

**MARTINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 5, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Borough Council was held on Tuesday, September 5, 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, Vice-President Douglas D. Smith, Pro-Tem Durban D. Metzler, Councilman Edward L. Bennett, Councilwoman Janet E. Blattenberger, Councilman P. Robert Dickson, and Councilwoman Linda K. Smith

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

Coach A. J. Hoenstine was present to accept the Proclamation prepared for the **2017 CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM** for their winning season and prevailing in the Class 3A State Championship game and had a 24 win and 3 loss record becoming the first team in school history to win a State Championship. The Proclamation was presented by Mayor Rex Hartman.

There was an **EXECUTIVE SESSION** for personnel matters from 7:06-7:54 p.m.

*The **MINUTES** of the regular meeting of August 7, 2017, were approved with two corrections to page 1 – [Durban Metzler reported...they suggested installing a rumble strip.] and [Linda Smith commented...vehicles too close to the intersection coming onto S. Walnut Street from E. Allegheny Street.] on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Linda Smith. The motion passed unanimously.*

The **FINANCIAL AND TREASURER'S REPORTS** were presented for August 2017, as prepared by Treasurer Jane Staily.

*The **LIST OF BILLS** for August 2017, check nos. 8894-8926 in the amount of \$65,712.43 (including a transfer to the Reserve Fund in the amount of \$45,000) was approved on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Rob Dickson. The motion passed unanimously.*

Chief Kerry Hoover presented the **POLICE REPORT** as written. The department just went through a **THREE DAY TRIAL** finding the defendant guilty on all counts and the sentencing date is set for October 16. The **COUNTYWIDE TRICK-OR-TREAT NIGHT** will be the last Thursday in October from 6-8 p.m. They are still waiting on the **IN-CAR COMPUTERS** as the hold-up is on the parts from China – was hoping to have them installed by now to see what to budget for next year. **VERIZON WIRELESS** suggests a separate plan for the car computers. The plan can be backed down if the department does not use all the coverage in the plan. A new Verizon tower was recently installed on top of the hill just outside of town heading west. This should help the dead spots they have been experiencing on Lock Mountain and maybe even on Fair Valley Road in the opposite direction. No word from Ford yet on the **CARBON MONOXIDE PROBLEM** in the Explorer. Chief Hoover would like to return the carbon monoxide detector back to the fire company and purchase their own not only for the in-car use but also for use in their emergency kit. The cost of the detectors is about \$350 each.

Manager Randy Stoltz reported that the **COMMUNITY FUND BOARD** met on August 15 and listened to presentations from agencies requesting funding – the goal has been set at \$42,000 for this year; the drilling company started drilling six test wells at **114 W. PENN STREET** on August 21 – they finished at the end of the week; water samples were taken from the six test wells on August 28 and sent to a lab for testing – the results should be back in about two weeks; and on September 1 the

WALKWORKS map was completed for the Martinsburg History Hike and the route description is now complete also – they are planning a kick-off event in the spring after the small directional signs are installed – they are also going to start organizing walking groups so people can fill out a walking program registration form to join a group.

Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily reported that an email was received from the State that the e-filing of the **2016 ANNUAL AUDIT AND FINANCIAL REPORT** with the Governor's Center for Local Government Services was received and approved.

A **BUDGET WORKSHOP** will be held in October to work on the 2018 Budget.

Linda Smith reported for the **REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE** that the six benches have been power washed, sanded and stained and look a lot better.

Correspondence was received from Melissa Peterson, Blair County GIS Specialist, listing what all needs to be done to change the name of a street in reference to the discussion of renaming Borough Way to something that memorializes Pennsylvania State **TROOPER LANDON WEAVER** who was killed in the line of duty. Attorney Chris Jancula recommended that once a street name is picked out Emergency Services should be contacted first, then the Register and Recorder to re-record a new name, then the Assessment Office. The last contact should probably be the U. S. Postal Service to let them know the old name was removed and give them the new street name.

*Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Doug Smith, adopted the 2018 MMO for the **NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN PMRS Plan No. 07-045-3N** in the amount of \$19,633. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Durban Metzler, adopted the 2018 MMO for the **UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN PMRS Plan No. 07-045-3P** in the amount of \$21,470. The motion passed unanimously.*

In regards to appointing a **NEW BOROUGH NOTARY** to replace Manager Stoltz, Attorney Chris Jancula does *not* recommend Secretary Jane Staily taking it over due to the amount of attesting she is required to do as Borough Secretary. It does cost a few hundred dollars to renew a notary every few years. Council wasn't sure that it was worth having our own notary. The topic was tabled.

Chief Hoover recommended that Martinsburg hold **TRICK-OR-TREAT** on the same night as the rest of the county. *Council on a motion by Paul Dickson, seconded by Linda Smith, approved to have the 2017 Trick-or-Treat Night on Thursday, October 26th from 6-8:00 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Rob Dickson, approved to increase the starting hourly rate for **RICHARD A. BRANTNER, JR.** from the \$21.50 per hour as approved last month to **\$22.50 per hour** as new borough manager beginning with the pay period of ~~November 26-December 9*~~ November 19-December 2, 2017 which is paid on ~~December 15*~~ December 8, 2017 [*payroll dates were entered incorrectly]. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Durban Metzler, approved to hire **BRIAN MILLER** as the new working foreman to replace Richard Brantner, Jr. at a rate of **\$17.82 per hour** subject to Brian Miller getting the necessary water and sewer certifications within the next two years as the classes and testing become available. The motion passed unanimously.*

The position of **LABORER** vacated by Brian Miller moving up to working foreman will be advertised for applications. The topic was tabled until next month.

MARTINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 5, 2017 – PAGE 3

Council on a motion by Doug Smith, seconded by Janet Blattenberger, approved to increase CHIEF KERRY HOOVER to \$23.70 per hour effective immediately. The motion passed unanimously.

Council on a motion by Doug Smith, seconded by Janet Blattenberger, approved to increase SERGEANT JUSTIN DAVIS to \$19.07 per hour effective immediately. The motion passed unanimously.

Council on a motion by Doug Smith, seconded by Janet Blattenberger, approved to increase the PART-TIME PATROLMEN to \$15.50 per hour effective immediately. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes of the July 10, 2017 meeting of the MARTINSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY were included in the council agendas.

A preliminary 2018 Draft No. 1 was prepared in with the agenda.

RENEE GUNNETT was thanked for getting the borough business photos and contact phone numbers onto our web page.

Doug Smith thanked CONNIE LAMBORN for all the work and time she has been putting in over the past few months working on the wage rates and the new hires.

Council on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Linda Smith, approved to purchase a CARBON MONOXIDE METER for the police department to be paid for from the Equipment Fund. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting ADJOURNED at 8:54 p.m. on a motion by Doug Smith, seconded by Rob Dickson. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Jane Staily
Borough Secretary