

BOROUGH OF SLATINGTON

A Special Meeting of Council was held on Monday November 22, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. in Council Chambers, 125 S. Walnut Street, Slatington, PA 18080.

Presiding: Galen L. Freed, President of Council.

Recording Secretary: Vice-President Reed.

The meeting was called to order by President Freed at 7:02 P.M. with the following in attendance:

ROLL CALL:

<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>	<u>OTHERS PRESENT</u>	<u>VISITORS</u>	
Galen Freed	None	Chief Rachman	Mel Gildner	Carol Gildner
Kris Burek			Wendi Kern	Glen Kern
Russell Hallman			Paige Yoder	Bobby Herzog
Bryon Reed			John Bolton	Mike Evans
Daniel Stevens			Denise Smith	Linda Steets
Eldon Roberts			Kirk Cramer	Tim Wagner
Paul Hoffman			Daniel Buglio	Ryan Murray
			Jeremy Fischer	Rebecca Saborsky
			Jenni Blisard	Chad Trego

EXECUTIVE SESSION – At 7:10 PM President Freed convened the Regular Meeting and called for an Executive Session, than reconvened the Regular Meeting and noted that a Personnel matter was discussed.

Councilor Burek made a motion seconded by Councilor Hallman that effective immediately Council lay off an unqualified employee, namely Mr. Chad Christman from working at the Treatment Plant for budgetary reasons and/or in the alternative that his employment be terminated effective immediately. President Freed declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL:	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>
	Kris Burek	Daniel Stevens
	Bryon Reed	Russell Hallman
	Eldon Roberts	Paul Hoffman
	Galen Freed	None

COURTSEY OF THE FLOOR – For agenda and non-agenda items – None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – 2001 Budget Discussion

- A. Public Safety – Councilor Hoffman – He and Chief Rachman cut the Police and Public Safety Budget approximately \$45,736.00 by possibly eliminating Crossing Guards (must check with school district), reduce Code Enforcement Officer’s weekly hours from 30 to 20. There was a discussion concerning concessions from the Police and it was stated that decisions must come from the Union, and Councilor Hoffman noted that he had not heard back concerning this issue. Chief Rachman volunteered to forego his raise for 2011. There was a discussion concerning the Fire Department and The Fire Relief Fund and questions about insurance costs.
- B. Finance – Councilor Hallman – There was a discussion about retaining SS&M for engineering for 2011 and Councilor Burek suggested it would be a good idea due to the fact that they are working with the Authority on the PENNVEST Project. It was

decided to put this issue on the January Council Meeting Agenda. The garbage contract will be for one more year and McAuliffe was merged with Interstate Waste Services of Lehigh Valley. Vice-President Reed noted that he had not heard back from PennDot about the bridge maintenance agreement.

- C. Water – Councilor Roberts turned his budget over to Councilor Stevens and Councilor Hallman. They discussed security expenses at the Water Treatment Plant. They noted that more monies should be allocated to heating fuel and that we must get a better hold on engineering and legal fees.

General Budget – Councilor Stevens stated that there was an increase of about \$20,000.00 in the EIT revenue from the last review on November 9. There was a discussion concerning the hiring of a Borough Manager. Councilor Hallman noted that he will contact Campbell, Rappold and Yurasits about a reduction in the auditing fees for 2011.

Councilor Stevens made a motion seconded by Councilor Hallman to not hire a Borough Manager temporarily. President Freed declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL:	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>
	Kris Burek	Daniel Stevens
	Bryon Reed	Russell Hallman
	Eldon Roberts	Galen Freed
		None

- D. Highway – Vice-President Reed noted that labor and vehicle replacement and repairs are the biggest items for Highway. The fuel usage was discussed and needs to be looked into. There was a discussion concerning reduction of working hours and Mike Evans noted that they must speak to their Union representative. Councilor Burek questioned about contributions to an entity that charges for services and that it is illegal and Councilor Hoffman asked where that rule is written. There was a discussion about the contribution to NOVA and Councilor Hoffman stated that it is required to supply the community with emergency fire and ambulance services.

Councilor Hoffman had left the meeting at 9:05 P.M. He stated that he was kind of disappointed in that he was told to cut his budget, which he stated that he did and was the only one so far who did by \$50,000.00.

- E. Sewer/Solid Waste – Councilor Burek discussed Walnutport’s sewer receipts and both Washington Township and Walnutport’s revenues and expenses. She also noted that the number for labor for the Sewer Treatment Plant Operator includes 3 salaries, but is hoping to hear from the DEP that we may not have to hire the 3rd operator. She also suggested that we repair 5 manholes/year at a cost of approximately \$10,000.00 and the expense will be shared with Walnutport and Washington Township. She informed Council that Stefan Myers offered to forgo his raise for 2011 in exchange for 4 additional vacation days. She also noted that she will submit her changes to the Authority and request a possible modification.
- F. Human/Community Services – Councilor Stevens noted that he will cut parks and playgrounds by 10%. Councilor Stevens will submit the changes to Joan and have her update the preliminary budget list.

Councilor Hallman made a motion seconded by Councilor Burek to adopt the Preliminary Budget. President Freed declared the motion passed following a Roll Call, voting as follows:

ROLL CALL:	<u>AYES</u>		<u>NAYS</u>
	Kris Burek	Daniel Stevens	None
	Bryon Reed	Russell Hallman	
	Eldon Roberts	Galen Freed	

At 11:35 P.M. the meeting was adjourned

Joan Cheesbrough
Assistant Borough Secretary