

MARTINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES
APRIL 5, 2021

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Borough Council was held on Monday, April 5, 2021 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, Sr., President P. Robert Dickson, Vice President Durban D. Metzler, Pro-tem Ed Bennett, Councilman Neil E. Gartland, Councilman Charles E. Kensinger, Councilman Darin B. Meck and Councilwoman Linda K. Smith

In addition to council, present were Manager Richard Brantner, Jr., Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily, Chief Kerry Hoover, Lt. Justin Davis, and Attorney Matt Gieg

The MINUTES of the regular meeting of March 1, 2021 were approved on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by Charles Kensinger. The motion passed unanimously.

The FINANCIAL AND TREASURER'S REPORTS for March 2021 were prepared and presented by Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily.

The LIST OF BILLS for March 2021, check nos. 10281-10308 in the amount of \$88,722.22 (including a \$58,000 transfer to the Reserve Fund) was approved on a motion by Charles Kensinger, seconded by Durban Metzler. The motion passed unanimously.

MAYOR RICHARD BRANTNER (Sr.) presented his report as written.

Chief Hoover presented the POLICE REPORT as written. The department is still working through some issues on the body cameras.

BOROUGH MANAGER Rich Brantner reported:

MAR 5 – finished up the CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT for the water that was tested in 2020 and mailed out the post cards

MAR 12 – started running the STREET SWEEPER

APR 2 – talked with the new tenant at the MIKE SNOWBERGER PROPERTY and advised him what he can do and what he cannot do in the old meat market building – he is basically making sandwiches – no butchering – no dine-in

Manager Richard Brantner, Jr. continues to inspect the force main on a day-to-day basis that T. L. Long Excavating is installing at the OAKVIEW ESTATES – they hit limestone so some blasting will need to be done

Attorney Matt Gieg reported on a request Manager Brantner received from TIMOTHY AND MARIAN PARK of 114 N. Ann Street regarding the subdivision they are doing on their property to build a house. They are asking to reduce their side yard setback from 30 feet to 15 feet. There is only one adjoining owner that will be affected. Attorney Matt Gieg prepared a variance agreement for them both to sign that will be recorded at the courthouse since there is only one adjoining property owner being affected. The agreement will hold Martinsburg harmless since both property owners are consenting to it and it will be of record. Martinsburg is not a party in the agreement but we will have to approve the side yard setback variance request. *Council on a motion by Durban Metzler, seconded by Neil Gartland to approve the side yard set back variance request of TIMOTHY AND MARIAN PARK for 114 N. Ann Street from 30 feet to 15 feet. The motion passed unanimously.*

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The Blair County Tax Collection Bureau is requesting borough permission to extend the deadline for Local Earned Income Tax filings for 2020 be extended from April 15, 2021 to May 17, 2021 to remain consistent with what the State and Federal deadlines have been extended to. *To be fair to the tax payers and be consistent with the State and Federal filings, council on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Charles Kensinger, adopted Resolution No. 2021-0405-01 to EXTEND THE DEADLINE FOR LOCAL EARNED INCOME FILINGS FOR 2020 from April 15, 2021 to May 17, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.*

A letter of resignation was received from KEN STEELE effective March 9, 2021. The municipal authority is recommending Doug Hoover as his replacement. *Council on a motion by Durban Metzler, seconded by Linda Smith, appointed DOUGLAS W. HOOVER as Ken Steele's replacement for representation of North Woodbury Township to fulfill Ken Steele's unexpired six year term ending January 2023 on the Martinsburg Municipal Authority. The motion passed unanimously.*

Linda Smith reported that the REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE appreciated the borough crew putting the town banners up. Flowers will be planted in May sometime. Those helping plant are Linda Smith, Joyce Hoover and Nellie Shultz.

Both the PARKING ORDINANCE and STOP SIGN ORDINANCE were tabled until next month due to the Borough Code advertising requirement.

As part of the AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN for covid relief Martinsburg Borough may be eligible for \$180,000 but the State is not sure exactly what all it can be spent on yet. One-half the money will be received in May 2021 and the second half will be received on year later and must be spent by December 2024. *Council on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Darin Meck, authorized to open a new checking account at First National Bank for the AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN money contingent upon receiving the funds. The motion passed unanimously.*

Minutes of the MARTINSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY of the regular meeting of March 8, 2021 were included in the agenda packets.

A thank you note was received from the W. GENE HENRY FAMILY for the flowers sent to his funeral.

An EXECUTIVE SESSION was held for legal matters regarding real estate from 7:34-8:07 p.m.

The meeting ADJOURNED at 8:07 p.m. on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Durban Metzler. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Jane Staily
Borough Secretary