

**BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
4/8/19**

The Regular Meeting Minutes of Council was held on **Monday, April 8, 2019** at 7:00 pm., 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 pm following in attendance:

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT

Daniel Stevens

Jason Ruff

Bryon Reed

Ronald Kratz

Joseph Wechsler

David Schnaars

Thomas Bartholomew

ABSENT

Chief Rachman

OTHERS PRESENT

Mayor Neidermeyer

Ed Healy

Dave Lear

VISITORS

Kristine Porter

Robert Stettner

Kristie Wilk

Jeff Hausman

President Stevens requested that, as a courtesy, everyone turn off their cell phones, iPhone, and electronic devices 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 the following corrections: Special Meeting on 3/29/19, Councilor Schnaars wanted to make sure the attachments were in the official records; the minutes on Committee Meeting 3/18/19, page 3, President Stevens stated it should be total number of invoices is 1425; Council Minutes - March 11, 2019; Committee Meetings - March 18, 2019 and March 25, 2019; Special Meeting - March 29, 2019 President Stevens declared the motion passed with 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.

Kristie Wilk - Northern Valley EMS - Signed in and was recognized to speak. Kristie informed the council of events that will be coming up. On April 13th, they will be holding a Mass Casualty Incident Drill with Germansville Fire Company, Cetronia and their ambulance corp at the high school. On August 23rd, with Lehigh Carbon Community College, the PA State Police, Kids Peace, Lehigh County EMA, Schnecksville Fire Company, and the Eastern PA EMS Council. They will be having a mass shooter class drill at the college. The Auxiliary will be holding a flea market on April 27th.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Councilor Schnaars reminded everyone about the Electronic Recycling Event on April 20th, 2019 at the Maintenance garage. It is also the time when the borough will be doing the clean up in town. Robert Herzog will be working at the recycling event.

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 Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, 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

Mayor Niedermeyer inquired about the status of the police station floor. Councilor Schnaars stated he is looking to get some estimates. He said it looks as if the floor needs to be replaced. Mayor Niedermeyer also asked about having the front hallway floor cleaned. Councilor Ruff will obtain information for a professional cleaner.

None

SLATINGTON REVITALIZATION PARTNERSHIP - None

STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Highway

Councilor Bryon Reed

1. Per Cristie Barry e-mail dated 3/28/19, the kick off date for Main and Walnut Streets improvement will be on Monday, April 22nd, 2019, at 1:00 pm at the borough hall. Informational only
2. Dave Lear informed the council they had received 2 bids. The bids appear to be in order, as far as all the information. One bid was from Kuharchik for \$318,463.60 and the second was from Telco for \$280,628.24. The bids that had been received last year; the lowest bid was \$409,687.10 for this project. Dave would like to table this to seek other funds. However, Dave will inform Telco they have the low bid, but it is still being reviewed in hopes of obtaining additional funds. This will be placed on the next workshop agenda. Councilor Reed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Ruff, to accept the bids for the Main and Church Street traffic light from Kuharchik for \$318,463.60 and also from Telco for \$280,628.24, and just to accept, not to award. 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		
	Jason Ruff		
	Ronald Kratz		
	Joseph Wechsler		
	David Schnaars		
	Thomas Bartholomew		
	Bryon Reed		

3. Public-Private Partnerships (P3) is accepting unsolicited proposals for transportation projects from the private sector through April 30th, 2019. This will be placed on the next workshop agenda. Councilor Reed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to authorize the Highway Committee to submit for Public-Private Partnerships (P3) proposals. President Stevens declared the motion passed with following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

B. Public Safety

Councilor David Schnaars

1. Councilor Schnaars informed the council the NRLA is currently interviewing for a new executor director at this time. Councilor Reed asked if there was anything the Highway Department should do at Victory Park, since Mike Kukitz is no longer working with the NRLA. Councilor Schnaars said there is nothing at this time. However, the amphitheater grant paper work has been completed and is ready to go out to bid. The 150th group has the grant, and they must be ones to complete it. Councilor Schnaars is hoping to have a new executive director by the end of the month.

Councilor Schnaars, again, reminded everyone of the town and trail clean up is on April 20th, 2019.

C. Human/Community Services

Councilor Jason Ruff

1. Councilor Ruff made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to approve Jason Check's request for his Eagle Scout Project at the Trailhead. Jason will be refurbishing and painting the railings, gates, bike repair stand, and bike rack. Councilor Ruff will find out if the Scouts carry the insurance for projects. President Stevens declared the motion passed with following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.
2. The Blight Remediation Project Team meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 17, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 43B of the Government Center. Informational only. Councilor Ruff will be attending. This is also open to the public.

D. Finance

Councilor Thomas Bartholomew

1. Councilor Bartholomew made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to authorize President Stevens to approve Exemption request from Statewide Tax Recovery Inc. for Delinquent Per Capita Tax for: Dolores M. Czarick – non-resident - \$5.50; Dawn DeWalt – non-resident - \$5.50;

Carol Bleier – non-resident - \$5.50. President Stevens declared the motion passed with following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

2. President Stevens provided the council with an announcement concerning the tax bills. This announcement had been sent to the Times News and a Swift Reach call was made. There has been an error on the tax bills. The wrong bill stated the borough tax is 5.3 and the fire tax is .5. The new bills have been sent out and are orange so there is no mistaking which bill to pay.

E. Sewer/Solid Waste

Councilor Joseph Wechsler

1. Councilor Wechsler gave an update on the digester program. Hayden installed a 400 amp disconnect switch in the main control building. They have also run some power lines between the existing digester building and the digester control building at the sewer plant. They have also started to hang some pipes for the blower control panel.
2. Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Schnaars, to authorize March 29, 2019, Meeting Sewer Authority bills: Ed Healy - \$161.50; Tad Miller - \$125.00; Brown & Brown - \$250.00; total \$536.50. 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 Jason Ruff Ronald Kratz Joseph Wechsler David Schnaars Thomas Bartholomew Bryon Reed		

3. Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to approve Assistant Treasurer’s Time and Travel Report for the period of January 4, 2019, to March 19, 2019 - \$321.35 (time \$193.75, travel \$127.60). 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 Jason Ruff Ronald Kratz Joseph Wechsler David Schnaars Thomas Bartholomew Bryon Reed		

F. Water/Special Sewer Committee

Councilor Ronald Kratz

1. Water Test Statement - Water was tested and found safe for human consumption
2. Shadow Oaks grant project. Dave Lear informed the council the plan is about 95% done. They are just trying to itemize the breakdown for the split bid as far as the storm water and the pipe work for the water main. Councilor Reed said the plan is to go from Oakhurst all the way up Shadow Oaks to Maple Spring.
3. Councilor Kratz said the water department have been doing the yearly flushing and some people have experienced discolored water and low pressure at night. This is normal.
4. Steve Martinez has been handpicked to administrate tests for DEP at Hershey. Informational only.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Councilor Ruff inquired if there has been any progress on the street signs. Councilor Reed informed him some have been put up.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

Councilor Schnaars reported that all 6 members of the Safety Committee completed the annual necessary training, and all have received their certificates. This was a Webinar.

NEW BUSINESS: None

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S 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 7:48 pm. At 8:11 pm, President Stevens reconvened the meeting. Matters of legal and contract negotiations were discussed in executive session.

Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Ruff, to appoint Dan Stevens, David Schnaars, and Jason Ruff, as negotiators for the police contract with Ron Kratz as an alternate member to that committee. President Stevens declared the motion passed with following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

ADJOURNMENT

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

President Stevens declared the meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Colleen Bresnak
Assistant Borough Secretary