

BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON

The Re-Organization Meeting of Council was held on Monday, January 6, 2020 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 Magistrate Thomas Creighton prior to the Re-Organization Meeting: Councilor Kevin Steckel, Councilor Joseph Wechsler, Councilor Bryon Reed, and Councilor Thomas Bartholomew.

Presiding: Mayor Niedermeyer  
Councilor Reed led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Prayer.  
Recording Secretary: Councilor Ruff  
Mayor Niedermeyer called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and requested the Roll be taken.

ROLL CALL:

<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>OTHERS PRESENT</u>	<u>VISITORS</u>
Jason Ruff	Mayor Niedermeyer	Shawn Rios      Dave Schnaars
Bryon Reed		Paul Steckel     Dan Stevens
Joseph Wechsler		Crystal Hausman Jeffrey Hausman
Thomas Bartholomew		Bryce Greene     Jason Nicholas
Kevin Steckel		Robert Herzog Jr

**ELECTION OF COUNCIL OFFICERS**

**Election of President** – Mayor Niedermeyer asked for nominations three (3) times. Councilor Wechsler nominated Bryon Reed and Councilor Steckel nominated Jason Ruff for President. Mayor Niedermeyer called for a vote:

<u>Bryon Reed</u>	<u>Jason Ruff</u>
Thomas Bartholomew	Kevin Steckel
Joseph Wechsler	Jason Ruff
Bryon Reed	

Mayor Niedermeyer declared Bryon Reed as President of Council for 2020/2021.

**Election of Vice-President** – Mayor Niedermeyer called for nominations three (3) times for Vice-President of Council. Councilor Wechsler nominated Jason Ruff for Vice- President. Since there were no other nominations for Vice-President, Mayor Niedermeyer declared Jason Ruff as Vice-President of Council for 2020/2021.

Mayor Niedermeyer called for nominations three (3) times for President Pro-Tem. Councilor Reed nominated Joseph Wechsler. Since there were no other nominations for President Pro-Tem, Mayor Niedermeyer declared Joseph Wechsler President Pro-Tem of Council for 2020/2021.

Mayor Niedermeyer turned over the Chair to President Reed.

President Reed declared there are two (2) vacant council seats for 2-year terms.

Councilor Bartholomew made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Ruff, to appoint David Schnaars, to fill the 2-year term, Resolution R-01-20, filling a vacancy on Borough Council. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed		
	Joseph Wechsler		
	Thomas Bartholomew		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jason Ruff		

Councilor Bartholomew made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to appoint Ronald Kratz, to fill the 2-year term, Resolution R-02-20, filling a vacancy on Borough Council. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed		
	Joseph Wechsler		
	Thomas Bartholomew		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jason Ruff		

**COURTESY OF THE FLOOR** (Agenda and Non-Agenda Items) (For Agenda/Non-Agenda Items) please use Podium (*three minutes per person/five minutes per group*)  
 You will have three minutes to address Council from the podium. If you reach the three-minute limit, you will be given thirty seconds to conclude your remarks. 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.

Jeffrey Hausman – 46 So. Walnut Street - was recognized to speak. He questioned why a person who didn't run for council seat, was appointed to the seat. Jeffrey was informed the councilor had agreed to be re-appointed if asked.

**8. APPOINTMENTS**

President Reed asked for a motion to appoint the Borough Solicitor. Councilor Ruff made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to appoint Attorney Edmund Healy as Borough Solicitor at a rate \$88.00 per hour. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed		
	Joseph Wechsler		
	Thomas Bartholomew		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jason Ruff		

Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Ruff, to re-appoint Lehigh Engineering as the Borough Engineer. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed		
	Joseph Wechsler		
	Thomas Bartholomew		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jason Ruff		

Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Ruff, to re-appoint ARRO as Special Sewer Engineer. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed		
	Joseph Wechsler		
	Thomas Bartholomew		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jason Ruff		

Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Ruff, to re-appoint Jason Nicholas as Slatington Fire Chief. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed		
	Joseph Wechsler		
	Thomas Bartholomew		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jason Ruff		

Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Ruff, to appoint Dave Hay as Health Inspector/Officer & OEO for grease traps. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed		
	Joseph Wechsler		
	Thomas Bartholomew		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jason Ruff		

Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to re-appoint Broughal & DeVito as Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed		
	Joseph Wechsler		
	Thomas Bartholomew		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jason Ruff		

Councilor Weschler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Ruff, to appoint Duane Dellecker Zoning Officer & BCO. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed		
	Joseph Wechsler		
	Thomas Bartholomew		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jason Ruff		

Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Ruff, to appoint Anthony Lopsonzski Ordinance Enforcement Officer. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed Joseph Wechsler Thomas Bartholomew Kevin Steckel Jason Ruff		

Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Ruff, to re-appoint Ronald Hausman Emergency Management Director. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed Joseph Wechsler Thomas Bartholomew Kevin Steckel Jason Ruff		

Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Ruff, to re-appoint David Rachman as Slatington Chief of Police. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed Joseph Wechsler Thomas Bartholomew Kevin Steckel Jason Ruff		

Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Ruff, to appoint Colleen Bresnak as Assistant Secretary/Assistant Treasurer. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed Joseph Wechsler Thomas Bartholomew Kevin Steckel Jason Ruff		

Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to appoint ARRO as Sewer Enforcement Officer. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed Joseph Wechsler Thomas Bartholomew Kevin Steckel Jason Ruff		

Motion to appoint Open Records Officer will be placed on the next regular council meeting.

9. Motion to appoint council chaplain will be placed on the next regular council meeting.

10. Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Bartholomew, to appoint Debbie Silfies for a 3-year term to the Slatington Public Library Board of Director. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed		
	Joseph Wechsler		
	Thomas Bartholomew		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jason Ruff		

11. Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Bartholomew, the APPROVAL OF BOROUGH DEPOSITORIES: Key Bank, Wells Fargo Advisors (CD's), National Penn Investors Trust (Pensions), Huntington National Bank (Bonds) President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed		
	Joseph Wechsler		
	Thomas Bartholomew		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jason Ruff		

12. Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to appoint Lee Andreas and Jerry Healey to the ZONING HEARING BOARD. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed		
	Joseph Wechsler		
	Thomas Bartholomew		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jason Ruff		

13. Councilor Wechsler, made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Bartholomew, to appoint Edward Bechtel and Thomas Bartholomew – alternate, one vacancy; 6-year terms to the CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed		
	Joseph Wechsler		
	Thomas Bartholomew		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jason Ruff		

14. Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Ruff, to appoint Taylor Jones, 5-year term, on the Northern Lehigh Recreation Authority. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed		
	Joseph Wechsler		
	Thomas Bartholomew		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jason Ruff		

15. Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Bartholomew to approve Resolution R-03-20, appointing Gwyneth A. Jones to the position of Tax collector for the Borough of Slatington. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed		
	Joseph Wechsler		
	Thomas Bartholomew		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jason Ruff		

President Reed called a recess at 7:26 PM to Council Chambers so the Committee on Committies could select committee members for 2020/2021. At 7:35 PM. President Reed reconvened the meeting and announced the following committee assignments:

Finance/Planning/Zoning: Thomas Bartholomew – Chair, Jason Ruff & Kevin Steckel  
 Human/Community Services: Jason Ruff-Chair, Thomas Bartholomew & Kevin Steckel  
 Public Safety: Kevin Steckel – Chair, Thomas Bartholomew and Jason Ruff  
 Highway: David Schnaars-Chair, Ronald Kratz & Joseph Wechsler  
 Sewer: Joseph Wechsler-Chair, David Schnaars & Ronald Kratz  
 Water: Ronald Kratz-Chair, David Schnaars & Joseph Wechsler

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – None**

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Councilor Schnaars informed the council there will be a conflict with his committee meeting schedule. Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Bartholomew, to switch committee nights with the sewer/water/highway committee and the finance/human/public safety committee and re- advertise the change. Sewer/water/highway will now be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month and finance/human community/public safety will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month. President Reed declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

**COURTESY OF THE FLOOR (for agenda items only) None**

Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Steckel, to adjourn the meeting. Being no further business, President Reed adjourned the meeting at 7:41 PM.

Colleen Bresnak  
 Assistant Borough Secretary