

## BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON

The Re-Organization Meeting of Council was held on Monday, January 4, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. in Council Chambers, 125 S. Walnut Street, Slatington, PA 18080.

\*Note: The following were sworn in and the Oath of Office administered by Mayor Walter Niedermeyer prior to the Re-Organization Meeting: Gwyneth A. Jones, Councilor; Robert Steets, Councilor; David R. Schnaars, Councilor; Joseph C. Wechsler, Jr., Councilor and Reta Stine, Tax Collector.

Presiding: Mayor Niedermeyer

Reverend Schnaars led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Prayer

Recording Secretary: Bryon Reed

Mayor Niedermeyer called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and requested the Roll be taken

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Mayor Niedermeyer  
Attorney Healy  
Duane Dellecker  
David Rachman

VISITORS

Kris Burek      John Bolton  
Carol Gildner      Bruce Kern  
Galen Freed      Robert Herzog, Jr.  
Russell Hallman

**COURTESY OF THE FLOOR** (Agenda and Non-Agenda Items) – No Visitors addressed Council/Mayor

### **ELECTION OF COUNCIL OFFICERS**

**Election of President** – Mayor Niedermeyer asked for nominations three (3) times. Councilor Schnaars nominated Gwyneth A. Jones for President. Since there were no other nominations for President, Mayor Niedermeyer declared Gwyneth A. Jones as President of Council for 2016/2017.

**Election of Vice-President** – Mayor Niedermeyer called for nominations three (3) times for Vice-President of Council. Councilor Rinker nominated Joseph Wechsler for Vice President. Since there were no other nominations for Vice-President, Mayor Niedermeyer declared Joseph Wechsler as Vice-President of Council for 2016/2017.

Mayor Niedermeyer called for nominations three (3) times for President Pro-Tem. Councilor Wechsler nominated Bryon Reed. Mayor Niedermeyer called for his election by acclamation. The Mayor declared Bryon Reed President Pro-Tem of Council for 2016/2017.

Mayor Niedermeyer turned over the Chair to President Jones.

### **APPOINTMENTS**

President Jones asked for a motion to appoint the Borough Solicitor. Councilor Steets made a motion to appoint Steckel & Stopp as Borough Solicitor for 2016/2017. President

Jones asked three (3) times for a second. None being received, President Jones declared the motion failed for lack of a second.

President Jones asked for a motion to appoint the following:

- Borough Engineer – Lehigh Engineering
- Special Sewer Engineer – Karl Schreiter
- Fire Chief – Keith Weaver
- Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor – Broughal & DeVito
- Chief of Police – David Rachman
- Assistant Secretary/Treasurer – Karen Gill
- Office Manager/Zoning Officer/Building Code Official – Duane Dellecker
- Ordinance Enforcement Officer – Linda Nails
- Health Officer (Inspector) – Lynn Zakos
- Emergency Management Director – Ronald Hausman
- Sewer Enforcement Officer – Lehigh Engineering

Councilor Steets made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler to appoint the above listed for 2016/2017. President Jones declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYE</u>		<u>NAY</u>
	Gwyneth Jones	Bob Steets	None
	Bryon Reed	Jon Rinker	
	David Schnaars	Joseph Wechsler	

President Jones noted that the positions of Secretary/Treasurer and Animal Control Officer are currently vacant.

President Jones made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler to appoint Councilor Schnaars as Council Chaplain. President Jones declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYE</u>		<u>NAY</u>
	Gwyneth Jones	Bob Steets	None
	Bryon Reed	Jon Rinker	
	David Schnaars	Joseph Wechsler	

President Jones asked for a motion to approve the Borough Depositories. Councilor Rinker made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to approve the following: 1<sup>st</sup> Niagara Financial Group, Wells Fargo Advisors (CD's), National Penn Investors Trust (Pensions), and Huntington National Bank (Bonds). President Jones declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYE</u>		<u>NAY</u>
	Gwyneth Jones	Bob Steets	None
	Bryon Reed	Jon Rinker	
	David Schnaars	Joseph Wechsler	

President Jones asked for a motion to approve appointments and reappointments to the following Boards and Commissions:

- Board of Health – Re-appoint Mr. Joseph Bechtel to a five (5) year term.
- Zoning Hearing Board – Re-appoint Mr. Jerry Healey to a three (3) year term.
- Parks & Recreation Commission – Re-appoint Mr. Nathan Stubbs & Rev. David Schnaars to three (3) year terms.

Police Pension Committee – Re-appoint Russell Hallman, Resident Appointee; Karen Gill, Office Appointee; and David Schnaars, Council Member Appointee to two (2) year terms.  
 Uniform Construction Code Board of Appeals – Re-appoint Mr. Mike Turoscy, Engineer, to a five (5) year term & Re-appoint Mr. Duane Stokes, Contractor, to a four (4) year term.  
 Slatington Library Board – Re-appoint Mrs. Annabel Fogal to a three (3) year term.

Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to re-appoint the above listed for the terms noted. President Jones declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYE</u>		<u>NAY</u>
Gwyneth Jones		Bob Steets	None
Bryon Reed		Jon Rinker	
David Schnaars		Joseph Wechsler	

President Jones announced the following Board & Commission vacancies:  
 Board of Health – two (2) vacancies  
 Slatington Borough Authority – two (2) vacancies  
 Civil Service Commission – one (1) vacancy

President Jones called a recess and asked Councilors Reed, Steets & Schnaars to retire to Council Chambers so the Committee on Committies could select committee members for 2016/2017. At 7:27 P.M. Councilor Reed announced the following committee assignments:

Finance/Planning/Zoning: Joseph Wechsler, Chair, Jon Rinker & David Schnaars (temporary)  
 Human/Community Services: David Schnaars-Chair (temporary), Jon Rinker & Joseph Wechsler  
 Public Safety: Jon Rinker-Chair, Joseph Wechsler & David Schnaars (temporary)  
 Highway: David Schnaars, Chair, Bryon Reed & Bob Steets  
 Sewer: Bob Steets, Chair, Bryon Reed & David Schnaars  
 Water: Bryon Reed, Chair, David Schnaars & Bob Steets

EXECUTIVE SESSION – President Jones recessed the Re-Organization Meeting at 7:32 and called for an Executive Session. At 7:40 P.M. she reconvened the Regular Meeting. In executive session matters of personnel & legal were discussed.

Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to direct the Office Manager to prepare an RFP and advertise for solicitor services with proposals to be received no later than February 8, 2016. President Jones declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYE</u>		<u>NAY</u>
Gwyneth Jones		Bob Steets	None
Bryon Reed		Jon Rinker	
David Schnaars		Joseph Wechsler	

Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Rinker, to appoint Councilor Schnaars as temporary Right-To-Know Officer for the Borough. President Jones declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>
Gwyneth Jones	Bob Steets	None
Bryon Reed	Jon Rinker	
David Schnaars	Joseph Wechsler	

Being no further business, President Jones adjourned the meeting at 8:41 P.M.

Karen Gill  
Assistant Borough Secretary