

BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON

The Regular Meeting of Council was held on **Monday, January 11, 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

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

Mayor Niedermeyer
Ed Healy
Larry Turoscy
Duane Dellecker

Carol Gildner Mel Gildner
Kris Burek Ed Ziegler
Kelley Andrade (Times News)
Crystal Hausman Bruce Kern
Jeffrey Hausman TV 13
Robert Herzog, Jr. Michael Meyers
Jeffrey Singley John Bolton
Tom Muller Matthew Szuchyt
Russell Hallman

EXECUTIVE SESSION – None. President Jones announced executive sessions held on December 17th & 21st, 2015, for personnel purposes.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS – Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Steets, to accept the following minutes: Council Meeting – December 14, 2015; Public Hearing, December 14, 2015; Committee Meetings – December 21, 2015 and December 28, 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	Gwyneth Jones	None	None
	Bryon Reed	Joseph Wechsler		
	David Schnaars	Jon Rinker		

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.

Michael Meyers - signed in and was recognized to speak. Mr. Meyers spoke against proposed Ordinance #674. Specifically, he questioned the need for such an ordinance; the number of in-town versus out-of-town landlords; uniformity of taxation versus fees for services and other related issues.

Jeffrey Singley – signed in and was recognized to speak. Mr. Singley spoke about a water leak in the street in front of his property located at 527 E. Church Street that was repaired March 10, 2015. He was concerned about an area approximately 10’ x 3’ x 6” deep that has sunk at a handicap parking space & asked if it could be repaired. Councilor Reed will look into this matter.

Kris Burek – signed in and was recognized to speak. Ms. Burek spoke on existing landlord/tenant registration regulations and follow-up; Slatington Borough Authority minutes not being posted to the web site; trash and recycling schedule distribution and property maintenance complaints.

Ed Ziegler - signed in and was recognized to speak. He spoke about his meeting with PENNDOT to repair the guide rails at the Main Street bridge; creating a recycling ordinance; and, stated the lighting for the Memorial Park flagpole is not properly adjusted.

Mel Gildner - signed in and was recognized to speak. Mr. Gildner questioned landlord/tenant registration tracking. He also expressed concerns about rental unit water billing rates being unfair to owner occupied units. Council stated the billing rate issue have been discussed on numerous occasions.

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 Reed, 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 Bob Steets	None	None
	Bryon Reed Jon Rinker		
	David Schnaars Joseph Wechsler		

MAYORS/POLICE CHIEF’S REMARKS

No remarks

STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Highway

Councilor David Schnaars

1. Two 2015 CDBG Contracts – W. Church & W. Franklin Streets - Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Steets, to approve two (2) 2015 CDBG contracts & authorize President Jones to execute as follows: 1. W. Church Street from Main to Dowell Streets at a cost of \$80,492; and, 2. W. Franklin Street from 4th to 5th Streets at a cost of \$80,880; with a minimum 10% match from the Liquid Fuels account. Larry Turoscy briefed the Council on the projects. 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 Joseph Wechsler	None	None
	Gwyneth Jones Bryon Reed		
	Jon Rinker David Schnaars		

2. Truck Body & Snow Plow Repair – A quote was received from Slatington Fabricators to replat and repair the truck bed for the 1991 GMC at a cost of \$4,300 & to remove and replace the existing L4 X 4 X ¾ for the snow plow cutting edge support at a cost of \$1,900. The 1991 GMC has approximately 31,000 miles on it & due to regulatory changes, the split-rims on the rear will need to be replaced this year. Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Rinker, to approve both repairs. Before a roll call was completed, a discussion was had regarding repair versus replacement. Favoring discussing replacement vehicles, Councilor Schnaars rescinded his motion. Councilor Rinker then made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to approve both repairs. 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 Joseph Wechsler	David Schnaars	None
	Gwyneth Jones Bryon Reed		
	Jon Rinker		

B. Public Safety

Councilor Jon Rinker

1. Drum & Bugle Corp at School – Councilor Rinker announced that the Drum & Bugle Corp will be performing at the school on July 7, 2016, from 6:00 – 10:30pm. As this is a very popular event, the police should be made aware of increased traffic in the area.

C. Human/Community Services

Councilor David Schnaars

1. Pavilion Roof – Victory Park – Councilor Schnaars informed Council that the new roof and repairs to the support structure of the pavilion have been completed.
2. NL Education Foundation – Running of the Dawgs – A request was received from the NL Education Foundation to conduct their annual 5K run on April 16, 2016. Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Rinker, to approve the request subject to receiving a course map. President Jones declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	David Schnaars Jon Rinker		
	Bryon Reed Gwyneth Jones		
	Joseph Wechsler Bob Steets		

D. Finance

Councilor Joseph Wechsler

1. Proposed Ordinance #674 – Housing Rental/Transfer Inspections – Councilor Wechsler explained that the draft ordinance was revised as the result of legal review. This ordinance modifies Chapter 141 of the Slatington Borough Code. Councilor Reed expressed concerns regarding this ordinance. Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Rinker, to advertise Ordinance #674. President Jones declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	David Schnaars Jon Rinker	Bryon Reed	None
	Joseph Wechsler Bob Steets		
	Gwyneth Jones		

The Office Manager was instructed to prepare a report and resolution for license and inspection fees.

2. Draft 2014 Audit Report – Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to approve the draft 2014 audit report 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>
	Joseph Wechsler Jon Rinker	None	None
	David Schnaars Bryon Reed		
	Bob Steets Gwyneth Jones		

E. Sewer/Solid Waste

Councilor Bob Steets

(Note: action item #4 was added to the agenda by Councilor Steets. It is placed in its proper position in these minutes for the sake of good order.)

1. Annual Service Agreement - Pumps – Envirep TLC submitted the annual service agreement to service the primary sludge transfer, trickling filter recirculation and backwash sludge pumps at a cost of \$2,100 for all six (6) pumps. A motion was made by Councilor Steets, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to approve this service agreement. President Jones declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
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Gwyneth Jones	Bob Steets	None	None
Jon Rinker	Bryon Reed		
David Schnaars	Joseph Wechsler		

2. Sludge Hauling Disposal Contract – On January 5, 2016, the bids for sludge hauling were opened. The low bidder was Biros at 8.98 cents per gallon for a three (3) year contract. Both the engineer and solicitor have reviewed the bids. Councilor Steets made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed to award the contract to Biros conditional upon contractor providing DEP license and posting required insurances. 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	Bob Steets	None
	Jon Rinker	Bryon Reed	None
	David Schnaars	Joseph Wechsler	

3. Authority Bills – None were presented.

4. K.L Fulford Associates, Inc. Agreement – Councilor Steets presented a proposal from K.L. Fulford Associates, Inc. to provide wastewater facility operational assistance to the Borough in accordance with the agreement as needed. Councilor Steets made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to approve this agreement. 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	Bob Steets	None
	Jon Rinker	Bryon Reed	None
	David Schnaars	Joseph Wechsler	

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

1. Water Test Statement - Water was tested and found safe for human consumption.
2. Water Plant Furnace – Councilor Reed reported receiving two (2) quotes for replacing the furnace at the water treatment plant. The low quote was received from Kromer Plumbing, Heating & Air at a cost of \$6,800. Councilor Reed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Steets, to approve the furnace replacement by Kromer. 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	Bob Steets	None
	Jon Rinker	Bryon Reed	None
	David Schnaars	Joseph Wechsler	

G. Slatinton Sesquicentennial Committee **Councilor David Schnaars**
Nothing to report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Declare 2-year Seat on Council Vacant – Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Rinker to declare a 2-year seat on Borough Council vacant and authorize advertisement for letters of interest. 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	Bob Steets	None
	Jon Rinker	Bryon Reed	None
	David Schnaars	Joseph Wechsler	

Council recognized Lehigh County Executive Bill Muller's attendance at the meeting and thanked him for coming.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – None

At 8:27 pm Councilor Reed made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Karen Gill
Assistant Borough Secretary