

BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON

The **Finance Planning/Zoning, Public Safety and Human/Community Services Committee Workshop Meetings** were held on **October 19, 2020**, in Council Room, 125 South Walnut Street, Slatington, PA 18080.

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

<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>	<u>OTHERS PRESENT</u>	<u>VISITORS</u>
Bryon Reed Kevin Steckel Thomas Bartholomew	Jason Ruff	Daniel Stevens	Jeffrey Hausman

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jeffrey Hausman – Signed in and was recognized to speak. Jeffrey discussed the museum issue with the Historical Society. He informed the Historical Society that the Council is considering giving them approval to go forward with this, but more information is needed for the Council.

A. FINANCE/PLANNING/ZONING

Thomas Bartholomew– Chairman; Members: Kevin Steckel, Jason Ruff

1. Committee Member discussion on listed topics:
 - a. Councilor Bartholomew discussed the yearly donations. Manager Stevens stated that the Borough will be doing their regular donations this year, i.e., library and the pool. There is some concern due to the COVID19 issue if the pool will open up next year. The committee discussed the condition of the pool since it had not been opened. Since there was no chlorine cost this year, the Council will consider an additional pool donation this year for startup next year. The committee discussed donating to the kickstart for the library elevator. Manager Stevens said he will place the pool donation on the next regular council meeting.
 - b. Councilor Bartholomew reviewed the Non-uniformed Employees' Pension Plan calculation of employer contribution for 2021 - \$53,150.00 with the committee. Manager Stevens informed the committee that they Borough is not required to do the non-uniformed report, but the Borough still does it every year. However, the Borough is required to do the report for the police. Informational only

Manager Stevens received a call from Carter Atkins concerning the CD's. He informed the committee that CD's are now at .10%, down from 1.65% from last year and the money markets are down to .01%. Manager Stevens gave other quotes for CD's – .27% for 5 years and 1.12% to the year 2050. Councilor Bartholomew asked if the Borough could put some of the money and what the Borough would have invested in 1- or 2-year CD, pre-pay the pension fund for the next 2 years, and pay back the water and sewer and get a higher return on our money. Manager Stevens stated that he will do some research to see if we are actually allowed to do this.

There were no questions from the committee members; the Finance Committee Meeting was adjourned.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY

Kevin Steckel-Chairman; Members: Thomas Bartholomew, Jason Ruff

1. Committee Member discussion on listed topics:
 - a. Councilor Steckel discussed possible changes to Borough Burning Ordinance 641. Manager Stevens provided additional information from other municipalities – Macungie, Palmerton, Emmaus, Lehigh, and Bath. The committee reviewed their ordinances for outdoor fires, chimineas, rubbish fires, etc. Councilor Bartholomew would like to ban all fire pits and only have authorized pre-manufactured devices such as chimney pots, chimineas, grills, etc. Jeffrey Hausman stated that even with these manufactured devices, people will burn anything in them.
 - b. Discuss fire department proposal for purchasing used vehicle for officers Councilor Steckel stated that since Fire Chief Nicholas was not in attendance, this item will be tabled till next month.
 - c. Councilor Steckel discussed the letter from Slatington Hose Company No. 1 requesting storage in the Borough maintenance building. Councilor Steckel feels that maintenance building is already at its capacity for storage. The committee discussed places in the building that could be utilized for storage. Manager Stevens had suggested using Springside. He said that some of the items for storage are very heavy. Councilor Bartholomew stated that there are 2 trucks at the recreation center that are filled with items, that are rusted, from Martin Tower. He suggested to possibly use one of those trucks for storage. The biggest concern is keeping the molds in tack. The trough was for the fireman’s statute. Manager Stevens will ask the roadcrew if there is any room at the maintenance building.

There were no questions from the committee members; the Public Safety Committee meeting was adjourned.

C. HUMAN/COMMUNITY SERVICES

Jason Ruff – Chairman; Members: Kevin Steckel, Thomas Bartholomew

1. Committee Member Discussion

There were no questions from the committee members; the Human/Community Services Committee meeting was adjourned.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

Manager Stevens informed the committee that today they held the arbitration hearing. Manager Stevens stated that the excel sheets for the budget will be done this week, and he plans to start work on the preliminary budget.

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

Councilor Bartholomew made a motion, duly seconded by, Councilor Steckel, to adjourn. Being no further business, President Reed declared the meeting adjourned at 7:44 PM.

Daniel L. Stevens
Borough Secretary