

**MARTINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**MARCH 3, 2025**

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Borough Council was held on Monday, March 3, 2025 in the municipal building. The meeting started at 7:00 p.m. with prayer by Richard Brantner, Jr. and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Mayor Richard A. Brantner, President P. Robert Dickson, Vice-President Edward L. Bennett, Pro-Tem Charles E. Kensinger, Councilwoman Janet E. Blattenberger, Councilman James C. Dell, and Councilman Neil E. Gartland and Councilman Darin B. Meck

In addition to council, present were Borough Manager Richard Brantner, Jr., Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily, Chief Kerry Hoover, Assistant Chief Justin Davis, Attorney Jeff Muriceak, Amy Hockenberry, Dustin Russell, Sandy Weyandt, Louis C. Schmitt, Jr., and Cati Keith of the Morrisons Cove Herald.

State Representative Lou Schmitt announced his candidacy for Blair County Court of Common Pleas Judge.

*The MINUTES of the meeting of February 3, 2025 were approved on a motion by Charles Kensinger, seconded by James Dell. The motion passed unanimously.*

The FINANCIAL AND TREASURER'S REPORTS for February 2025 were prepared and presented by Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily.

*The LIST OF BILLS for February 2025, check nos. 11636-11668 in the amount of \$50,371.45 (including a transfer to the Reserve Fund for \$25,000) approved on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by James Dell. The motion passed unanimously.*

MAYOR RICHARD BRANTNER presented his report as written.

Police Chief Kerry Hoover presented the POLICE REPORT as written.

BOROUGH MANAGER Rich Brantner reported:

FEB 6 – PLOWED some ice, sleet and snow in the morning

FEB 8 – PLOWED snow

FEB 10 – cleaned up snow in TOWN CENTER

FEB 11 – there was a meeting at the park with the residents from Stone Manor and Spring Drive with the owners (REGAL COMMUNITIES) to go over some concerns they had

FEB 15 – PLOWED more snow

FEB 27 – a contractor was drilling holes to set poles and hit our 12-inch main water line outside of town – we had to put about eight customers on a BOIL WATER NOTICE.

MAR 1 – after testing the water for contamination we got our results back and they were negative so we lifted the BOIL WATER NOTICE

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION held for personnel matters from 7:10-7:25 p.m.

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The one full-time police applicant received no longer wants a full-time police position. *Council on a motion by Charles Kensinger, seconded by Janet Blattenberger, approved to hire ERIK WHISKER at a part-time patrolman subject to him completing all the necessary requirements. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Council on a motion by James Dell, seconded by Darin Meck, appointed GORDON HOCKENBERRY as a Zoning Hearing Board Alternate. The motion passed unanimously.* The next zoning hearing is scheduled for March 18, 2025 for the Zimmermans.

Manager Rich Brantner, Jr. mentioned that the contract with the Hollidaysburg Ambulance expires December 2025. They are not fulfilling some of the things in the contract. *A committee consisting of Charles Kensinger as chairman, Jim Dell and Rich Brantner, Jr. was appointed to review the AMBULANCE CONTRACT on a motion by Rob Dickson, seconded by Neil Gartland. The motion passed unanimously.*

Chief Kerry Hoover made a request to purchase is gun and duty belt when he retires in May. The gun is valued between \$150-\$250. *Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Charles Kensinger, approved to give Chief Hoover his GUN AND DUTY BELT AT NO CHARGE. The motion passed unanimously.* Chief Hoover thanked council for the generous gift and requested to have Mayor Richard Brantner assist him in having the gun transferred from the borough to his name.

*Council on a motion by James Dell, seconded by Charles Kensinger, adopted Resolution No. 2025-0303-01 to recognize April 2025 as the PENNSYLVANIA 811 SAFE DIGGING MONTH. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by James Dell, approved to advertise again for a FULL-TIME POLICE OFFICER with a deadline for applications to be in by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, April 7, 2025 for the next meeting. The motion passed unanimously.*

The topic of part-time labor will be put on next month's agenda.

Minutes of the MARTINSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY'S meeting of February 10, 2025 were included in the agenda packets.

*The meeting ADJOURNED at 7:39 p.m. on a motion by James Dell, seconded by Darin Meck. The motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

M. Jane Staily  
Borough Secretary