

BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON

The Regular Meeting of Council was held on **Monday, June 13, 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:

<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>	<u>OTHERS PRESENT</u>	<u>VISITORS</u>
Gwyneth Jones	Mayor Niedermeyer		Carol Gildner Mel Gildner
Joseph Wechsler		Larry Turoscy	Ed Ziegler Harry Ahner
Bryon Reed		Duane Dellecker	Kelley Andrade (Times News)
Bob Steets		Tom Dinkelacker, Esq.	Kris Burek Ted Kistler
David Schnaars			Ron Scheffler James Yoder
Jon Rinker			Paige Yoder Robert Stettner
Michael Brogan			Jeff Hausman Crystal Hausman

Due to the absence of the Mayor, the President of Borough Council sat in as Mayor and turned the meeting over to Vice-President Wechsler. Vice-President Wechsler 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 – None

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS – Councilor Steets made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Brogan, to accept the following minutes: Council Meeting, May 9, 2016; Special Council Meeting May 23, 2016; Committee Meetings – May 16, 2016 and May 23, 2016. Vice-President Wechsler 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.

Ron Scheffler – signed in and was recognized to speak. He relinquished his time without making any statements.

Mel Gildner – Slatington - Signed in and was recognized to speak. Mr. Gildner questioned tape recording minutes and destroying the tapes. He also questioned the Ordinance Enforcement Officer report... stating that he thought priorities should be changed from enforcing grass regulations to other more important issues.

Kris Burek – Resident – signed in and was recognized to speak. Ms. Burek encouraged Council to adopt a resolution supporting H.B. 17 which deals with pension issues; asked for additional copies of financial reports to be put on public display at meetings and spoke on a realtor's negative comments about property values in Slatington.

Ted Kistler – Resident – signed in and was recognized to speak. Mr. Kistler thanked Borough Council for the honor conferred upon him by dedicating the police station building in his name & congratulated them on naming a new solicitor.

Ed Ziegler – Resident – Signed in and was recognized to speak. Mr. Ziegler complained about being pulled over for driving too slow & lack of enforcement of parking regulations at the Trailhead and Main Street parking lot.

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 Steets, to approve payment of the Bills and transfers as presented by the Treasurer. Vice-President Wechsler declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

MAYORS/POLICE CHIEF'S REMARKS

The Mayor and Police Chief were absent due to other commitments.

STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Highway

Councilor David Schnaars

1. TAP Grant – Approval for Temporary Construction Easements – Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to approve six (6) temporary construction easements

for the Victory Park Sidewalk project with Audrey Arndt, Arthur Miller, Edward & Louise Bechtel, Andrew Aris, Sandra Evans and Kathryn Kemp. Vice-President Wechsler declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

Councilor Schnaars informed Council that we were able to secure additional TAP grant funding for this project totaling \$97,430 of the \$106,524 estimated construction cost. The estimated Borough share is \$9,094.

2. John Freed Way – Construction Letting – Councilor Schnaars informed Council that this project will be advertised June 24th & July 8th; with a bid opening of July 22nd, 2016, at 10:00am.

B. Public Safety

Councilor Jon Rinker

1. Police & NLSD – Addendum to Memorandum of Understanding – Councilor Rinker made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to approve the addendum to the memorandum of understanding between the NLSD and the Slatington Police Department, defining responsibilities of the new School District Police Officer, the School District and the Slatington Police Department. Vice-President Wechsler declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

C. Human/Community Services

Councilor Michael Brogan

1. Eagle Scout Project – Councilor Brogan introduced Master Yoder who is working on attaining Eagle Scout status. Master Yoder, from Troop 58, outlined a project proposal to beautify the front entrance at Borough Hall. Councilor Rinker made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Brogan to approve the proposal subject to insurance issues. Vice-President Wechsler declared the motion passed, following a Voice Vote, All in Favor. The Office Manager was directed to coordinate this project with the masonry work.

D. Finance

Councilor Joseph Wechsler

1. Gurniak & Gurniak, CPA – 2016 Engagement Letter – Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Rinker, to approve the 2016 letter of engagement for accounting & bookkeeping services with Gurniak & Gurniak, Certified Public Accountants. Vice-President Wechsler declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.
2. Tax Exemption Request – Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to approve a tax exemption requests for Jared Young due to low income status and Samantha Zenz due to being deceased. Vice-President Wechsler declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.
3. Brickwork Repair – Borough Hall – Marlatt Masonry submitted a quote of \$2,000 to repair, acid wash, replace damaged bricks, re-point & weatherproof piers, arches and flower boxes, etc. at the front entrance to the Borough Hall. Councilor Steets made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to approve this work at a cost not too exceed \$2,000. Vice-President Wechsler declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.
4. Training – Building Codes – The Building Code Officer requested approval to attend the PA Construction Code Academy half-day training course on Efficient Residential Energy Code implementation being held in Northampton County at a cost of \$25 on June 14, 2016. Councilor Brogan made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Rinker, to approve this training. Vice-President Wechsler declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

E. Sewer/Solid Waste

Councilor Bob Steets

1. Authority Bills – Councilor Steets made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to pay the Slatington Borough Authority bills of \$6,716.66; Steckel & Stopp \$125.00 (March) & \$466.66 (April); Joan Cheesbrough \$125 (March Minutes) & CRY (Audit) \$6,000. Vice-President Wechsler declared the motion passed, following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

F. Water/Special Sewer Committee

Councilor Bryon Reed

1. Water Plant – Property Lines – Larry Turoscy informed Council that the property boundary pins from the 1991 survey were no longer there and were re-set on the property across from the water plant. The plant operator was made aware of the specific location of these property lines for future reference. Larry Turoscy was concerned over neighboring property owners encroaching on Borough land. Attorney Dinkelacker explained to Council that, in cases of adverse possession, the legal term “nulum tempis” (meaning that time does not run against the king) applies to municipalities. This matter was referred to committee for discussion on sending letters to adjoining property owners and creating encroachment agreements if needed.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Larry Turoscy reported that the Veterans Committee should be prepared to present plans to the next committee meeting.

NEW BUSINESS – None

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR – Ed Zeigler spoke about hunting on water shed property.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – None

At 7:48 pm, Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Steets to adjourn the meeting. Vice-President Wechsler declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

Karen Gill
Assistant Borough Secretary