

**MARTINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES
FEBRUARY 2, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Borough Council was held on Monday, February 2, 2015 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: President Connie S. Lamborn, Vice-President Durban D. Metzler, Councilwoman Janet E. Blattenberger, and Councilwoman Linda K. Smith and Councilman Daniel R. Smouse (*Councilmen Ed Bennett and Doug Smith and Mayor Rex Hartman were absent*)

In addition to the council, present were Manager Randy Stoltz, Borough Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily, Sgt. Justin Davis, Rich Brantner, Jr., Attorney Frederick G. Gieg, Jr., Attorney Matthew Gieg, Rodney Estep, Jr. of the Hollidaysburg EMS, and Brian Hess of the Morrisons Cove Herald.

RODNEY ESTEP, JR., a thirteen year veteran of the **HOLLIDAYSBURG EMS**, was present to ask council to renew the contract between Hollidaysburg EMS and the Borough of Martinsburg for either 5 years or 10 years. The ambulance association currently has 726 members from the Martinsburg community. No changes were made to the newly drafted agreement other than one was printed for 5 years and the other for a 10 year renewal. Martinsburg has been quite satisfied with the service they have been providing.

*The **MINUTES** of the regular meeting of January 5, 2015, were approved on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by Durban Metzler. The motion passed unanimously.*

The **FINANCIAL AND TREASURER'S REPORTS** were presented for December 21-31, 2014 as prepared by Treasurer Jane Staily.

*The **LIST OF BILLS** for December 21-31, 2014 check nos. 7862-7874 in the amount of \$47,851.80 was approved on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Durban Metzler. The motion passed unanimously.*

The **FINANCIAL AND TREASURER'S REPORTS** were presented for January 1-20, 2015 as prepared by Treasurer Jane Staily.

*The **LIST OF BILLS** for January 2105 check nos. 7875-7897 in the amount of \$12,405.85 was approved on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Linda Smith. The motion passed unanimously.*

Sgt. Justin Davis presented the **POLICE REPORT** as written in the absence of Chief Hoover. The department received a certificate "**BADGE OF HONOR**" from the First Baptist Church of Altoona in support of local law enforcement. **PATROLMAN PATRICK TOMASSETTI** turned in his resignation effective January 31, 2015 to take a job at the Indiana University Police Department. He has only worked for our department for 90 days. **PATROLMAN STEVE WEYANDT** just recently took a job at Allegheny Township. The new police cruiser will take about eight weeks to deliver. *Council on a motion by Dan Smouse, seconded by Janet Blattenberger authorized Chief Hoover to order the new 2015 **FORD SUV UTILITY INTERCEPTOR** through the Tri Star dealer as a member of Co-Stars (which does not require the purchase to be bid out) not to exceed the budgeted amount for the new vehicle. The motion passed unanimously.*

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Manager Randy Stoltz reported that he mailed the final **STREETSCAPE GRANT** request on January 15 – they accepted the total sidewalk project; as of January 19 the annual **COMMUNITY FUND** has collected \$38,392.28 which is 95% of their \$40,250 goal; the final three **LED SNOWFLAKE POLE DECORATIONS** were ordered on January 30 at sale price – this will make a total of 21 snowflakes and 1 soldier Christmas light pole decorations; the new **COMPOST GATE** was put into service today – borough residents who use the site will need to purchase a \$10.00 key card if they have not already done so; and in 2014 the **RECYCLING CENTER** collected 99.55 tons of commingled items and about 30 tons of cardboard and paper.

Attorney Frederick Gieg, Jr. attended the **SOUTH CENTRAL COUNTIES BOROUGH'S ASSOCIATION** dinner meeting held at the Morrisons Cove Memorial Park along with Attorney Matt Gieg. Gieg and Gieg were the sponsors for the appetizers for the dinner meeting. They commented on how well the event went and how much they enjoyed the speaker Pat Miller, Executive Vice-President of the Altoona Blair County Development Corporation and his presentation. Attorney Matt Gieg has been working on the part-time **PATROLMEN EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT**. He suggested a brief executive session to discuss the matter. The solicitors reviewed the **JOINT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN** resolution and thought it looked fine. Attorney Frederick Gieg, Jr. looked over the old and newly proposed **AMBULANCE AGREEMENTS** and found them to be identical with the exception of the choice to renew it for 10 years as opposed to 5 years. Normally Attorney Gieg does not recommend to committing to such a long term agreement but in this case there are advantages of renewing for 10 years as opposed to 5 years since the ambulance association been doing such a great job and has been well managed. Attorney Gieg is recommending that the borough consider renewing their agreement with the Hollidaysburg Ambulance for ten years.

The **MARTINSBURG MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY** passed the 2015 water and sewer budget in January with no rate increases needed.

Durban Metzler reported that he would like the **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE** to meet in one to two weeks before Linda Smith leaves for Florida.

Council added Janet Blattenberger to the list of **CHECK CO-SIGNERS** last month by consensus. *Council formally on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by Dan Smouse, authorized that Janet Blattenberger be added on as an additional check co-signer for the borough bank accounts. The motion passed unanimously.*

The last step in adopting the new **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN** is to adopt a resolution. *Council on a motion by Durban Metzler, seconded by Janet Blattenberger, adopted Resolution No. 2015-0202-01 a resolution adopting the Martinsburg Borough and North Woodbury Township joint comprehensive plan dated 2013-2014 as prepared by both municipalities and assisted by a planning and implementation committee and facilitated by the EADS Group pursuant to Article III and Article XI of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code. The motion passed unanimously.* Manager Randy Stoltz commended all those who aided in the preparation of the plan. The last comprehensive plan was done back in 1972. It was done solely by the borough as North Woodbury Township did not choose to be part of it back then.

*Council on a motion by Dan Smouse, seconded by Durban Metzler authorized to renew the agreement between the Borough of Martinsburg and the **HOLLIDAYSBURG AMERICAN LEGION AMBULANCE SERVICE** for a period of ten years. The motion passed unanimously.*

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Council was pleased with their service and felt that ten years would give them more planning time. Attorney Gieg assured council that they could get out of the agreement if the ambulance association did not perform.

There was an **EXECUTIVE SESSION** held from 7:58-8:15 p.m. to discuss personnel matters regarding the part-time patrolmen agreement.

*Council on a motion by Dan Smouse, seconded by Janet Blattenberger, approved to adopt the **POLICE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT AND CONDITIONAL OFFER OF PROBATIONARY EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT** as part of the police department's procedure for hire. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Linda Smith, approved the Police Employment Agreement and Conditional Offer of Probationary Employment Agreement with Part-time **PATROLMAN LANCE MORRIS**. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Durban Metzler, accepted Part-time **PATROLMAN PATRICK E. TOMASSETTI'S** resignation effective January 31, 2015. The motion passed unanimously.*

*The meeting **ADJOURNED** at 8:18 p.m. on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Dan Smouse. The motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

M. Jane Staily
Borough Secretary