

BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON

The **Finance Planning/Zoning, Public Safety and Human/Community Services Committee Workshop Meetings** were held on **November 16, 2020**, 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	Kevin Steckel	Daniel Stevens	Jeffrey Hausman
Jason Ruff			Austin Berger
Thomas Bartholomew			Andreas Hassold
			Jason Nicholas

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Andreas Hassold – 67 Pine Tree Drive – Signed in and was recognized to speak. Andreas Hassold spoke about property on Arbor Lane concerning the flooding problem. Andreas reminded the committee that he was advised by the committee and zoning officer, Mr. Dellecker, that if they started construction and nothing has happened that Andreas may address the committee again. He tried to get in contact with Duane Dellecker multiply times. They have started to excavate and pour the footer on the second house. This property was already subdivided. The builders are pumping water after hard rains. Duane Dellecker had sent a photo and informed him that the Borough has offered to have the builder and the engineers come together, which was not the perception Andreas had. Andreas' understanding was that there would be an active effort to have the two parties, the builder and engineers, get together to assess some viable options. At this time no meeting has taken place. The committee discussed options to control the water flow. Manager Stevens will follow up with Duane Dellecker.

The committee agreed to change the agenda line up.

C. HUMAN/COMMUNITY SERVICES

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

1. Committee Member Discussion

- c. The committee reviewed the request from resident for a dedication plaque on a bench for his father's birthday in Slatington. The resident spoke about how her father had found a bench years ago in Victory Park and dragged it down to where it is now. Jordan is requesting a plaque for that bench by January. Usually plaques are dedicated to those who have passed away, or classes for the high school, etc. Councilor Ruff asked if the bench is in good condition. Jordan offered to replace the wood, as long as the cement is in good condition. Councilor Ruff suggested that since the family members are willing to pay for the plaque, the Borough could pay for any repairs to the bench. Fire Chief Nicholas offered to have the fire department fix the bench up, as long as it

doesn't need to be replaced. Councilor Ruff suggested they table the issue and Manager Stevens will do a follow up.

- a. The committee reviewed the waste receptacle and dog waste station for Slate Heritage Trail quote from George Ely Associates for \$963.00. Councilor Ruff agrees to a dog waste station, but wasn't expecting such a high-end cost on the waste receptacle. Councilor Ruff suggested taking the bigger trash stations and putting them on Main Street, and then take the older ones attached to the telephone poles and placing them on the trail. President Reed feels that the new ones may be too big for Main Street. Chief Nicholas informed the committee that there had been 3 suspicious fires on the trail in the last 3 weeks. One fire included a garbage can that was plastic. Chief Nicholas suggested that plastic garbage cans not be put on the trail. Councilor Ruff would like to approve the dog waste station and table the trash receptacle. The dog waste station will be placed on the next regular council meeting.
- b. The committee discussed the Victory Park Pavilion Eagle Scout project. Councilor Ruff stated the Eagle Scout would be preparing and painting the tables under the pavilion. The Scout is Ricardo Babalonia and the project is still working its way through the approval process with the Boy Scouts. The committee discussed the condition of the tables and benches. Councilor Ruff suggested that the Borough put a little bit of money into repairing them.

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 discussed possibly increasing Tony Lopsonzski hours to 29 hrs. a week. Manager Stevens informed Councilor Bartholomew that the pension provider would require the Borough to pay pension on him once you get above 1000 hours. Councilor Bartholomew stated that as of 11/16/2020, Tony Lopsonzki brought in \$6,000.00 in fees for landlord tenant inspections. Councilor Bartholomew feels that if he has more hours, he can do more inspections. The committee feels that Tony Lopsonzski should be addressing more complaint issues and proactive work.
 - b. The committee reviewed the resignation letter from Jack D. Meyers. Jack Meyers is looking for another person to run the drug and alcohol testing consortium. The Borough will have to decide whether to continue going with the consortium. Manager Stevens will call to clarify.

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. The committee discussed the fire department proposal for purchasing a used vehicle for officers. Fire Chief Nicholas and Austin Berger provided a proposal to the committee. Chief Nicholas stated that they can move forward looking at vehicles as far as pricing. Chief Nicholas is seeking from council approval that the vehicle would be added to the Borough's fleet insurance. The fire department can not insurance the vehicle. Chief Nicholas got an estimate for the cost – between \$800.00 and \$1000.00 – depending upon which vehicle is chosen. The fire department would be responsible for paying for buying the vehicle and for maintenance. Chief Nicholas proposed an increase to the fire tax millage of 1/10 that would generate, a total tax of \$103,060.00 or 2/10 would be a total tax \$120,820.00. With this increase the truck could be paid off by 2022. Councilor Bartholomew suggested looking into a donated vehicle. Chief Nicholas stated that it would be cheaper because a donated vehicle would have to be outfitted. Chief Nicholas informed the committee that they have the 1991 pumper on Municibid and have 2 bids – one at \$5,000.00 and one at \$5,100.00. This goes until December 9, 2020. This will be placed on the next regular council agenda.

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

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS: NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

EXECUTIVE SESSION: President recessed to executive session at 8:17 PM. At 8:53 PM President Reed reconvened the meeting. Matters of personnel matters were discussed in executive session.

Councilor Ruff made a motion, duly seconded by, Councilor Bartholomew, to adjourn. Being no further business, President Reed declared the meeting adjourned at 8:54 PM.

Daniel L. Stevens
Borough Secretary