

BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON

The **Finance Planning/Zoning, Public Safety and Human/Community Services Committee Workshop Meetings** were held on **April 19, 2021**, 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		Daniel Stevens	Jeffrey Hausman
Jason Ruff			Austin Berger
Thomas Bartholomew			Joseph Wechsler
Kevin Steckel			Lindsay Taylor
			Robert Stettner
			Denise Martinez

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

C. HUMAN/COMMUNITY SERVICES

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

1. Committee Member discussion on listed topics:

- a. The committee reviewed the letter from NLRA requesting approval to sell alcohol at two NLRA events – Wednesday UnWine'd and Everything Outdoors Food Truck Festival on July 24th, 2021. Lindsay Taylor will obtain proof of insurance for the food truck festival. Councilor Ruff would like this placed this on the next regular Council meeting for approval.
- b. Lindsay Taylor and Robert Stettner discussed the relocation, or possible removal, of playground equipment at Victory Park. Lindsay would like to have the flat area cleared in order to hold food vendors for community events to be held in the park. Lindsay is proposing relocating the swing set and monkey bars. Lindsay also added, that the swings are not in compliance – no safety surfacing, zone, etc. Lindsay would like to move the swing set closer to the existing playground and then seek funds to expand the safety zone, to include a set of swings. Robert Stettner would like to review the suggestions from Lindsay with the Parks and Recreation Commission. Robert is concerned about removing the swings correctly and finding a location for them. Manager Stevens pointed out that there are a lot of dead trees and branches that must be removed at the park. Manager Stevens suggested that the committee agree with the decision of the Parks and Recreation meeting that is being held Monday, 4/19/21. Councilor Steckel heard the facts from the Recreation Authority that it is just those 2 equipment pieces on the downhill side that will be moved. Councilor Ruff added that the committee would understand by moving the swing set, we are going to have to put out a little bit of funds for safety items. The committee agreed that we allow the 2 of them to decide. President Reed asked Lindsay if there are grants available for playground equipment. Lindsay informed him there are, and she will look

into them. President Reed asked Lindsay about raising the stage for the amphitheater. Councilor Ruff asked Lindsay if she would talk to the Chamber of Commerce concerning a grant to replace the sign at Victory Park. Manager Stevens stated the Borough could apply for a grant for the sign. Lindsay will apply for a grant for the disc golf course. Robert Stettner returned to the meeting and informed the committee that the Parks & Recreation had voted to move both the swings and the monkey bars.

- c. Denise Martinez, Caring Hearts, has proposed a blessing box at the Slatington Trailhead. The box would be filled with water, snacks, etc., which will be free and placed there on an honor system. There will also be a locked box for donations. Manager Stevens suggested placing a sign stating that the donation box is emptied every day. Denise would like to place the box in the area of Diggity Dog. Denise explained to the Committee that different organizations, individual people, etc., will be restocking the box. President Reed suggested Denise contact the Venture Group. Denise will get the Venture Group's opinion on the Blessing Box. Denise would like to have a community day in remembrance of Warren Anthony (Cotton). Denise informed the committee that they will also be participating in the Community Yard Sale. Denise would also like to celebrate their 5-year anniversary for Warm and Cozy and would like to use the billboard located at the top of the hill on Rte. 873 for advertisement. Denise is also looking into grants. Manager Stevens would like this placed on the regular council meeting in May or June. Denise will gather the information.
- d. President Reed provided information for the project for the parking lot at Main and Center Streets. The left-over pavers from the Veterans Memorial Park could be used. Councilor Ruff feels this could be done a very little cost. Manager Stevens will calculate how many pavers are left from the Veterans Memorial project.
- e. Robert Stettner had requested flag holders on the new light poles at the park. The committee reviewed a quote for flag holders on light poles at park for \$1,000.00 apiece. The committee feels this is too high a cost. Manager Stevens will check if they can give us a more reasonable price.

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

A. FINANCE/PLANNING/ZONING

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

1. Committee Member discussion on listed topics:
 - a. Councilor Bartholomew would like to have a final discussion of the fire ordinance. Councilor Steckel suggested to get rid of the requirement for the fire chief to go around and inspect, and just have it limited to pre-fab fire pits. Retain the verbiage for the Boy Scouts and the school to conduct their bonfires that require inspection from the fire chief. Austin Berger found a

definition of the pre-fab pits from Lower Macungie ordinance. There was a discussion on the lack of being able to enforce the rules for burning. The committee discussed increasing the footage for burning, which would eliminate a lot of locations. Councilor Bartholomew would like to have no burning in the Borough due to many dead trees surrounding the Borough. Austin Berger would provide more information to the committee for review, then have it go to Council for approval. Councilor Ruff and Manger Stevens suggested putting the ideas to the Council to vote to either having a no burn ordinance or revising the existing ordinance. This will be placed on the next regular council meeting.

- b. The committee reviewed the letter from LVPC concerning 25-27 Willow Ave proposed subdivision. The water and sewer must be separate for each unit. Manager Stevens provided a proposed letter from Duane Dellecker in response letter to LVPC. President Reed asked if there would be a firewall. Manager Stevens will find out. The committee is in agreement with Duane's letter, and Manager Stevens will send it.
- c. Manager Stevens was asked by a Council member to have the totem pole at Main and Center placed on the agenda. It has been stated by Tony Lopsonzski that the totem pole is not an obstruction. Tony Lopsonzski had stated that the issue is between PPL and the owner. The committee agreed to close this issue down, and take no further action.

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 the enforcement of heavy truck speed limit on upper Main St. President Reed had suggested having a speed limit sign placed on Main Street permanently stating trucks slow down to 20 MPH. It could be mounted at the fish pond with a cruiser sitting there. Chief Rachman had suggested hiring an officer and work 20 hours a month, but this would be costly. There is a concern about the speed limits that are there now – 35 MPH and 25 MPH. Manager Stevens suggested finding out if the COVID19 money could be used for another solar powered speed sign. The committee discussed other locations that an officer could sit and watch the traffic. The committee agreed they would like to have more police presence on Main St.

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

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS: NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

EXECUTIVE SESSION: NONE

Councilor Steckel made a motion, duly seconded by, Councilor Ruff, to adjourn. Being no further business, President Reed declared the meeting adjourned at 8:12 PM.

Daniel L. Stevens
Borough Secretary