

MARTINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES
FEBRUARY 5, 2024

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Borough Council was held on Monday, February 5, 2024 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 Ed Bennett, Councilwoman Janet E. Blattenberger, Councilman James C. Dell, Councilman Neil E. Gartland and Councilman Darin B. Meck (*Charles Kensinger was absent*)

In addition to council, present were Manager Richard Brantner, Jr., Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily, Chief Kerry Hoover, Attorney Nathan Karn, Sandy Weyandt, and Cati Keith of the Morrisons Cove Herald

The MINUTES of the meeting of January 2, 2024 were approved on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by James Dell. The motion passed unanimously.

The FINANCIAL AND TREASURER'S REPORTS for December 21-31, 2023 were prepared and presented by Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily.

The LIST OF BILLS for December 21-31, 2023, check nos. 11252-11267 in the amount of \$51,335.15 (including a transfer of \$50,000 to the Reserve Fund) was approved on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Darin Meck. The motion passed unanimously.

The FINANCIAL AND TREASURER'S REPORTS for January 1-20, 2024 were prepared and presented by Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily.

The LIST OF BILLS for January 1-20, 2024, check nos. 11268-11284 in the amount of \$19,861.41 was approved on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by James Dell. The motion passed unanimously.

Neil Gartland inquired about the AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN balance of \$61,873.36. Manager Rich Brantner, Jr. explained that the account balance might be used towards a new street sweeper in addition to some Highway Liquid Fuels money if the Local Shares Grant for a new street sweeper in the amount of \$275,000 that was applied for is granted.

MAYOR RICHARD BRANTNER presented his report as written. Mayor Brantner was in contact with the family members of the late Trooper Landon Weaver as well as the committee members and it was the consensus of all to close out the Trooper Landon Weaver Memorial Fund since the park pavilion project was not going to happen. *Council on a motion by James Dell, seconded by Neil Gartland, approved to close out the TROOPER LANDON WEAVER MEMORIAL FUND at First National Bank and send \$779.78 to Cove Christmas Love and \$779.79 to the Martinsburg Food Bank. The motion passed unanimously.*

Chief Hoover presented the POLICE REPORT as written. Our three police officers have completed their two-day MPOETC training online which consisted of four tests. Last week thirty-six pounds of PRESCRIPTION DRUGS and over the counter drugs collected from the drug drop box were taken into DEA – this drop box is emptied twice a year.

BOROUGH MANAGER Rich Brantner reported:

JAN 6 – got about 5 inches of SNOW

JAN 9 –got about 6 inches of SNOW then turned to rain then caused some minor flooding on the streets until we went around and opened up the storm grates

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JAN 10 – we were getting **HIGH FLOWS** at the wastewater plant

JAN 10 – thanks to Rob Dickson for welding up one of our **PLOWS** that go broken during one of the snow events

JAN 11 – **CLEANED UP SNOW** around the businesses around the signal light

JAN 18 – the municipal authority passed their **2024 BUDGET** at their regular meeting

JAN 24 – had a meeting with Megan Zimmerman and Gary Calvert their geologist on the **PENN ST. PROPERTY** – called DEP in Harrisburg to see where we stand with the final plan
- we have a meeting with them on February 4 in Harrisburg

JAN 25 – went to a water and sewer **CLASS ON SAFETY**

FEB 5 – ran the **STREET SWEEPER** on the main streets

Janet Blattenberger inquired about the **RECYCLING ACCOUNT** insisting it did not show the breakdown of the composting and recycling income and expenses. Treasurer Jane Staily explained that the intent of the account was always to show just the recycling activity. The only reason there is a revenue line and an expense line for **composting** is to save the residents from having to write two checks for their renewal keys. Once the composting income is received it is eventually transferred into the general fund. Composting expenditures are paid from the general fund. Manager Rich Brantner, Jr. explained that his recommendation to increase the composting fee for 2024 was made after reviewing years of income and expenses. The total revenues have not been covering the cost of the expenses.

A borough council and officials **PHOTO** is scheduled to be taken at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, March 4, 2024. Those planning to be in the photo should be here at 6:15 p.m. Gerald Leidy will be taking the photo.

The minutes of the regular meeting of the **MARTINSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY** on January 8, 2024 were included in the agenda packet. Things have been relatively quiet. The fire company has been in their new addition for two years now and appreciate the extra room to work on the equipment.

*The meeting **ADJOURNED** at 7:36 p.m. on a motion by James Dell, seconded by Durban Metzler. The motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

M. Jane Staily
Borough Secretary