

BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON

The Re-Organization Meeting of Council was held on Monday, January 3, 2022 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: Mayor Jeralyn Schoch, Councilor Zachari Halkias, and Councilor Jeffrey Hausman.

Presiding: Mayor Schoch

Recording Secretary: Daniel Stevens, Borough Manager/Secretary

Mayor Schoch called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and requested the Roll be taken.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT

Bryon Reed
Joseph Wechsler (via phone)
Thomas Bartholomew
Ronald Kratz
Kevin Steckel
Jeffrey Hausman
Zachari Halkias

OTHERS PRESENT

Mayor Schoch
Dave Rachman
Ed Healy
Daniel Stevens

VISITORS

Robert Reph, Dylan McDeviit
Josh Henry, Dennis Wetherhold
Jeremy Henry, Amanda Maehrer
Crystal Hausman, Ron Hausman
Ryan Schmoyer, Austin Berger
Jason Nicholas, M/M Frank Halkias
Dean Heffelfinger, Robert Herzog
Dave Schnaars, Justin Frable
Denise Martinez, Ted Martinez

Reverend David Schnaars led the Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL OFFICERS

Election of President – Mayor Schoch asked for nominations three (3) times. Councilor Kratz nominated Thomas Bartholomew and Councilor Wechsler nominated Bryon Reed for President. Bryon Reed declined the nomination. Mayor Schoch declared Thomas Bartholomew as President of the Council for 2022/2023.

Election of Vice-President – Mayor Schoch called for nominations three (3) times for Vice-President of Council. Councilor Hausman, Councilor Wechsler, and Councilor Kratz nominated Bryon Reed for Vice-President. Councilor Reed nominated Ronald Kratz for Vice-President. Councilor Kratz declined the nomination. Since there were no other nominations for Vice-President, Mayor Schoch declared Bryon Reed as Vice-President of Council for 2022/2023.

Mayor Schoch called for nominations three (3) times for President Pro-Tem. Councilor Bartholomew nominated Ronald Kratz. Mayor Schoch declared Ronald Kratz President Pro-Tem of Council for 2021/2023.

Mayor Schoch turned over the Chair to President Bartholomew.

President Bartholomew wished to thank Bryon Reed for his service as president of the Borough Council over these past years. President Bartholomew hopes and prays and asks for your prayers that he may serve with the poise and dignity and respect that Bryon has shown to the residents and fellow council members.

President Bartholomew announced an executive session was held on Tuesday, December 28th, 2021, at 5:30 PM. Matters of personnel we discussed.

VISITORS - (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.

Dean Heffelfinger signed in and was recognized, but stated he was there if needed for the fire chief issue.

Jason Nicholas, outgoing fire chief, wished to thank council for the opportunity for almost 6 years of service as the fire chief. Jason Nicholas recommends Austin Berger be appointed as the new fire chief.

7. APPOINTMENTS:

- a. Councilor Reed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Steckel, to appoint Borough Solicitor Edmund Healy at a revised rate of \$91.00 per hour. President Bartholomew 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		
	Ronald Kratz		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jeffrey Hausman		
	Zachari Halkias		

- b. President Bartholomew would like this tabled till after executive session. Motion to appoint Manager/Secretary/Treasurer, (currently Daniel Stevens)

- c. Councilor Hausman made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler to appoint Borough Engineer Lehigh Engineering. President Bartholomew 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		
	Ronald Kratz		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jeffrey Hausman		
	Zachari Halkias		

- d. Councilor Kratz made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Hausman, to appoint ARRO as Special Sewer Engineer. President Bartholomew 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		
	Ronald Kratz		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jeffrey Hausman		
	Zachari Halkias		

- e. President Bartholomew requested this be tabled until after executive session. Motion to appoint Fire Chief— (currently Jason Nicholas)
- f. Councilor Kratz made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to appoint Health Inspector/Officer & OEO David Hay for grease traps. President Bartholomew 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		
	Ronald Kratz		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jeffrey Hausman		
	Zachari Halkias		

- g. Councilor Reed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Kratz, to appoint Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor Broughal & DeVito at a revised rate of \$115.00/hour. President Bartholomew 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		
	Ronald Kratz		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jeffrey Hausman		
	Zachari Halkias		

- h. Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to appoint Zoning Officer & BCO Duane Dellecker. President Bartholomew 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		
	Ronald Kratz		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jeffrey Hausman		
	Zachari Halkias		

- i. Councilor Kratz made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to appoint Ordinance Enforcement Officer Anthony Lopsonzski. President Bartholomew 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		
	Ronald Kratz		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jeffrey Hausman		
	Zachari Halkias		

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

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed		Jeffrey Hausman
	Joseph Wechsler		
	Thomas Bartholomew		
	Ronald Kratz		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Zachari Halkias		

Councilor Hausman abstained due to being Ronald Hausman's brother.

- k. President Bartholomew requested this be tabled till after the executive session. Motion to appoint Chief of Police — (currently David Rachman)
- l. Councilor Kratz made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Hausman, to appoint Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Colleen Bresnak. President Bartholomew 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		
	Ronald Kratz		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jeffrey Hausman		
	Zachari Halkias		

- m. Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Kratz, to appoint ARRO as Sewer Enforcement Officer. President Bartholomew 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		
	Ronald Kratz		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jeffrey Hausman		
	Zachari Halkias		

- n. Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to appoint Daniel Stevens as Open Records Officer. President Bartholomew 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		
	Ronald Kratz		

Kevin Steckel
Jeffrey Hausman
Zachari Halkias

8. Councilor Kratz made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed to appoint David Schnaars as Council Chaplin. President Bartholomew 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 Ronald Kratz Kevin Steckel Jeffrey Hausman Zachari Halkias		

9. Councilor Reed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Kratz, to approve Borough Depositories: Key Bank, Wells Fargo Advisors (CD's), Truist (pension), Principal (pension). President Bartholomew 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 Ronald Kratz Kevin Steckel Jeffrey Hausman Zachari Halkias		

10. President Bartholomew requested this be tabled till after executive session. Motion to accept resignation from Gwyneth Jones as tax collector.

11. Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Kratz, to appoint Thomas Bartholomew, to Slatington Borough Authority, term expires 1/4/2026. President Bartholomew 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 Ronald Kratz Kevin Steckel Jeffrey Hausman Zachari Halkias		

12. Councilor Kratz made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Hausman, to appoint Joseph Wechsler, to the Slatington Borough Authority, term expires 1/3/27. President Bartholomew 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
Ronald Kratz
Kevin Steckel
Jeffrey Hausman
Zachari Halkias

13. Councilor Kratz made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to appoint Dave Schnaars to Police Pension Committee as citizen representative, term expires 1/1/24. President Bartholomew 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 Ronald Kratz Kevin Steckel Jeffrey Hausman Zachari Halkias		

14. President Bartholomew appoints Councilor Ronald Kratz to be a member of the Police Pension Committee.

15. Councilor Reed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Kratz, to appoint Jamie Sillet to the Zoning Hearing Board, term expires 12/31/22. President Bartholomew 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 Ronald Kratz Kevin Steckel Jeffrey Hausman Zachari Halkias		

16. President Bartholomew tabled this motion to appoint members to the Parks and Recreation Commission

17. President Bartholomew called a recess at 7:25 PM to Council Chambers so the Committee on Committees could select committee members for 2022/2023. At 7:37 PM. President Bartholomew reconvened the meeting and announced the following committee assignments:

Finance/Planning/Zoning: Ronald Kratz– Chair, Zachari Halkias & Kevin Steckel
Human/Community Services: Zachari Halkias-Chair, Kevin Steckel & Ronald Kratz
Public Safety: Kevin Steckel – Chair, Zachari Halkias & Ron Kratz
Highway: Jeffrey Hausman-Chair, Bryon Reed & Joseph Wechsler
Sewer: Joseph Wechsler-Chair, Bryon Reed & Jeffrey Hausman
Water: Bryon Reed-Chair, Joseph Wechsler & Jeffrey Hausman

EXECUTIVE SESSION: President Bartholomew recessed to executive session at 7:40 PM. At 9:30 PM President Bartholomew reconvened the meeting. Matters of personnel and legal were discussed in executive session.

7b. Councilor Hausman made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to appoint Manager/Secretary/Treasurer Daniel Stevens according to an approved letter of agreement outlining terms and conditions of Mr. Stevens' employment as Manager as such form as approved by solicitor. President Bartholomew 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		
	Ronald Kratz		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jeffrey Hausman		
	Zachari Halkias		

7e. Councilor Kratz made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Steckel, to appoint Austin Berger as Slatinton Fire Chief. President Bartholomew declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Bryon Reed	Jeffrey Hausman	
	Joseph Wechsler		
	Thomas Bartholomew		
	Ronald Kratz		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Zachari Halkias		

7k. Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Kratz, to appoint David Rachman as Chief of Police. President Bartholomew 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		
	Ronald Kratz		
	Kevin Steckel		
	Jeffrey Hausman		
	Zachari Halkias		

EXECUTIVE SESSION – None

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR (for agenda items only) None

Councilor Hausman made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Steckel, to adjourn the meeting. Being no further business, President Bartholomew adjourned the meeting at 9:33 PM.

Daniel Stevens
Borough Secretary