

MARTINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES
MAY 9, 2016

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Borough Council was held on Monday, May 9, 2016 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 Douglas D. Smith, Councilman Edward L. Bennett, Councilwoman Janet E. Blattenberger, Councilman P. Robert Dickson and Councilwoman Linda K. Smith (*Durban Metzler was excused*)

In addition to the council, present were Manager Randy Stoltz, Borough Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily, Sgt. Justin Davis, Attorney Chris Jancula, Patrolman Logan Tornatore, and Brian Hess of the Morrisons Cove Herald.

*The **MINUTES** of the regular meeting of April 4, 2016, were approved on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Linda Smith. The motion passed unanimously.*

The **FINANCIAL AND TREASURER'S REPORTS** were presented for April 2016, as prepared by Treasurer Jane Staily.

*The **LIST OF BILLS** for April 2016 check nos. 8366-8406 in the amount of \$11,768.95 was approved on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Rob Dickson. The motion passed unanimously.*

Sgt. Justin Davis presented the **POLICE REPORT** as written. Janet Blattenberger questioned legal size for **FARM EQUIPMENT** on the highway. Sgt. Davis explained that there are guidelines on farm equipment on the highway. It has to have the proper signage and lighting and some even need a pilot vehicle.

Manager Randy Stoltz reported that on April 6, 2016 he attended a preconstruction meeting for the **ADA RAMP PROJECT** with PennDOT, Stiffler, McGraw & Associates and Ventura Construction – the project has started; April 11 attended a PEMA meeting in Hollidaysburg to submit a required Request For Public Assistance Form 90-49 for **SNOW STORM JONAS** – April 29 attended the required “kick off” meeting for snow storm Jonas - the FEMA representative from California will not be able to look at our request until the end of June; April 20 the borough crew sprayed **WEEDS** along the curb line of the streets; April 23 was Martinsburg Borough's **7TH COMMUNITY CLEAN UP DAY** – 152 vehicles passed through – Manager Stoltz wanted to thank all of the local volunteers – a total of 37 volunteers attended – Manager Stoltz wanted to thank Sue Gonsman for the 15 volunteers from Cargill – a special thanks to Inter-municipal Relations Committee employees John Frederick and John Keith for their help collecting 20 skids of electronics totaling 5.5 tons – 45 tires were collected – another thanks to Herb and Corey Decker, Paul Kane, Joe Clark and Burgmeiers Hauling for supplying the dumpsters – Taylor Township also held a clean-up day but they charged their residents to participate; May 4 **VENTURA CONSTRUCTION** mobilized to start construction of nine ADA sidewalk corners, 2 at Woodlawn and Walnut, 3 at Woodlawn and Mulberry, 2 at State and South Market and 2 at Spring and S. Market – they started at Walnut Street on May 5th; the **REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE** cleaned up around the square; May 5 was a **NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER** meeting outside of our municipal building; and May 11th is the date planned for putting up the street pole **BANNERS**.

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Linda Smith inquired if there was anything that could be done about the cars parking on the southwest corner of the E. Allegheny and S. Walnut Street **INTERSECTION**. It is hard to see around them when trying to look for oncoming traffic to pull out. Legally they are allowed to park there. The police could ask them to try to not park so close to the intersection.

Linda Smith reported that Kelly Bassler did come with her students and cleaned the parking lot and **SWEPT THE SIDEWALKS**. The town center **FLOWERS** are looking good. After Memorial Day the summer flowers will be planted. Linda inquired about the planter plaque in memory of **CAROLYN GARTLAND** which has not been ordered yet. Manager Stoltz has someone lined up to make the plaque once it is determined how and where it is to be placed.

There was an inquiry about sidewalk upkeep. Martinsburg Borough does not have a **SIDEWALK ORDINANCE**. It's the property owner's responsibility to maintain it. They even have the option of totally removing it.

Just for information, council was provided with a copy of the Notice of Award to Ventura Construction Service, Inc. for Contract No. 2016-1 for **ADA RAMP CONSTRUCTION**. Ventura will not be done until at least after the June 1st.

Correspondence was received from Mayor Matthew Pacifico of the City of Altoona inviting municipalities to help him find a solution to **BLIGHTED PROPERTIES**. Manager Stoltz is interested in hearing what he has to say. No meeting has been set up yet.

Correspondence was received from PennDOT regarding **TRAFFIC COUNTING** on municipally owned roads. Strips have been placed on Walnut Street, Penn Street and Park Street. The traffic counters are not being set for any road project or speed trap.

Janet Blattenberger brought a situation to council's attention. A North Woodbury **TOWNSHIP RESIDENT** has been sighted on numerous occasions walking debris into the borough compost site after being told it was strictly for borough residents only. It was decided that the police department should send him a letter stating that he will be fined the next time he is seen using the compost site.

Connie Lamborn, Janet Blattenberger and Linda Smith attended the South Central Counties Borough's Association dinner meeting on April 28, 2016 at Iron Masters Country Club. **REASSESSMENT** was the topic of discussion. Residents are encouraged to go online and check out their assessment details to correct any mistakes before the notices are sent out July 1st. Appeals will be handled at the Blair County Convention Center. Various reassessment information meetings have been scheduled. There is one on May 19 at the Central High School from 6-8 p.m. The public is invited.

Minutes of the **MARTINSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY'S** meeting of April 11, 2016 was included in the agenda.

*The meeting **ADJOURNED** at 7:55 p.m. on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Rob Dickson. The motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

M. Jane Staily
Borough Secretary