karen Gill
Assistant Borough Secretary