

**BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
10/10/22**

Prior to opening the meeting, President Bartholomew informed the visitors that Councilor Halkias had provided cupcakes to commemorate Slatington's 158th anniversary from its incorporation which was on September 20th, 1864.

The Regular Meeting of Council was held on **Monday, October 10, 2022**, at 7:00 PM, to be held in the Council Room, 125 S. Walnut Street, First Floor, Slatington, PA 18080.

Presiding: Thomas Bartholomew: President of Council

Recording Secretary: Daniel Stevens, Borough Manager/Secretary

The meeting was called to order by President Bartholomew at 7:00 PM with the following in attendance:

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT

Thomas Bartholomew

Bryon Reed

Joseph Wechsler-via phone

Zachari Halkias

Jeffrey Hausman

ABSENT

Kevin Steckel

Ronald Kratz

OTHERS PRESENT

Mayor Schoch

Lisa Young

Justin Gross

Daniel Stevens

VISITORS

Drew Snowberger, Jim Logne

Dave Schnaars, Matt Assad

Steve Walden, Kane Randan

Emily Egan, Ronald Hausman

Bill & Reta Grim, Becky Lienhard

David Lienhard, Ashley King

Eric King, Aaron Schoch

Ryan Mayberry, Robert Stettner

Robert Herzog

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

NOTIFICATION:

President Bartholomew 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.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING - Councilor Hausman made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to approve the following minutes: **Council Meeting** September 12, 2022; **Committee Meetings** – September 19, 2022, & September 26, 2022. President Bartholomew 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.

Eric King - Signed in and was recognized to speak. Eric deferred to speak till the end of the meeting.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE/TRANSFER

Councilor Hausman made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to approve payment of the bills and transfers as presented by the Treasurer. President Bartholomew declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL

AYES

NAYS

ABSTAIN

Thomas Bartholomew
Bryon Reed
Joseph Wechsler
Jeffrey Hausman
Zachari Halkias

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.

MAYORS/POLICE REMARKS

**Mayor Jeralyn Schoch
Chief Dennis Long**

None

STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Highway

Councilor Jeffrey Hausman

1. Sustainable Backyard Workshop October 20, 2022, from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM at Lehigh County Authority, 1053 Spruce Rd., Wescosville, PA Stormwater solutions for homeowners in Lehigh County. (informational only)
2. Councilor Hausman made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to approve Resolution R-05-22 – a resolution approving the application of a Multimodal Grant from the PA Department of Transportation for the Borough of Slatington for \$1,177,446.04. President Bartholomew declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL

AYES

NAYS

ABSTAIN

Thomas Bartholomew
Bryon Reed
Joseph Wechsler
Jeffrey Hausman
Zachari Halkias

3. Template sent by Manager Stevens to residents for letter of support for PA Multimodal Grant. (informational only)
4. Councilor Hausman made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to authorize Lehigh Engineering to prepare a study concerning the costs for paving upgrades in the northern area of Slatington. (Maple Spring sub-division)

Councilor Hausman amended his motion to include that this will be moved to the Highway Committee to set the cost limits for the study. President Bartholomew declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL

AYES

NAYS

ABSTAIN

Thomas Bartholomew
Bryon Reed
Joseph Wechsler
Jeffrey Hausman
Zachari Halkias

5. Received notice from Lehigh County supporting award of \$95,718.50 for reconstruction of East South Street from Main Street to 2nd St. and Lehigh County supporting award of \$96,867.92 for reconstruction of East South Street from 2nd Street to Fairview Ave. (informational only)
6. Councilor Hausman made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to authorize Highway Committee to apply for COVID-19 ARPA H20 PA Grant and authorize the committee to determine which project will be applied for. (\$500,000.00 to \$20,000,000.00 with a 50% match from the borough). President Bartholomew declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

B. Public Safety

Councilor Kevin Steckel

1. Councilor Halkias made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to approve quote from Kromer Plumbing, Heating & Air for new A/C unit for the police department for \$6,650.00 (compressor dying, unit leaking for several years). Kromer put booster on to keep compressor running temporarily. Councilor Halkias amended his motion to use COVID19 LFRF. President Bartholomew declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

C. Human/Community Services

Councilor Zachari Halkias

1. Thank you from Springside’s Kid’s Fishing Contest for the borough’s support. (informational only)
2. Councilor Halkias made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to approve request from Caring DAM Hearts to install a Blessing Box at the Hatchery. President Bartholomew declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.
3. Announcement by Senator Pat Browne and Representative Zach Mako of an additional \$150,000.00 for repairs to the Northern Lehigh swimming pool. (This is in addition to the previous award of \$250,000.00 – informational only)

D. Finance/Planning/Zoning

Councilor Ronald Kratz

1. Public hearing and plan adoption for Northern Lehigh Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan on Monday, October 10, 2022, at 7:00 PM at the Municipal Building.

(Representative from LVPC will be present) Matt Assad was at the meeting to answer any questions. Councilor Hausman asked where the upgrades were? Mr. Assad stated there was a 45-day review period and changes have been made.

2. Councilor Halkias made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed to adopt Resolution R-06-22 adopting Northern Lehigh Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan. President Bartholomew declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

3. Motion to ratify agreement and temporary construction easement concerning UGI regulator station. (executive session discussion before taking action)
4. Councilor Halkias made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to authorize Borough Manager Stevens to approve Exemption Report from Statewide Tax Recovery Inc. for Delinquent Per Capita Tax for: 36 residents closed efforts exhausted for a total of \$7,694.50. President Bartholomew declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

E. Sewer/Solid Waste

Councilor Joseph Wechsler

1. Councilor Wechsler made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Hausman, to transfer funds to pay the following Authority bills: September 12, 2022, Meeting Sewer Authority bills: Attorney Lisa Young from June 8 through September 6, 2022 - \$1,291.50; Attorney Lisa Young from September 7, through September 29, 2022 \$976.50; Tad Miller - \$125.00; Times News - \$226.95; Times News - \$68.15, total \$2,688.10. President Bartholomew declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

2. Discussion on request from Biro's (executive session)

F. Water/Special Sewer Committee

Councilor Bryon Reed

1. Water Test Statement - Water was tested and found safe for human consumption
2. Councilor Reed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to authorize Lehigh Engineering to prepare bid specs for upgrades to Autocon Control Panel at water filtration plant.

Councilor Reed amended his motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler to authorize Lehigh Engineering to prepare bid specs for upgrades to the Autocon Control Panel at the water filtration plant and prepare the proper bid documents and put the project out for bid on Pennbid. President Bartholomew declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

3. Councilor Reed made a motion duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler to sell approximately 20 hanging industrial lights from water filtration plant on Municibid. . President Bartholomew declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.
4. Local share account grant submitted for stormwater upgrades. (informational only)
5. Councilor Reed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Hausman, to authorize Water Committee to apply for COVID-19 ARPA PA Small Water and Sewer Grant and authorize the committee to determine which project will be applied for. (\$30,000.00 to \$500,000.00). President Bartholomew declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Councilor Hausman made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to amend the agenda to discuss and possible approve Ordinance 710 concerning Stormwater. President Bartholomew declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

Councilor Reed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Weschler, to approve Ordinance 710. President Bartholomew declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

COUNCIL PRESIDENT’S REPORT: None

Thomas Bartholomew

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR – (Agenda Items Only – You will have two (2) minutes to address Council from the podium on Agenda Items Only.)

Eric King – 336 First St. Eric had attended a highway committee meeting that was looking into paving Chestnut Alley and thought it would be discussed at this council meeting. He feels the council doesn't really know what roads need repairing up at the school. Eric stated that the road crew had just placed some cold patch down during the rain.

Manager Stevens spoke with Verizon concerning the trucks parked in the alley. Verizon stated they cannot have the trucks park on Second Street and upset residents by blocking traffic. Verizon will make an effort to not have the larger trucks park behind the building.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: President Bartholomew recessed to executive session at 7:50 PM. At 9:00 PM President Bartholomew reconvened the meeting. Matters of legal, personnel, and real estate were discussed in executive session.

D.3

Councilor Reed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Hausman, to approve Right-of-Way Agreement and temporary construction easement with UGI Utilities. President Bartholomew declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

Councilor Reed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Weschler, to amend the agenda to include approving the IRS submission of the pension plan amendment and payment of the fee to the IRS. President Bartholomew declared the motion passed following a Voice Vote, All in Favor.

Councilor Reed made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Hausman, to authorize the submission of the amendment package and the fee payment to the IRS for a determination letter and to use COVID19 LFRF funds. President Bartholomew declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

President Bartholomew declared the meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Daniel L. Stevens
Borough Secretary