

**BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON  
COMMITTEE WORKSHOP/BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 28, 2017 at 6:30 PM**

The Water, Sewer/Solid Waste, Highway, Public Safety, Finance/Planning/Zoning and Human Community Services Committee Workshop Meetings were held on Tuesday, November 28, 2017 in Council Room, 125 South Walnut Street, Slatington, PA.

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

<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>	<u>OTHERS</u>	<u>VISITORS</u>
President Schnaars	Joseph Wechsler	Tom Anewalt	Dan Stevens Bruce Kern
Bryon Reed	Jon Rinker		Russ Hallman Carol Gildner
Michael Brogan 7:39 arrived			Jeffrey Hausman Ed Ziegler
Melvin Gildner			Paul Pugielli Jason Nicholas
Jason Ruff			Ron Hausman Tim Schantz
Mayor Niedermeyer			
Manager Danko			

**PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE**

Councilor Gildner commented on an e-mail that had been sent by a Councilor Reed stating the emergency special budget meeting on 11/21/17 was breaking the Sunshine Law, due to the fact it wasn't advertised correctly. The attorney had stated that everything was legal. Councilor Gildner would not had been a participant in the meeting had it been illegal. The meeting was an emergency due to not being able to have a quorum of council the next evening and the Holiday with needing to discuss the budget with taking no action. Attorney Anewalt said that all meetings must be advertised, unless they are an emergency meeting or a continuation of a meeting. However, this meeting was announced tonight and advertised 3 times on TV and posted on the Borough Hall building.

**A. FINANCE/PLANNING/ZONING**

Joseph Wechsler– Chairman; Members: Jon Rinker, Jason Ruff  
Committee Member discussion on listed topics:

1. A **motion** was made by **Councilor Ruff**, duly **seconded** by **Councilor Reed**, to **adopt** and **Authorize** 2018 preliminary Budget to be advertised to be adopted on 12/11/17 as Slatington Borough 2018 Final Budget. Councilor Gildner asked Manager Danko about how long the residents will have to go with the poor condition of the roads. Manager Danko informed him that a repair for 4th Streets scheduled for the spring of 2018 - a CDBG grant along with money from the budget, and there is discussion of repair for Shadow Oaks. President Schnaars declared the motion failed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	David Schnaars	Melvin Gildner	
	Bryon Reed		
	Jason Ruff		

A motion was made by Councilor Ruff, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to **table** the adoption and authorize 2018 preliminary budget later in the meeting because a council

member was running late due to being at work and traffic. President Schnaars declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor

Councilman Brogan arrived at approximately 7:39PM

A **motion** was made by **Councilor Ruff**, duly **seconded** by **Councilor Brogan**, to **adopt** the 2018 preliminary budget to be advertised and adopted on 12/11/17 as Slatington Borough final budget. President Schnaars declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	David Schnaars Bryon Reed Melvin Gildner Michael Brogan Jason Ruff		

A **motion** was made by **Councilor Ruff**, duly **seconded** by **Councilor Brogan**, to **authorize** the **advertisement** of proposed Ordinance 2017- 689, an ordinance of the Borough of Slatington, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, an ordinance levying taxes for the fiscal year 2018 for the Borough of Slatington, including the rates for real estate tax at 4.80 mills, the fire fund tax at .60 mills, the local service tax at \$52.00, the wage tax at 1%, the per capita tax at \$5.00 and the realty transfer tax at 1%. President Schnaars declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	David Schnaars Bryon Reed Melvin Gildner Michael Brogan Jason Ruff		

2. Council reviewed and discussed e-mail dated 11/3/17 concerning the Multi-Municipal Plan for Northern Region of Lehigh County. Manager Danko stated that the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission is working on this. The Commission is asking the Borough of Slatington to have someone from the Borough to be involved with the planning process and to attend the meetings. Manager Danko thought it would be nice if someone from the council would be interested in attending the meetings and speak about Slatington. At this time, it is only a fact-finding committee. Councilor Ruff graciously volunteered to be Slatington's representative.
3. John Freedway – discuss overnight parking permits.

Council feels that overnight parking permits would be good idea. Council directed Manager Danko to order the sign and have the sign done the same as the other Borough parking lots with a fee of \$10.00 per month for permit parking at night. The parking would be open to the public for free during the day to access the businesses downtown. There are 12 spots - 1 handicap and 11 regular spots. Councilor Reed would like to see a better sticker for the permits along with a new idea that the store front owners would be able to utilize the parking lot for employees so that it would open up the parking on Main St.- this will be addressed in the future.

4. Council discussed letter dated 11/17/17 from PA Family Council in reference to Act #42 providing municipalities the right to prohibit the location of a satellite casino with the limits of your municipality. Some Councilmembers felt they needed to research this more, this is to be placed on the December 11, 2017, Council Agenda.
5. Council discussed letter dated 11/15/17 from H. Gordon Roberts, Lehigh County DJ Administrator in reference to permission for a sign and utilizing Borough Crew to hang it. The Borough Crew are not qualified to handle electricity. A **motion** was made by **Councilor Ruff**, duly **seconded** by **Councilor Gildner**, to **allow** H. Gordon Roberts to replace the sign within the legal limits of the Borough Zoning (after obtaining a permit if necessary). President Schnaars declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor
6. Council discussed letter dated 11/10/17 from EMC insurance requesting their \$10,000.00 deductible due to them in reference to the Robert Kopishke claim (police). A **motion** was made by **Councilor Ruff**, duly **seconded** by **Councilor Reed**, to **reimburse them** their \$10,000.00 deductible. President Schnaars declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor
7. Council reviewed and discussed proposed the 2018 Fee Schedule that Mgr. Danko provided them. Some of the items that are suggested to change are the certification fees and the Zoning permits. The water/sewer/trash certification is \$10.00 for all three, it should be changed to \$10.00 each. Currently, the Zoning permits are a \$25.00 fee and they should be a \$35.00 fee, also Change the Zoning Hearing flat fee from \$400.00 to \$250.00 plus the actual costs that are allowable. A **motion** was made by **Councilor Gildner**, duly **seconded** by **Councilor Ruff**, to **authorize** Manager Danko to take all administrative steps necessary to have this on the 12/11/17 Council agenda.

The following issues were discussed collectively:

8. Dump truck - Bryon Reed will be obtaining quotes from a company that is Costar dealer. Councilor Reed obtained a quote from Whitmoyer that is apples-to-apples for: \$77,900.00. All products are on Costar.
9. Reviewed Koch 33 quotation information. This is an apples-to-apples quote for: \$76,706.00
10. Reviewed New Holland Group Auto Group quotation information. Manager Danko obtained a quote, for the same body that SMF quoted, that is apples-to-apples for: \$76,704.00  
The quote from SMF is not a dealer for some products for Costar and Councilor Reed pointed out their original quote was approximately \$10,000.00 more than the 3 new quotes. Councilor Reed is going to review Costars eligibility on all of the new quotes and inform Manager Danko. There are some differences in all of the quotes.  
Manager Danko to schedule all three sales representatives to meet with the Borough Crew and Council persons that are available to review the new proposals. This will be placed again on the 12/11/17 Council agenda.

Councilman Gildner left the room at 8PM and came back at 8:04PM  
President Schnaars declared a 5-minute recess at 8:00 PM.  
President Schnaars resumed the meeting at 8:05 PM.

Items #11, #12, #13, were discussed collectively.

11. Council discussed Florists lease. Manager Danko stated that Florists' lease has not gone up for approximately 7 or more years. Florists' lease from 2015 was never completed, only approved in the minutes and hand written to change the expiration date to January, 2018 on the 2015 lease.
12. Discuss Steckel and Stopp lease. This lease must be renewed. This lease had been increased, although Steckel and Stopp opted to not utilize one of the other rooms.
13. Reviewed and discussed Vigilante lease, informational only. This lease has been renewed and for 5-years there has been no increase.

Manager Danko previously reviewed these leases with council and council felt there should be a rental increase for these tenants. Council authorized Manager Danko to meet with Florist, Steckel & Stopp, and Zak Mako, and negotiate increases and new leases and bring back to Council for approval.

**B. PUBLIC SAFETY**

Jon Rinker-Chairman; Members: Joseph Wechsler, Jason Ruff  
Committee Member discussion on listed topics:

1. Approve letter from Ronald B. Hausman dated 11/11/17 interested in continuing to be the Slatington Borough EMA Director, this item will be placed on 12/11/17 council agenda.

**C. HUMAN RESOURCES/COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Jason Ruff – Chairman; Members: Joseph Wechsler, Jon Rinker  
Committee Member discussion on listed topics:

1. Council reviewed and discussed e-mail from Attorney Dinkelacker reminding Council's need to appoint a member for the new year on the Vacancy Board. Manager Danko will have Liz advertise this in the newsletter.

**D. SEWER/SOLID WASTE**

Mel Gildner – Chairman; Members: Bryon Reed, Michael Brogan, Jr.  
Committee Member Discussion:

1. Slatington Borough Authority 2018 Meeting Dates and Times submitted to Council, Informational only.
2. Council reviewed and discussed e-mail dated 11/27/17 from Attorney Healy from Steckel and Stopp. A motion was made by Council Gildner, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to authorize Manager Danko to advertise for the vacancies open on the sewer authority. President Schnaars declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor
3. Manager Danko to follow up on who completes the DRBC renewal application.

**E. WATER/SPECIAL SEWER COMMITTEE**

Bryon Reed – Chairman; Members: Mel Gildner, Michael Brogan, Jr.  
Committee Member Discussion:

1. Councilor Reed updated Council on the South St. water line which is completed and there is service. Water has been tested. Manger Danko added that all the services are done and the first coat of black top is completed, the top coat will be done in spring. However, there was a

complaint that there was dirt in the water. Manager Danko informed public works who will go out and will check it out.

#### **F. HIGHWAY**

Michael Brogan - Chairman; Members: Mel Gildner, Bryon Reed

Committee Member Discussion:

1. Arle grant-stop light at Main & E. Church St. update. Manager Danko informed council they were able to acquire all 3 easements, except for one, the Key Bank. Manager Danko contacted PennDOT asking what can be done to complete this without the easement. PennDOT will be writing us a letter. There are a couple of options: do condemnation - which is costly, or have Lehigh Engineering change the plan and resubmit to PennDOT. Once Manager Danko has received the letter from PennDOT, it will be returned to council for their review. However, work is still being done by Roxanne to try to get the bank to cooperate. Manger Danko explained there is a time extension letter that must be completed because this should be done by April/June of 2018. Manager Danko will be requesting a time extension till the end of 2018.

#### **G. PRESIDENTS REPORT**

#### **H. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

1. December 26, 2017 workshop meeting shall be cancelled.
2. PA State Association of Boroughs informing municipalities of the Building Fee Permit Surcharge Increase.
3. Walnut St. Bridge update from 11/21/17 meeting.
4. Slatington 2018 Borough meeting notice to be advertised for the new year, informational only.

**I. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** – President Schnaars recessed to executive session at 8:35 pm for personnel purposes to discuss Sgt. Taibi heart and lung with Attorney Anewalt. At 9:05 pm, President Schnaars reconvened the meeting. Matters of personnel were discussed in executive session.

1. A motion was made by Councilor Ruff, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to pay Manager Danko for any unused vacation time due to her -per her contract for the year 2017. President Schnaars declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor

**COURTESY TO THE FLOOR:** NONE

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, President Schnaars declared the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.



Judith A. Danko  
Borough Secretary