

**BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 21, 2018 at 7:00PM**

The **Special Meeting** was held on **Monday, January 21, 2019** in Council Room, 125 South Walnut Street, Slatington, PA.

The meeting was called to order by President Stevens at 7:45 PM with the following in attendance:

2. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

President Stevens
Jason Ruff
Bryon Reed
Joseph Wechsler
David Schnaars
Thomas Bartholomew

ABSENT

OTHERS PRESENT

Walter Niedermeyer

VISITORS

Jeffrey Hausman Lisa Fischer
Ed Zielger, Gwyneth Jones
Ronald Kratz & wife
Kristine Porter-Times News
Jason Nicholas

President Stevens requested that, as a courtesy, everyone turn off their cell phones, iPhone, and electronic devices off, or on vibrate. If you must take a call, please exit the council chambers so as not to disrupt the meeting. President Stevens 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.

3. PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG Councilor Schnaars

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

5. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ed Ziegler – Signed in and was recognized to speak. Ed still has an issue with the light at the bank. Ed said the house at 29 Fourth Street has junk all over the place and the code enforcement officer should look into it. He said the storm drains are covered over with stones and the water can't drain correctly. Ed has been keeping track of the number of moving permits and has seen people moving in and out.

6. INTERVIEW CANDIDATES FOR VACANCY ON BOROUGH COUNCIL

President Stevens asked all the candidates if they were all 18 years of age, registered to vote, and resided in the borough for 1 year. All candidates responded that they met each requirement. The following candidates:

Lisa Fisher - Lisa is an Army veteran. She has been doing side projects for the borough for a number of years and has helped with the Halloween Parade, parks and recreation, the community center, and has been teaching swimming lessons. She would like to be on council to get more involved.

Gwyneth Jones - Gwyn had been on the council previously. She is on the board of directors at NOVA, ladies auxiliary at the fire company in Emerald, and very involved with

the community center. She would like to be back on council to finalize Russell Hallman's term.

Ronald Kratz - Ron moved to Slatington in 2003. He was on the zoning board, but had to resign due to excessive traveling, which has been reduced considerably. Ron's background is in international business. He has a bachelors in communications studies from Bloomsburg University, received a diploma in European studies from the University of Antwerp in Belgium, and a MBA from the University of Stirling in Scotland.

Edwin Ziegler - Ed has lived in the community most of his life. He has done a great deal of private things in the community. He worked at Alpo and was in charge of the engineering department and negotiated contracts with the Teamsters union.

Each candidate was asked various questions by the council for their aims and goals for the Borough of Slatington.

President Stevens recessed at 8:49 pm. At 9:09 pm, President Stevens reconvened the meeting.

President Stevens stated it must be a majority vote of all of council (4 votes), not the majority of those present to appoint a person. The mayor would vote if there was a tie. President Stevens asked Mayor Niedermeyer to call each name and have the council vote. The voting is as follows:

Councilor Schnaars voted for Ron Kratz;
Councilor Ruff voted for Lisa Fisher;
Councilor Reed voted for Gwyneth Jones;
President Stevens voted for Ron Kratz;
Councilor Wechsler voted for Ron Kratz;
Councilor Bartholomew voted for Ron Kratz.
Mayor Niedermeyer declared Ron Kratz the new councilor.

7. Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Reed, to accept Resolution R-02-19 for filling vacancy on the borough council whereas, a vacancy exists on the Council of the Borough of Slatington, and; whereas, Section 901 of the Borough Code (Act of February 1, 1966, as amended) addresses the manner in which such a vacancy shall be filled. Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Council of the Borough of Slatington that Ronald W. Kratz is appointed in lawful assembly of said Borough Council to the existing vacancy, said appointment to be valid until the reorganizational meeting of January, 2020.

ROLL CALL	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
	Daniel Stevens		
	Jason Ruff		
	Bryon Reed		
	Thomas Bartholomew		
	Joseph Wechsler		
	David Schnaars		

8. OTHER BUSINESS: None

9. COURTESY OF THE FLOOR - Agenda Items Only (2 minutes)

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

11. ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by Councilor Wechsler, to adjourn the meeting. Being no further business, President Stevens declared the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Colleen Bresnak
Assistant Borough Secretary