

**MARTINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 4, 2013**

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Borough Council was held on Monday, November 4, 2013 in the municipal building. The meeting started at 7:00 p.m. with prayer by Randy Stoltz and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Mayor Rex L. Hartman, President Connie S. Lamborn, Vice-President Doreen K. Easley, Pro-Tem Durban D. Metzler, Councilman Edward L. Bennett, Councilman Shawn D. Daughenbaugh, and Councilwoman Linda K. Smith (Councilman Daniel R. Smouse was absent)

In addition to the council, present were Manager Randy Stoltz, Secretary Jane Staily, Chief Kerry Hoover, Rich Brantner, Jr., Attorney Frederick Gieg, Jr., Attorney Matt Gieg, Attorney Chris Jancula, Jr. Councilman Conner Johnson, Ryan Brown of the Altoona Mirror and Brian Hess of the Morrisons Cove Herald

*The **MINUTES** of the regular meeting of October 7, 2013, were approved on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by Durban Metzler. The motion passed unanimously.*

The **MINUTES** of the 2014 Budget Workshop held on Monday, October 21, 2014 were presented as written.

The **FINANCIAL AND TREASURER'S REPORTS** were presented for October 2013 as prepared by Treasurer Jane Staily.

*The **LIST OF BILLS** for October 2013 check nos. 7235-7271 in the amount of \$86,884.26 was approved on a motion by Doreen Easley, seconded by Shawn Daughenbaugh. The motion passed unanimously.*

Mayor Rex Hartman reported that the **SPOT LIGHT** on the flag at the memorial at the triangle is not being turned on each night. Manager Randy Stoltz has been in contact with the property owner regarding this. Mayor Hartman also reported that Jason Caruso of the VFW has indicated that the VFW was interested in purchasing more **LIGHTED SNOW FLAKE STREET DECORATIONS**.

Chief Hoover presented his **POLICE REPORT** as written. The police department participated in a lockdown drill at the Spring Cove Middle School on October 11<sup>th</sup> - met with the emergency response plan committee on October 14<sup>th</sup> to work on a **CRISIS PLAN** - participated in a lockdown drill at the Martinsburg Elementary on October 17<sup>th</sup> – they did not have to evacuate; participated as an honor guard on October 23<sup>rd</sup> at the memorial service for East Freedom's Police **CHIEF JOHN REILLY** – attended the funeral on October 24<sup>th</sup> along with Sgt. Davis - John Reilly was an officer for the Martinsburg Police Department years ago and trained Kerry Hoover when he first started here – Chief Reilly was well respected by everyone; six police departments from the South Blair County Law Enforcement got together and launched a **FACE BOOK** page on October 25 – the site had 2,453 likes as of today; **TRICK-OR-TREAT** on October 31 went well – the weather was bad and there were not many trick-or-treaters out walking – there were no incidents; there was a **FULL SCALE EMERGENCY RESPONSE DRILL** at the Spring Cove Middle School on November 1 – no students were involved, only the staff and responders – the drill went well; the **NEW TASER** was received two weeks ago – it is smaller than the old one and comes with an extra cartridge on it.

Manager Randy Stoltz reported that on October 9 the proposed **SHERIFF SALE** for the property at 406 W. Allegheny St. was continued until a date to be determined in November or

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December – the bank has not paid the mowing lien yet – Chief Hoover reported that the bank would be willing to pay the lien if the nuisance ordinance charges could be dropped; October 11 met with the Hite Company to determine what kind of lighting was available for the borough parking lot – two 78 watt LED lights will provide adequate **LIGHT FOR THE PARKING LOT** – a three gang meter base will be placed on the Pizza Star building with the third meter feeding a disconnect box and the two lights which will be billed to the borough at a total estimated cost of \$2,500.00; met with the Revitalization Committee on October 18 to determine a size for a **CLOCK** at the square – a 2-foot and 3-foot demo clock face was temporarily erected and the 3-foot clock face looked the best – cost for the clock will be about \$17,000 – the Revitalization Committee suggested checking into a brick base for the clock which is not how it comes from the factory – due to the timing of the grant Manager Stoltz recommended that Linda Smith check further into the idea of a brick base if they are interested in it before a decision is made at the December meeting; attended a **SIGN MANAGEMENT WEBINAR** on October 29 – in addition to PennDOT making recent changes to the required street signage, we are now required to have a plan stating how we inventory the signs along the street and must also establish a replacement schedule – the only signs we need to replace at this time are the 4-way and 3-way signs at the intersections - they are now required to say “All-Way”; and the **COMMUNITY FUND** has received \$20,044 as of November 4 which is 50% of the \$40,250 goal.

Linda Smith mentioned that the **BOROUGH PARKING LOT LIGHTING** on the police side of the building seemed very dark. Manager Stoltz responded that we initially had adequate lighting there but had to shade it on that side after receiving a complaint from a neighbor that it was too bright. Currently the police porch light is burned out so once it is replaced that should make it a little bright on that end.

Attorney Frederick Gieg, Jr. reported that an issue has come up about a **ZONING VIOLATION** by one of our residents and he was asked if it continued could we abate the problem. He stated that if the fine doesn't work we can actually abate it by getting a court order.

Attorney Gieg has already have placed a **LIEN ON 406 W. ALLEGHENY ST.** which is accruing interest at 6%. He sent the lien to the sheriff's office so it will be in the bid price for the property.

The results of the latest **ASSESSMENT APPEALS** have not been received yet. Two of the five may be worth it for the borough to appeal.

Attorney Gieg reported on the **CURRYVILLE WATER** matter that it came up at the meeting that a feasibility study had to be done but the municipal authority does not want to have to pay for it. A verbal commitment was received from North Woodbury Township and Curryville Water Authority to pay for the fee to Lennon, Smith, Souleret Engineering not to exceed \$15,000. The prepared agreement was delivered to North Woodbury Township's Attorney Lee Oswald this evening. Attorney Gieg mentioned that our engineers should be thanked for allowing the payment to be deferred until a Pennvest loan can be sought to get the study done.

Attorney Gieg recommended that an easement be drawn up for the **PARKING LOT LIGHT** that will be placed on the adjoining property owner's building in town center. Once Manager Stoltz gets the names for the agreement he will draw one up. An easement should also be prepared for the clock once it is decided where it will be placed.

Attorney Gieg indicated to council that the new **LARGER STOP SIGNS** that they have purchased to replace the smaller ones eliminates a liability issue for the borough if an accident would happen at one of our intersections. Replacing the stop signs was money well spent.

Since the borough was interested in two of the five borough **ASSESSMENT APPEALS** Attorney Gieg mentioned that the results of the assessment appeals will eventually be mailed out by the county.

There is a webinar available for communities to find ways to get **NEW REVENUE**.

Linda Smith reported that the **REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE** still has three pots out. She would like the borough crew to gather up the tables and chairs for the winter.

Manager Stoltz reported that the **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE** will be having one more community meeting.

A **BUDGET WORKSHOP** was held on October 21. Copies of those changes made were distributed in the council packets for this evening. The recommended 2014 budget does not require a tax increase. Employee raises were calculated at 2% and the part-time patrolman line items was increased to allow for an additional two more hours per week. Another taser was budgeted to be purchased and a computer and computer upgrade was added for the police department. *Council on a motion by Doreen Easley, seconded by Shawn Daughenbaugh, approved to advertise the 2014 BUDGET for the 10-day public inspection period to be considered for adoption at the December meeting. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Council on a motion by Durban Metzler, seconded by Ed Bennett, approved to advertise the 2014 REAL ESTATE TAX ORDINANCE as Ordinance No. 2013-596 to remain at 20.5 mills for consideration for adoption at the December 2, 2013 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Council on a motion by Doreen Easley, seconded by Linda Smith, approved to advertise the 2014 PER CAPITA TAX ORDINANCE as Ordinance No. 2013-597 to remain at \$5.00 for consideration for adoption at the December 2, 2013 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Council on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Doreen Easley, approved to advertise the 2014 EARNED INCOME TAX ORDINANCE as Ordinance No. 2013-598 to remain at 5 mills for consideration for adoption at the December 2, 2013 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.*

Manager Randy Stoltz presented a proposal to council to replace the current 32 Watt fluorescent bulbs in the municipal building with **28 WATT FLUORESCENT BULBS** at an initial cost of \$402 (\$456 less \$54 rebate) for an estimated annual savings of \$108 on electricity costs. No lumens will be lost with the new bulbs and the old bulbs will be used at the ambulance building and the borough garage. The program will pay for itself after 3-4 years. It was the consensus of council to change out the old bulbs with the new ones to be purchased from the Building Maintenance Fund.

Correspondence was received from the Blair County Board of Commissioners regarding ratification of the 2013 update of the **BLAIR COUNTY MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**. We do not have to do anything since we are already in compliance

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but the county encourages adopting their recommendation to encourage sound waste and recycling management practices. The county strongly recommends a burning ban but it is not required. Martinsburg currently does not ban all burning. *Council on a motion by Doreen Easley, seconded by Linda Smith, adopted the Ratification of the 2013 Update of the Blair County Municipal Waste Management Plan as Resolution No. 2013-1104-01. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Per the original executed agreement with Richard Over, donor of the parking lot at town center, council on a motion by Durban Metzler, seconded by Ed Bennett, authorized to purchase PARKING LOT LIGHTING for the town center parking lot for an estimated cost of \$2,500.00 plus \$900 for labor to be paid for from the reserve fund. The motion passed unanimously.*

Interested write-in candidates for the two ELECTED AUDITOR POSITIONS are as follows: AMY KENNEDY remaining 2-year term; FRED RAINEAR 6-year term.

*The meeting ADJOURNED at 8:10 p.m. on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Doreen Easley. The motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

M. Jane Staily  
Borough Secretary