

**BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
6/11/18**

The Regular Meeting Minutes of Council was held on **Monday, June 11, 2018** at 7:00 P.M., in Council Chambers, 125 S. Walnut Street, Slatington, PA 18080.

Presiding: Daniel Stevens: President of Council

Recording Secretary: Bryon Reed, President Pro Tem

The meeting was called to order by President Stevens at 7:00 P.M. following in attendance:

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT

Daniel Stevens
Jason Ruff
Bryon Reed
Joseph Wechsler
David Schnaars
Thomas Bartholomew

ABSENT

Russell Hallman

OTHERS PRESENT

Mayor Niedermeyer
Chief Rachman
Larry Turoscy
Attorney Healy

VISITORS

Ed Zielger K. Clause BRC13
Jeffrey Hausman Jason Nicholas
Mike Kukitz

President Stevens requested that, as a courtesy, everyone turn off their cell phones, iphones, and electronic devises off, or on vibrate. If you must take a call, please exit the council chambers so as not to disrupt the meeting. President Stevens 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 Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed to accept the following minutes, with corrections to the Council 5/14/18 minutes, page 4, Section B, #3 should be Tort, not Torc; page 7 - President Stevens to obtain quotes for part-time person for grass cutting weeding. Council Minutes, May 14, 2018, Committee Meetings – May 21, 2018, and May 29, 2018. Councilor Reed President Stevens 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.

Ed Ziegler – Signed in and was recognized to speak. Ed asked if resolution R-19-18 needed to be advertised in the newspaper. President Stevens informed him that a resolution does not need to be advertised, only ordinances. He said there are lot of tires at the dumpster at the borough garage. He informed the council that municipalities can take tires to the recycling facility in Northampton at no charge. Ed feels the borough should not have reduced the cost of garbage pickup. He said there is a tremendous amount of building material at 542 Church Street that has been out for over a week. Mayor Niedermeyer informed Ed that the code enforcement officer has been notified of this situation.

Mike Kukitz – NLRA – Signed in and was recognized to speak. The RFP did go out to get a consultant on board to do the feasibility study that is needed before they can launch the capital campaign and get

some of the funding sources in place that he has lined up. Over the next 6 months there will be 1 or 2 meetings a month dedicated to the community center building. The committee consists of a representative from Northampton County, Lehigh County, school district, youth athletic association, and Walnutport, Washington Township and Slatington representatives. Mike asked if anyone was interested in volunteering their time. Mike informed the council the amphitheater planning is in progress and he is working with Lehigh Engineering on some of the survey work.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Councilor Schnaars reminded everyone of the borough's electronic recycling day is June 30th, 2018.

REPORTS

The reports of various committees, officials and officers were provided to Council and 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 Stevens declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor

MAYORS/POLICE CHIEF'S REMARKS

Mayor Walter H. Niedermeyer

On May 28th, Mayor Niedermeyer participated in the 98th Allen O'Delke Memorial Day Parade and the ceremony at noon. June 2nd, Walt waited for Radio Station 99.9 to show up for a presentation to Boyer's Hardware, but they didn't arrive until later. He gave a proclamation to Boyer's Hardware for 150 years of service to the community.

Police Chief David Rachman

This is a follow up on the last council meeting in reference to the visitors that are concerned with speeding and the parking in the 400 block of So. Second Street. A work order is issued to the borough crew to establish painted parking spots in the 400 block. The police have been monitoring the traffic on So. Second Street during the worst speeding problem, later afternoon and early evening. There were 2 officers per day, on their respective shifts, checking and only one warning was issued during that time. The police will continue to monitor that area. If it continues, a solar sign may be placed there.

Councilor Ruff drove up to Park Avenue just to see if the signage had been updated on the motion that had been made and stated that it hasn't been at this time. There was confusion as to who would write up the work order for the road crew to update the signs, plus the signs must be ordered. President Stevens told Chief Rachman to complete the work order and he would sign it.

SLATINGTON REVITALIZATION PARTNERSHIP

STANDING COMMITTEES

B. Public Safety (requested to change order per Mayor)

Councilor David Schnaars

1. Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to approve part-time police officers' pay to be raised to \$19.00 per hour beginning with June 24th, 2018, pay period President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL

AYES

NAYS

ABSTAIN

Daniel Stevens
Bryon Reed
David Schnaars
Jason Ruff
Joseph Wechsler
Thomas Bartholomew

5. Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to approve hiring of Michael Concilio as Part-Time Police Officer effective June 11, 2018. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor
2. Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to approve Keystone Technology quote for police department server for \$3,788.22, plus CODY cost estimate at \$2,225.00. President Stevens informed the council there has been insurance claim filed, but unsure is it will be paid. This has already been ordered due to the emergency situation. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

| ROLL CALL | <u>AYES</u> | <u>NAYS</u> | <u>ABSTAIN</u> |
|-----------|--------------------|-------------|----------------|
| | Daniel Stevens | | |
| | Bryon Reed | | |
| | David Schnaars | | |
| | Jason Ruff | | |
| | Joseph Wechsler | | |
| | Thomas Bartholomew | | |

3. Councilor Schnaars made motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to approve a request from Chief Rachman to initiate the process to establish a one-year civil service (full time) officer eligibility list. This list will nullify a long delay in the eventual hiring process. Chief Rachman request to establish a two-year list. Councilor Schnaars amended his motion to establish a two-year civil service (full time) officer eligibility list. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor
4. Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Ruff, to appoint David Vaillette to the position of Fire Police Captain, per e-mail from Jason Nicholas dated 5/31/18. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor

A. Highway

Councilor Russell Hallman

1. Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Ruff, to authorize the Highway Committee to make the final decisions about the landscaping at Memorial Park, provided they don't exceed the \$2,000 limit. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor
2. Council received a letter of extension for the Green Light-Go Program to December 31, 2019. Currently the grant agreement is to expire on May 31, 2017. Councilor Schnaars asked Larry Turoscy about the light at Main Street and Church Street. Larry stated he has called for the last 3 weeks asking when they can start the advertising. He said there is a legal issue as to whether they can meet all the requirements. He has not yet been contacted with a response. but will notify the council as soon as he hears from PennDOT concerning the right-of-way.

3. Councilor Reed had spoke with Mike Evans from the borough crew concerning the grass cutting. The Union agrees the borough can hire an outside source, as long as they are not taking work away from the borough crew but need to have a meeting to confirm. The grass cutting estimates will be tabled for the next committee meeting.
4. Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Ruff, to appoint Councilor Reed as acting Highway Chair in the absence of Councilor Hallman. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor
5. Larry Turoscy stated there were 2 CDBG projects in 2018 for the Lehigh County Community and Development and accepted for 2019. One was from Church Street from Main to Second to complete the signal and the second one was Fourth Street from Center Avenue to E. Church Street which would then complete Fourth Street all the way from Franklin Street all the way down. They did accept Fourth Street at a cost of \$80,445, but they did not accept E. Church Street project. The reason was because there wasn't enough residential property along that section of Church Street. There are 4 requirements that must be met in order to proceed with the project for Fourth Street.

Councilor Reed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to accept the bids for the Fourth Street improvements for the 2017 CDBG. Livengood Excavators \$90,372.74 and S&G Asphalt Service LLC \$74,664. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor

Councilor Reed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Ruff, to award to the lowest bidder, S&G Asphalt Service LLC for the 2017 CDBG Fourth Street improvements for \$74,664 pending the solicitor review on the contract. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

| ROLL CALL | <u>AYES</u> | <u>NAYS</u> | <u>ABSTAIN</u> |
|-----------|--------------------|-------------|----------------|
| | Daniel Stevens | | |
| | Bryon Reed | | |
| | David Schnaars | | |
| | Jason Ruff | | |
| | Joseph Wechsler | | |
| | Thomas Bartholomew | | |

Larry Turoscy reminded everyone there is a meeting on Thursday, 6/14/18, at 1:00 PM with PennDOT and the county concerning the Walnut Street bridge and would like support from the council to attend.

C. Human/Community Services

Councilor Jason Ruff

1. Councilor Ruff requested for at least 3 borough volunteers for the electronic recycling pick up at the borough maintenance garage on Sat., June 30th, 9 AM to noon. Council agreed to have 1 of the borough crew work that day.

D. Finance

Councilor Thomas Bartholomew

1. Council Bartholomew made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to adopt Resolution R-19-18, *Resolution of the Borough Council of the Borough of Slatington, Lehigh County, PA, adopting procedures for disposing of personal property of the Borough of*

Slatington, using option 2. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

| ROLL CALL | <u>AYES</u> | <u>NAYS</u> | <u>ABSTAIN</u> |
|-----------|---|-------------|----------------|
| | Daniel Stevens Bryon Reed David Schnaars Jason Ruff Joseph Wechsler Thomas Bartholomew | | |

- Councilor Bartholomew made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to adopt Resolution R-20-18, *Resolution establishing a chief administrative officer for the Borough of Slatington Police Pension Plan, money purchase plan the 457 (retirement plans)*. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

| ROLL CALL | <u>AYES</u> | <u>NAYS</u> | <u>ABSTAIN</u> |
|-----------|---|-------------|----------------|
| | Daniel Stevens Bryon Reed David Schnaars Jason Ruff Joseph Wechsler Thomas Bartholomew | | |

- Councilor Bartholomew made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to approve Keystone Technology quote for 1 new computer for \$654.54. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

| ROLL CALL | <u>AYES</u> | <u>NAYS</u> | <u>ABSTAIN</u> |
|-----------|---|-------------|----------------|
| | Daniel Stevens Bryon Reed David Schnaars Jason Ruff Joseph Wechsler Thomas Bartholomew | | |

- Motion to hire full-time utility clerk position. This to be discussed after executive session.
- Councilor Bartholomew made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to authorize President Stevens to approve Exemption request from Statewide Tax Recovery Inc. for Frederick Strohl – deceased - \$16.50 (\$5.50 x 3). President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor

E. Sewer/Solid Waste

Councilor Joseph Wechsler

- Mark Harmon from ARRO gave a public update presentation on the MS4. Reiterated the notice of violation that was issued March 28, 2017. Mark has been able to get an extension on the response time until March 28, 2018. The borough has received their new MS4 permit which will run for 5 years until 2023. Annual reports run from June 30th of year one to July 1st of year two. The first annual report closes out at the end of this month. There is another report that will be due September 30th. The reports are as follows: year 1 explains what will be done; year 2

will address what was done, what was discussed, and then make projections for the next year. Mark stated the borough is required to do a pollution reduction plan based on metals.

2. Councilor Wechsler informed the council there was a meeting on Wednesday, June 6th, a pre-bid meeting for digester (permit fees, inspection fees, generator fuel). The bids will be in by June 14th. There had been questions concerning zoning and inspection fees which were deferred to Duane Dellecker. They had requested we supply the fuel for the generator during the electrical switch over. Ed Overberger feels the estimate is between 4 to 48 hours. Councilor Wechsler did the math for the fuel cost and it is approximately \$830.45 for 48 hours. Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, that we supply the generator, but contractor supplies the fuel. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

| ROLL CALL | <u>AYES</u> | <u>NAYS</u> | <u>ABSTAIN</u> |
|-----------|--------------------|-------------|----------------|
| | Daniel Stevens | | |
| | Bryon Reed | | |
| | David Schnaars | | |
| | Jason Ruff | | |
| | Joseph Wechsler | | |
| | Thomas Bartholomew | | |

F. Water/Special Sewer Committee

Councilor Bryon Reed

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

Councilor Reed informed the council there will be 2 gentlemen from the Roberts Company attending the next committee meeting to talk about replacing the media at the filtration plant.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

COUNCIL PRESIDENTS REPORT: None

Daniel Stevens

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR – (Agenda Items Only – You will have two (2) minutes to address Council from the podium on Agenda Items Only.) None

EXECUTIVE SESSION – President Stevens recessed to executive session at 8:37 pm. At 9:40 p.m., President Stevens reconvened the meeting. Matters of personnel and legal matters were discussed in executive session.

Councilor Bartholomew made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Ruff, to hire Linda Christman to full-time utility clerk effective as of July 1st, 2018, at the rate of \$14.00 per hour and subject to the terms of a MOU to be drafted by Council President Stevens and Solicitor Edmund Healy including benefits as described in the MOU. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

| ROLL CALL | <u>AYES</u> | <u>NAYS</u> | <u>ABSTAIN</u> |
|-----------|----------------|-------------|----------------|
| | Daniel Stevens | | |

Bryon Reed
David Schnaars
Jason Ruff
Joseph Wechsler
Thomas Bartholomew

Councilor Bartholomew made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Ruff, to move Elizabeth Miller from full-time to part-time starting July 1st, 2018. Hours of said employee are not to exceed 19 hours per week, and in addition, no benefits will be provided. Said employee will work at the discretion of the borough president at her current hourly rate. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

| <u>ROLL CALL</u> | <u>AYES</u> | <u>NAYS</u> | <u>ABSTAIN</u> |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------|----------------|
| | Daniel Stevens | | |
| | Bryon Reed | | |
| | David Schnaars | | |
| | Jason Ruff | | |
| | Joseph Wechsler | | |
| | Thomas Bartholomew | | |

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, Councilor Ruff made the motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to adjourn the meeting. President Stevens declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

President Stevens declared the meeting adjourned at 9:44 PM.

Colleen Bresnak
Assistant Borough Secretary