

**BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON**

The **Finance Planning/Zoning, Public Safety and Human/Community Services Committee Workshop Meetings** were held on **March 21, 2022** in Council Room, 125 South Walnut Street, Slatington, PA 18080.

The meeting was called to order by President Bartholomew at 6:34 PM with the following in attendance:

| <u>PRESENT</u>     | <u>ABSENT</u> | <u>OTHERS PRESENT</u> | <u>VISITORS</u>        |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Thomas Bartholomew |               | Daniel Stevens        | Jeffrey Hausman        |
| Ronald Kratz       |               |                       | Samantha Eck           |
| Kevin Steckel      |               |                       | Jason Ruff             |
| Zachari Halkias    |               |                       | Bryon Reed             |
|                    |               |                       | Joe Weschler-via phone |
|                    |               |                       | Austin Berger          |
|                    |               |                       | Jeremy Henry           |

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Jeremy Henry** – Signed in and was recognized to speak. Jeremy wished to speak concerning about his position as fire police captain being stripped due to living too far outside the Borough line. Jeremy feels this was done unlawfully. He and the chief were not questioned about any of these policies regarding that he is too far outside the Borough line. Back in December he was approached to take position of fire police captain. Jeremy read the requirements for the position, and if he felt he wasn't qualified, he would never have applied for it. President Bartholomew felt it was a mistake. President Bartholomew met with Austin and suggested a committee at the fire house to review all the ordinances and suggest modification and updates. Jeremy informed the committee that this situation should be resolved quickly, in about a month or so; otherwise, the Slatington Fire Department will be losing 4 active fire police members. This would leave 1 active fire police member for the department. Austin Berger stated that the committee could be setup at the beginning of April (at their next general meeting). Manager Stevens stated that he was at the meeting and part of it has to do with interpretation. Council must decide this if they are going with radius or road miles, which should be defined in the ordinance. Jeremy provided information on his findings and recommendations on the issue. Jeremy feels that the Council should interpret a radius as air miles. President Bartholomew stated this will be moved to the April Council meeting. Jeremy asked that if he would be reinstated in April or must he wait until May. President Bartholomew stated it should be in April.

**A. FINANCE/PLANNING/ZONING**

Ronald Kratz – Chairman; Members: Kevin Steckel, Zachari Halkias

1. Committee Member discussion on listed topics:
  - a. Presentation by Becky Bradley (LVPC) on Northern Lehigh Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan. Note: Becky did not make it to the meeting. She will have to reschedule.

- b. The committee reviewed quotes for the copier lease for Borough office. The office is currently using Stratix. Stratix will buy back the lease at no cost, and the new machine has a 5-year lease. Davis' is cheaper, but it is a remanufactured machine. Manager Stevens recommends either the Stratix or the Frasier (Sharp). The committee authorize Manager Stevens to proceed in obtaining the Stratix, option 2, C3000.
- c. Councilor Kratz inquired if the Borough could place a moratorium on the conversion of single-family dwellings to multi-family dwellings. Manager Stevens stated this may have to be done through Zoning. President Bartholomew requested this be moved to the April Council meeting to authorize Attorney Healy to research.

Councilor Kratz stated there is a parking challenge in the Borough and would it be possible to issue permits for each car above 2 cars per household. Councilor Kratz has looked at other places, Connecticut primarily, and they charge a property tax for any cars above 4 per house hold. Councilor Kratz asked if this could be done in the Borough? Some residences have property that can park all their vehicles on their property. The committee agreed this could be discrimination. Councilor Kratz will speak with the solicitor.

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

## **B. PUBLIC SAFETY**

Kevin Steckel - Chairman; Members: Ronald Kratz, Zachari Halkias

### 1. Committee Member discussion on listed topics:

- a. The committee reviewed the quote from Keystone Technology for Microsoft Office 2019 licenses for \$968.50 (Police). President Bartholomew requested this be placed on the next regular Council agenda.
- b. Austin Berger provided an update for the fire company garage doors. Austin stated he had put out for 4 quotes, 2 companies came out physically and looked at the doors, and has only received only 1 quote. Austin provided a proposal from TCW Building Maintenance, this quote is basic – no extra safety features. Another quote was from Palmerton Garage Door for \$9,205.00 for the door. Austin also has a quote from Palmerton Garage Door for red/green traffic light inside the building at each door indicating when the door is all the way up. Austin Berger would like to have a light curtain for an additional \$3,325.00. Austin provided his recommendations of everything that would be required for safety for \$15,430.00; 5 doors, 5 openers, 5 lights, 5 light curtains. Manager Stevens stated this could qualify for COVID money. President Bartholomew requested this be placed on the next regular Council agenda.
- c. Austin Berger provided a report for fire truck maintenance. Austin stated that there was a lot of repair work done in-house. Austin provided quotes for 2 high priority items for an estimated cost of \$2,856.28 just to repair the leak on pump 11. He provided a quote for \$2,431.00 for the safety interlock system on

the aerial. President Bartholomew requested this be placed on the next regular Council agenda.

- d. Austin Berger stated they are reviewing and updating the Slatington Fire Department Standard Operating Guidelines.

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

### **C. HUMAN/COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Zachari Halkias – Chairman; Members: Kevin Steckel, Ronald Kratz

#### 1. Committee Member discussion on listed topics:

- a. The committee reviewed the request from Tiffany Rehrig-Schaeffer permission to hold the annual Halloween Parade on Saturday, October 29, 2022, rain date October 30, 2022. President Bartholomew requested this be placed on the next regular Council agenda
- b. The committee reviewed the request from Lindsay Taylor for topsoil and sod for the amphitheater for \$5,000.00 from JMY Construction LLC. The proposal is to split the cost with the Borough for this project with each paying \$2,500.00 President Bartholomew requested this be placed on the next regular Council agenda
- c. The committee reviewed the request from Springside Sportsmen Club Inc. to hold their 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Kid's Fishing Contest on Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at Trout Creek from 8:00 AM to 12:00 President Bartholomew requested this be placed on the next regular Council agenda
- d. The committee reviewed the request from the American Legion to block Second and Kuntz Streets around the Veterans' Memorial commencing at 8:00 AM until 1:00 PM on Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022 (Memorial Day) President Bartholomew requested this be placed on the next regular Council agenda

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

### **D. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS: None**

### **E. COURTESY TO THE FLOOR: None**

Councilor Kratz made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Steckel, to adjourn. Being no further business, President Bartholomew declared the meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Daniel L. Stevens  
Borough Secretary