

**MARTINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES
DECEMBER 1, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Borough Council was held on Monday, December 1, 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, Vice-President Durban D. Metzler, Councilwoman Janet E. Blattenberger, and Councilwoman Linda K. Smith (*absent were: Ed Bennett, Doug Smith and Dan Smouse*)

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

The Martinsburg Borough Council began the meeting in **EXECUTIVE SESSION** from 7:00 to 7:10 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

*The **MINUTES** of the regular meeting of November 3, 2014, were approved on a motion by Durban Metzler, seconded by Janet Blattenberger. The motion passed unanimously.*

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

*The **LIST OF BILLS** for November 2014 check nos. 7768-7813 in the amount of \$73,955.17 was approved on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Durban Metzler. The motion passed unanimously.*

Chief Kerry Hoover presented the **POLICE REPORT** as written. He reported that the Winterfest at the park went well. They had a good crowd. There were a lot of runners in the Turkey Trot. The Christmas parade was nice but there were not many spectators.

Manager Randy Stoltz reported that ten **SOLAR LAMP POSTS** were installed on November 4 with thirty-four more to be installed; on November 10 the Memorial Park inquired if they could pay for the materials and use our **CRACK SEALING MACHINE** to seal the cracks in their parking lot – it takes special knowledge to operate so Manager Stoltz agreed to seal the cracks with the borough crew and bill them \$484.95 for the sealing material; Dave Frederick of Ark Financial met with the full-time borough employees on November 13 to explain the 2015 **MEDICAL INSURANCE**; the **COMMUNITY MAPS** were delivered door to door on November 15 by the Martinsburg Boy Scout Troop No. 358 – 12 boys and 12 adults delivered the maps – the maps were put into plastic door knob hanger bags and hung on the door knobs of each house – business sponsors who advertised on the map were sent a laminated copy; the Revitalization Committee hung 14 **WREATHS** on the solar light posts around the square on November 20; the **SNOWFLAKE** street Christmas lights were hung on the power poles November 24 – one exception is the toy soldier placed at the corner of South Nicodemus Street and West Allegheny Street at the request of the Martinsburg VFW; the **ANNUAL COMMUNITY FUND** goal is \$40,250 – to date we have \$27,374.49 which is 68% of our goal.

Durban Metzler inquired about keeping the **SNOWFLAKE** street pole decorations turned on throughout the month of January. Manager Stoltz mentioned that they are normally turned on the day after Thanksgiving and turned off on January 2. It costs about \$500 per month to keep the lights on.

Attorney Frederick Gieg, Jr. reported that a complaint was filed with the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission by part-time patrolman **ANDREW THOMAS SCHERZINGER** concerning some issues. The settlement of this matter will have to be officially approved by council. The

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settlement is very minor. The borough should agree to sponsor this part-time officer to complete his certification process so he can be up to date and have his certifications and we agree not to oppose the retired law enforcement card if he would be so qualified. That would be up to them in the final analysis. Amicable agreement has been prepared where both sides are satisfied. ***Council on a motion by Durban Metzler second by Linda Smith to accept the respondent and complainant agreement between part-time patrolman Andrew Thomas Scherzinger and the Borough of Martinsburg not expected to exceed a cost of more than \$500 to complete the certification process. The motion passed unanimously.*** Attorney Gieg thanked Chief Hoover and council for working with him to get the agreement done. The joint effort in preparing the agreement prevented a trip to Harrisburg to handle the matter. Attorney Gieg also prepared the three **2015 TAX ORDINANCES** to be adopted this evening. The ordinances reflect that there will not be a tax increase for 2015.

Council on a motion by Durban Metzler, seconded by Janet Blattenberger, adopted ORDINANCE NO. 2014-600 Real Estate Tax to maintain the 2015 rate at 20.5 mills. The motion passed unanimously.

Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Linda Smith, adopted ORDINANCE NO. 2014-601 PER CAPITA TAX to maintain the 2015 rate at \$5.00. The motion passed unanimously.

Council on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by Durban Metzler, adopted ORDINANCE NO. 2014-602 EARNED INCOME TAX to maintain the 2015 rate at 5-mills. The motion passed unanimously.

2014 EMPLOYEE PAY RAISES were approved at 1.5% as recommended by the Personnel Committee on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Durban Metzler. The motion passed unanimously.

Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Linda Smith, adopted the 2015 BUDGET as advertised for the required 10-day public inspection period. The motion passed unanimously.

FUND	ESTD BEGINNING BAL JAN 1, 2015	REV	EXP	EST'D YEAR END BAL DEC 31, 2015
GEN OPR	122,993	734,390	734,390	122,993
HIGHWAY	97,839	47,675	67,150	78,364
VIDEO PROD	2,532	550	995	2,087
EQUIPMENT	76,772	24,870	11,364	90,278
MED REIMB	10,000	1,550	3,500	8,050
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS	0	0	0	0
REVITALIZATION	9,026	0	0	9,026
BUILDING MAINT	23,102	6,010	0	29,112
POLICE PISTOL	874	0	0	874
RECYCLING CTR	453	6,120	1,780	4,793
TOTALS:	343,591	821,165	819,179	345,577

Martinsburg has been asked to sponsor the January 2015 **SOUTH CENTRAL COUNTIES BOROUGH ASSOCIATION** dinner meeting on January 22. The park banquet room is available for that evening. The meeting is no cost to the sponsoring municipality as each participant will be paying their own dinner cost and most municipalities have stopped providing gifts for the event. Usually there is an attendance of about 25-30 people at the dinner meetings. The dinner meeting will be open for the employees to also attend. If a speaker cannot be found there will be a tour of the park building instead. The police do have pens to give out and copies of the community map and park brochure can also be provided.

*Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Linda Smith, approved to advertise the **2015 BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING DATES** as follows. The motion passed unanimously.*

JAN 5	APR 6	JUL 6	OCT 5
FEB 2	MAY 4	AUG 3	NOV 2
MAR 2	JUN 1	SEP 8(TUE)	DEC 7

Rich Brantner reported that a schedule was prepared for Blair 911 for how fire companies are dispatched. He and Randy Acker devised the list. Blair 911 wants municipalities to approve the schedules. The fire company needs a letter drafted up for the Blair 911. *Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Durban Metzler, to approve to prepare a letter to be executed by Manager Randy Stoltz to present the **80-1 BOX ALARM INCIDENT RESPONSE SHEET** to the Blair 911 Center. The motion passed unanimously.*

Thank you notes were received from the **COVE CHRISTMAS LOVE** for the borough's annual donation and from Kim Stern for the funeral basket sent to Roy Stern's viewing.

A sign-up sheet was made available for council to ring the bell for the **SALVATION ARMY** at various one hour intervals at Long's Outpost on Saturday.

*The meeting **ADJOURNED** at 7:55 p.m. on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Durban Metzler. The motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

M. Jane Staily
Borough Secretary