

MARTINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES
JUNE 2, 2014

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Borough Council was held on Monday, June 2, 2014 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, Councilwoman Janet E. Blattenberger, Councilman Shawn D. Daughenbaugh, and Councilwoman Linda K. Smith (*Ed Bennett, Durban Metzler, and Dan Smouse were absent*)

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

John Long was present in request of council approval to hold the **FOURTH ANNUAL OUTHOUSE RACE** event on July 18 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in Martinsburg. This event is scheduled the same weekend as the firemen's annual ox roast fundraising. All proceeds from the Outhouse Race will again be donated to the fire company. Rain date is scheduled for July 19. He was requesting permission to hold the event and for the police to close S. Walnut Street until the event is over. A copy of the insurance policy will be forwarded to the borough. ***Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Shawn Daughenbaugh, approved of the Outhouse Race to take place on July 18 and the pertaining portion of S. Walnut Street will be closed until the event is over – a copy of his insurance policy for the event will be provided to the borough. The motion passed unanimously.***

(John Long left at 7:05 p.m.)

President Connie Lamborn announced that there will be an **EXECUTIVE SESSION** held following the adjournment of the meeting this evening to discuss legal matters.

*The **MINUTES** of the regular meeting of May 5, 2014, were approved on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by Janet Blattenberger. The motion passed unanimously.*

The **FINANCIAL AND TREASURER'S REPORTS** were presented for May 2014 as prepared by Treasurer Jane Staily.

*The **LIST OF BILLS** for April 2014 check nos. 7523-7578 in the amount of \$191,134.37 was approved on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Linda Smith. The motion passed unanimously.*

Chief Kerry Hoover presented the **POLICE REPORT** as written. It is the busy time of year for the police department. Chief Hoover is setting up AED (**AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR**) training to be hosted at our municipal building to be attended by other police departments. UPMC is donating at least one portable life saving device for heart attack victims to each department. Chief Hoover reported that he was impressed with how many spectators stood for the American Flag during the **MEMORIAL DAY PARADE** this year.

Manager Randy Stoltz reported that he received notice that Martinsburg has been awarded a **RECYCLING 902 GRANT** in the amount of \$18,108.00 which per the grant guidelines is 90% of the actual construction expenses - \$3,978.00 was designated to expand the current site by an additional 16-feet; the **REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE** with the help of Kelly Bassler's group swept and cleaned up town center on May 6; Manager Stoltz met with Penelec on May 8

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to look at the 22 power poles that we would choose to hang **BANNERS** on – Penelec will also be replacing three poles this month that are located within the sidewalk project area.

Manager Stoltz was notified by PennDOT on May 19 that Martinsburg was awarded additional TEP (**TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM**) funding from FHWA. This will now enable Martinsburg to complete Locust Street, the widening of 140-feet of E. Allegheny Street across from the Subway Restaurant, and putting a defined driveway/sidewalk in front of the Subway. We will be removing our \$60,000 Liquid Fuels contribution and removing our \$60,000 of CDBG grants for use on more curb ramps next year. Manager Stoltz was requesting approval for payment of the \$225,000 invoice received from Jessica Sheets who helped him with obtaining another CDBG grant for \$44,000. This as the amount she charged for helping us with the last CDBG grant. Manager Stoltz spoke with the county and was able to hold over the \$60,000 until next year. If we get money from the grant that was just applied for we can hold them together for one project. An extension of time to spend the grant money will be applied for.

Manager Randy Stoltz attended a pre-construction meeting on May 23 for the streetscape project at the PennDOT office in Hollidaysburg – the **SIDEWALK PROJECT** is to start on July 7, 2014 – he will eventually be requesting permission to add Penelec to the borough's insurance policy when the banners are installed on their poles and to add the street clock as well; **NEW WATER SERVICE LINES** have been installed on May 30 to all the properties on the 100 block of Locust Street to facilitate the new curbing – new water service lines were run for the Herald office and 103/105 W. Julian Street to allow for N. Market Street to be widened for about 90-feet in front of the Herald office; met with the Teeter Group on June 2 concerning our **WORKERS COMPENSATION INSURANCE** – one company remains in the state that will still write both municipal and fire company insurance (Amerihealth) so that company will be our new workers compensation provider to be billed monthly instead of as part of our annual insurance package with the Teeter Group – the other choice would have been to go with the a State governed policy; the next meeting for the **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**, and possibly the last, will be held on June 12 at the Morrisons Cove Memorial Park following the Boosters' meal – the comprehensive plan has already been sent to the Blair County Planning Commission and they responded to us with a nice letter received today; and the **FACADE GRANT** is under review – ten businesses will be eligible for a 50% grant of \$5,000 each to match the business' expenditure of \$5,000 – the expenditure must be made before receiving the grant.

Councilwoman Janet Blattenberger suggested that the building next to the **RECYCLING CENTER** was in need of being painted or sided.

Council was concerned about what would happen to the **PARK** building(s) if they could no longer financially stay open.

*Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Linda Smith, approved to pay invoice no. 53114 in the amount of \$225.00 to **J. SHEETS & ASSOCIATES, LLC** for completing a CDBG grant funding request for the submission to the Blair County Planning Department and Commissioners for the streetscape project to be used as ADA improvements within the project such as curb cuts. The motion passed unanimously.*

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Council inquired about the \$6.25 **PLGIT SERVICE FEE** charged to the Equipment Fund account. Jane Staily explained that PLGIT now charges \$1.25 for each deposit item over five per month. An option to avoiding the charges if they continue would be to close the PLGIT account and open one at our local bank.

Attorney Frederick B. Gieg, Jr. reported that his firm did some major research and will be reporting on the **EXECUTIVE MATTER** to be discussed after the adjournment of the meeting this evening. Attorney Gieg commended Manager Randy Stoltz on obtaining various **GRANTS** for some of the borough's projects. He also commended the **FIRE COMPANY** on their good safety record and education and training that keeps the borough's insurance premiums to a minimum.

Manager Randy Stoltz reported that there will not be a **PAVING PROJECT** this year. Next year's paving project will include Locust Street due to the water line street cuts that were done in preparation for the upcoming sidewalk project.

Linda Smith reported that the **REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE** continues to look into the purchase of banners for the street poles. Manager Stoltz reaffirmed that there is money for the banners and two matching planters (one for the new clock and the other across the street at Martinsburg Pizza).

Linda Smith expressed concern that the town was in great need of a **GROCERY STORE**. Manager Stoltz did not elaborate but mentioned that there were two companies interested in putting one back into the old Riverside building and they will be talking to the owners of the building.

*Council on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by Janet Blattenberger, authorized the Notice to Proceed for the **STREETSCAPE PROJECT** Construction No. SR164-MSS Contract No. 57515 to begin July 7, 2014. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Shawn Daughenbaugh, voted to accept the Martinsburg Borough **RECYCLING DEVELOPMENT** and Implementation Program Grant No. 902-055-2013 and execute the necessary documentation. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Linda Smith, authorized Manager Stoltz to begin the **RECYCLING CENTER EXPANSION** project of which \$4,000 of the \$18,000 grant is earmarked specifically for the expansion project. The motion passed unanimously.*

Manager Stoltz would like to install a **GATE** for the compost site to prevent unauthorized dumping. The current gate is easily and frequently left open. The type of gate he has been researching has an arm barrier, photo cell and card access costing about \$6,400. The compost site is strictly for borough residents whereas the recycling center is for borough residents and residents of North Woodbury Township and Huston Township. The key card system can be programmed to differentiate the two gating systems. Council suggest possibly considering an annual fee for the compost site to offset cost for excavating the piles on occasion. Shawn Daughenbaugh suggested checking into a sliding gate as opposed to the arm style for more security. Manager Stoltz will check into it. *Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Linda Smith, authorized Manager Stoltz to install a new **COMPOST SITE GATE** system. The motion passed unanimously.*

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Correspondence was received inviting the public to attend and information meeting on **“UNDERSTANDING REASSESSMENT IN BLAIR COUNTY”** to be held on Tuesday, June 10th at 7:00 p.m. at the Blair County Convention Center. President Connie Lamborn and Secretary Jane Staily were interested in attending. Attorneys Matt Gieg and Chris Jancula had just attended an informational meeting today regarding the reassessment.

An **EXECUTIVE SESSION** will be held for legal purposes following the adjournment of the meeting.

*The meeting **ADJOURNED** at 8:27 p.m. on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Shawn Daughenbaugh. The motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

M. Jane Staily
Borough Secretary