

**MARTINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**JULY 10, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Borough Council was held on Monday, July 10, 2017 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, Pro-Tem Durban D. Metzler, Councilman Edward L. Bennett, Councilwoman Janet E. Blattenberger, and Councilman P. Robert Dickson, and Councilwoman Linda K. Smith  
*(Vice-President Doug Smith was excused)*

In addition to the council, present were Manager Randy Stoltz, Borough Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily, Chief Kerry Hoover, Rich Brantner, Sr., Attorney Matt Gieg and Attorney Chris Jancula of Gieg Law Offices, and Brian Hess of the Morrisons Cove Herald

*The MINUTES of the regular meeting of June 5, 2017, were approved with the correction that “rescheduled meeting” be stricken from the first paragraph, on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Durban Metzler. The motion passed unanimously.*

The FINANCIAL AND TREASURER’S REPORTS were presented for June 2017, as prepared by Treasurer Jane Staily.

*The LIST OF BILLS for June 2017, check nos. 8816-8855 in the amount of \$175,246.76 (including a transfer to the Reserve Fund in the amount of \$90,000) was approved on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Rob Dickson. The motion passed unanimously.*

Linda Smith reported that people have been asking about the town center beautification. She is receiving complaints about the used appliances that are accumulating at LEIDY’S FURNITURE which are being stored near the highway. The mattresses that were always setting out there were already taken care of. Chief Hoover reported that the police department has also been receiving complaints and he will be contacting the store.

Chief Kerry Hoover presented the POLICE REPORT as written. The police department has lost another officer to fulltime employment elsewhere. PATROLMAN AARON WAGNER resigned in the middle of the month. The newest recruit PATROLMAN BRYCE YOUNG has finished his testing and is waiting on his MPOETC number. The Fourth of July celebration week was very busy for the department. There did seem to be less spectators on the AG PARADE ROUTE this year due to the weather - 90 train tickets were sold as of the Friday before the parade – 121 tickets were sold last year.

Ed Bennet reported that there is a SINK HOLE in front of Jim Hammel’s house on the N. Nicodemus Street side that needs repaired.

Manager Randy Stoltz reported that PICTURES OF ALL THE BUSINESSES in town taken by Carlos Lamborn have been put on the borough website; on June 9 completed the WALKWORKS route and the narratives for the six points of interest – a park history was also written so walk participants can read about the historical significance of the items in the park entranceway; on June 15 the CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASEBALL TEAM won the school’s first ever state championship; on June 20 crosswalks, parking spaces, arrows and speed lines on the streets were PAINTED; SPRAYED WEEDS along all the curb lines in the borough on June 21; ran the STREET SWEEPER on all our streets June 29 in preparation for Bargain Day and the July 4<sup>th</sup> week; July 5<sup>th</sup>

installed the **NEW BOROUGH SIGN** in the front yard replacing the sign damaged by the May 1<sup>st</sup> wind storm; July 6<sup>th</sup> attended a meeting with the Blair County Chamber of Commerce – they are looking at ways to implement **INTER-MUNICIPAL COOPERATION** – there is already a county-wide committee that is to meet quarterly; there were no Fourth of July issues; the Everett Railroad will be bringing out a **STEAM ENGINE** on August 5 to be stopping at the same place as the Ag parade train – they will need to fill up with water for their steam engine to get back.

Manager Randy Stoltz reported that DEP has approved for Stiffler McGraw to do six more test holes on the **PENN STREET PROPERTY**. Manager Stoltz is asking the state to amend the grant application to include the six additional test holes.

Janet Blattenberger suggested that a SwiftReach call go out to all the homeowners in the Borough of Martinsburg to remind them of the ordinance that covers how high **WEEDS** can grow in their yards before being fined. It was the consensus of council to let the SwiftReach notification be used strictly for true emergencies. There was a suggestion that a packet of the most popular ordinances and maps could be put together for new residents to make them aware of the ordinances. It was also mentioned that a lot of those ordinances and maps are already on the borough website.

Manager Randy Stoltz reported that a temporary plaque will be posted at the Morrisons Cove Memorial Park for the **WALKWORKS** route.

Linda Smith reported that the committee got the stain for the **BENCHES** and would like the borough crew to power wash the benches first to clean them up before it is applied.

**BURGMEIER'S HAULING** was asked to dump all three of the recycling dumpsters each time they come to keep them from getting too full.

Joe Hurd of the Blair Chamber was contacted to see what the hold-up is for the **MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT**.

Two applications were received for the position of **BOROUGH MANAGER**. Council will meet in executive session following the adjournment of the meeting to discuss the personnel matter.

*Council on a motion by Durban Metzler, seconded by Linda Smith, approved the Proclamation in Honor of the Central High School **2017 BASEBALL TEAM** for winning in the Class 3A State Championship game. The motion passed unanimously.*

Secretary Jane Staily (also elected Tax Collector) presented a list of exonerations for per capita tax. This list has already been approved by the Spring Cove School District. *Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Ed Bennett, approved to **EXONERATE** the list of six tax payers from the **2016-2017 PER CAPITA TAX** duplicate. The motion passed unanimously.*

The next **SOUTH CENTRAL COUNTIES BOROUGH'S ASSOCIATION** dinner meeting will be held at PNG Field on July 27, 2017.

A Notice of Changes to the **ASSESSED VALUATION** or status of properties in the Borough of Martinsburg was received. Formal appeals can be filed with the Board of Assessment Revision in writing within 40 days of the date of the report. Council did not express any disagreement with the list. There was also an option on the form to waive the mailing and to have the list emailed but the paper copy was preferred and also recommended by the borough solicitor.

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Mayor Rex Hartman suggested that council consider possibly renaming a borough street in honor of the fallen **STATE TROOPER LANDON WEAVER** since he resided in the borough at the time he was killed in the line of duty on December 30, 2016 while on duty in Juniata Township Huntingdon County and was also a Central graduate. It was suggested that Borough Way be renamed since currently no one uses this street address yet and only two street signs would need to be replaced. Rich Brantner, Sr., Chief Kerry Hoover and Mayor Rex Hartman were appointed to work on a suggested street name if council would decide to rename one.

The Attestation Engagement Report for the Borough of Martinsburg **LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND** for the period of January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2016 was received from the Department of the Auditor General. There were no findings noted.

**THANK YOU NOTES** were received from the Hollidaysburg Ambulance, the Morrisons Cove Memorial Park and Martinsburg Library for the borough's 2017 allocations.

Correspondence was received from Keller Engineers that the **OAKVIEW COMMUNITY LLC** and the Martinsburg Municipal Authority will be filing for a Chapter 105 Permit, a construction storm water NPDES Permit and a Water Quality Management Permit from DEP.

Correspondence was received from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as an amendment to the **BUSINESS IN OUR SITES PROGRAM** for the Penn Street Redevelopment Grant/Loan No. 777160018 listing dates for the various steps of the application.

Minutes of the June 12, 2017 meeting of the **MARTINSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY** were included in the council agendas.

Manager Randy Stoltz played a portion of the **OUR TOWN THE COVE** CD showing some of the bloopers done during the taping of the program.

*The meeting **ADJOURNED** at 8:10 p.m. on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Rob Dickson. The motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

M. Jane Staily  
Borough Secretary