

BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON

The Finance Planning/Zoning, Public Safety and Human/Community Services Committee Workshop Meetings were held on July 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		Mayor Niedermeyer	Jeffrey Hausman
Jason Ruff		Daniel Stevens	Robert Herzog, Jr.
Thomas Bartholomew			Austin Berger
Kevin Steckel			Jeralyn Schoch
			Joseph Wechsler

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

A. FINANCE/PLANNING/ZONING

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

1. Committee Member discussion on listed topics:
 - a. The committee discussed the possible uses for COVID19 LFRF (local fiscal recovery funds). Manager Stevens stated there are 4 general categories in order to use the recovery funds. Manager Stevens said the borough can put some monies in as loss of revenue. There are rules for which the borough may not use the monies, i.e., may not deposit in a pension fund, off set a reduction in net tax revenue, to create a rainy-day fund, pay off a debt, etc. The spending period begins on March 3rd, 2021, and ends December 31st, 2024. There will be 2 payments of \$225,405.15 each. Manager Stevens has been working on obtaining estimates, but contractors are not responding to the calls. Some of the possible projects are: repairing and repaving the trail behind the maintenance building, Chestnut Street sewer ditch repaving, 100 Steps drainage, the sign for the fire company, and a new police cruiser. The committee agreed that Chestnut Street should be a priority.
 - b. Councilor Bartholomew reviewed Ordinance 553, to change Clause 1-17, Item B, fines to be set by resolution. After checking with Solicitor Healy, these fines cannot be changed by resolution. Councilor Bartholomew would like to update the fine limit, which cannot exceed state guidelines. Councilor Bartholomew is suggesting a \$1,500.00 maximum fine. Councilor Bartholomew will be meeting with Solicitor Healy to discuss fine limits. Councilor Bartholomew would like this placed on the next regular council meeting to authorize Solicitor Healy to change the ordinance and advertise.
 - c. Manager Stevens informed the committee about the borough posting agendas directly to the website. Manager Stevens received a response from PSAB stating that we can do this at no extra cost. This action is due to new state regulations covering posting agendas for meetings.

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 asked the committee if any of the COVID19 money could be used for the fire company to purchase an LED sign at the Trailhead, and have the borough split the cost. The committee agreed that there would be a possibility of it being used, since this is a public health informational sign. However, the money is dependent upon the borough's loss in tax revenue as to how much the borough could contribute. Austin Berger has contacted 4 sign companies, 2 of which have called back, and received 1 estimate. Manager Stevens stated that all committees should have input to create a potential list for the COVID19 money. This will be placed on the next committee and regular council agenda.

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

- a. The committee reviewed a request for use of facilities from Caring Hearts to conduct 5th Annual Project Warm & Cozy on Saturday, December 4th, 2021 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Councilor Ruff would like this placed on the next regular council meeting for approval providing the insurance certificate is received.
- b. The committee discussed the possible stump grinding at Victory Park for \$140.00 per tree to cut and grind. Manager Stevens informed the committee that Robert Herzog found a person who will do the work. Robert Herzog stated that all the stumps will be taken care of. Councilor Ruff stated some of the stumps could possibly be used as bird feeders and/or carved. The committee agreed to grind the stumps that are at the ground. Robert Herzog will get a count on the stumps. This will be placed on the next regular committee meeting.

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

D. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

Councilor Bartholomew made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Ruff, to adjourn. Being no further business, President Reed declared the meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Daniel L. Stevens
Borough Secretary