

BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON

The **Finance Planning/Zoning, Public Safety and Human/Community Services Committee Workshop Meetings** were held on **June 24, 2019** in Council Room, 125 South Walnut Street, Slatington, PA 18080.

The meeting was called to order by President Stevens at 6:30 PM with the following in attendance:

<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>	<u>OTHERS PRESENT</u>	<u>VISITORS</u>
Daniel Stevens	Jason Ruff		Joe Wechsler
David Schnaars			Jason Nicholas
Thomas Bartholomew			Mike Wentz

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jason Nicholas – Slatington Fire Department Chief – signed in and was recognized to speak. Jason discussed the gaming grant which would go towards the new proposed fire truck. Jason introduced Mike Wentz, the chief of the Diamond Fire Company, and is also the grant writer for the Borough of Walnutport. Mike explained to the committee the process of obtaining a grant through Senator Browne’s office. He also stated there are other options Jason could apply for, such as the low interest loan through the State Fire Commissioner office, which he has to pay for which is \$200,000, plus an addition \$20,000, if the vehicle is manufactured in Pennsylvania. Another option is the casino funding. The State Legislation sets the criteria for casino funding eligibility. This year the criteria are: community improvements projects, economic development, and projects of public interest. Mike feels that trying to replace a piece of an emergency equipment falls under the category of community improvements. Mike explained how he would apply for this. President Stevens informed Mike that the borough had received information over the years for this type of grant. In the past President Stevens would call to obtain more information from Lehigh County, but was told not to bother because the borough was not impacted by the casino. Mike informed him that since the changes in the criteria the borough is now eligible, and the county no longer administers the money. Mike feels this would be the best way to go for the monies. He said the grant opens September 1st, 2019, and closes November 15th, 2019. Councilor Schnaars recommended this be put on the next regular council meeting. Mike provided the committee with samples of resolutions for this grant. There is \$100.00 fee for the borough to apply.

FINANCE/PLANNING/ZONING

Thomas Bartholomew – Chairman; Members: David Schnaars, Jason Ruff

1. Committee Member Discussion:

- a. The committee was supplied with the adjusting journal entries report for their review. This will be placed on the next regular council meeting.
- b. Councilor Bartholomew informed the committee that the proposed fireworks ordinance had been written up by Ed Healy, per the council’s request. He said the times are 9:00 PM to 9:00 AM, and the penalties are – 1st violation - \$50.00, not more than \$100.00, 2nd violation - \$100.00, not more than \$300.00; 3rd violation - \$500.00, not more than \$1,000. The chief of police would like the ability to go after the property owner, i.e. landlord. President Stevens stated that the borough could already

use the nuisance tenant ordinance, so would it be necessary to place this in this ordinance. Councilor Schnaars informed the committee a previous ordinance had been passed stating that anything where the tenant is held responsible, we could also hold the landlord responsible. Councilor Bartholomew recommended this be placed on the next regular council meeting to vote on advertising.

- c. President Stevens discussed the possibility of a permit denial ordinance. Tony Lopsonzski had requested from the solicitor, if the borough could deny permits to a property owner and properties in order to require the owner to resolve blighted conditions first. Councilor Bartholomew stated that this be placed at the next regular council meeting for discussion.

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

PUBLIC SAFETY

David Schnaars-Chairman; Members: Thomas Bartholomew, Jason Ruff

1. Committee Member Discussion

- a. Police vehicles-this is for items l.b. and l.c.
- b. Councilor Schnaars discussed the proposal from ECCO Communications, LLC for \$1,415.00 for decommissioning 602 and switching equipment to 605. He said this is something that must be done. This will be placed on the next regular council meeting for approval.
- c. Councilor Schnaars discussed the quotes from Buzzy's Autobody to repaint vehicles. One vehicle is for \$1,500.00 to sand and paint; the second vehicle is for painting and replacing the fender for \$2,000.00. The 2013 vehicle will be given to Chief Rachman; the 2009 vehicle will be coming out of service, which will be used for the code enforcement officer. The committee discussed options for the vehicle the code enforcement officer is currently driving. The committee agreed to wait until next year to have the floors done in the police department. The quotes will be placed on the next regular council meeting for approval.
- d. Councilor Schnaars discussed the quotes from Jay D. Scheffler, General Contractor, to replace fire department door for \$913.00 and e-mail quote from Josh Riker for \$750.00. Quote from Josh Riker to be placed on the next regular council meeting for approval.

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

HUMAN/COMMUNITY SERVICES

Jason Ruff – Chairman; Members: David Schnaars, Thomas Bartholomew

1. Committee Member Discussion

- a. The committee discussed the letter dated 5/31/19 from the Slatington History Preservation Committee requesting support from the borough council to explore the possibility of turning the former Springside Fire Company into a museum. Councilor Schnaars stated this museum would have to be handicapped accessible. Also, there

are a great deal items that are currently stored at Springside. This would be a costly endeavor and lengthy issue. Councilor Schnaars would like to obtain more research. Councilor Wechsler suggested the Slatington Historical Preservation Committee get together with Duane Dellecker to do a feasibility study. This will be placed on the next committee meeting for discussion.

- b. Councilor Schnaars discussed the estimate from Brian's Profession Cleaning & Restoration Co., Inc. for \$225.00 to clean borough hallway carpet. This will be placed on the next regular council meeting for approval. Councilor Bartholomew suggested to have Brian's Professional Cleaning & Restoration Co give an estimate for the police department floor.
- c. President Stevens updated the committee about the UGI regulator station. This had been discussed at the Highway Committee meeting. He said UGI had moved the station back more and turned it. President Stevens will contact Duane Dellecker to find out if there are any zoning issues for the station. President Stevens stated he would like a statement in the written agreement stating the borough has no liability concerning the station. This will be placed on the regular council agenda.
- d. The committee reviewed an e-mail from Northern Lehigh Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan – Data Request dated 6/20/19. President Stevens was concerned about supplying information about where the water and sewer lines are located in the borough. The committee agreed that due to security reasons, they would like more information before completing the request.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS: None

Councilor Schnaars made a motion, duly seconded by, Councilor Bartholomew, to adjourn. Being no further business, President Stevens declared the meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM.

Colleen Bresnak
Assistant Borough Secretary