

**MARTINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES
NOVEMBER 6, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Borough Council was held on Monday, November 6, 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, Rich Brantner, Jr., Borough Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily, Chief Kerry Hoover, Attorney Chris Jancula and Attorney Matt Gieg of Gieg Law Offices, and Brian Hess of the Morrisons Cove Herald

President Connie Lamborn announced that there will be a brief **EXECUTIVE SESSION** after the financial report for personnel matters.

*The **MINUTES** of the regular meeting of October 2, 2017, were approved on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Linda Smith. The motion passed unanimously.*

*The **MINUTES** of the budget meeting of October 16, 2017, 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 October 2017, as prepared by Treasurer Jane Staily.

*The **LIST OF BILLS** for October 2017, check nos. 8959-8993 in the amount of \$127,141.95 (including a Transfer to the Reserve in the amount of \$70,000) was approved on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Linda Smith. The motion passed unanimously.*

There was an **EXECUTIVE SESSION** from 7:06-7:32 p.m. for personnel matters.

Chief Kerry Hoover presented his **POLICE REPORT** as written. The **IN-CAR COMPUTER** should be installed by the end of this month.

It is time to review the **HUSTON TOWNSHIP POLICE AGREEMENT**. We are currently charging Huston Township \$38.00 per hour and \$.54 per mile. Chief Hoover recommended increasing it to \$39.00 per hour. It was the consensus of council to increase the rate to \$39.00 per hour for 2018 and to \$39.50 for 2019.

Rich Brantner, Jr. was asked to join the committee appointed to work on a memorial for the late **TROOPER LANDON WEAVER**. The committee now consists of Rich Brantner (Sr.), Kerry Hoover, Rex Hartman and Rich Brantner, Jr. Instead of renaming a borough street Rich Brantner, Jr. had the idea to possibly name the borough parking lot located beside Mamie's Bakery after Troop Weaver. He was thinking of incorporating a decorative rock type planter with a bench for the site to also help improve the downtown area. It was becoming a bigger project than initially anticipated but will be easier than renaming a street. Potted Memories and Tussey Landscaping will be asked what they can do for the project. It was the consensus of council to consider this new project a great idea.

Manager Randy Stoltz reported that on October 3rd the **BUSINESS IN OUR SITES PROGRAM** contract was mailed back to the Department of Community and Economic Development – our attorneys, insurance agents and Manager Stoltz have been working on the contract ever since in hopes of scheduling a closing date soon – the loan will be for \$143,097.00 and the grant will be for \$81,045.00 to purchase the property at 114 W. Penn Street; on October 27th a pedestrian counter was placed along

the **WALKWORKS ROUTE** to get an estimate of the walkers prior to the announcement of the walking route – the counter will only be up for two weeks and then will be reinstalled after the route announcement in the spring; and on November 2nd received a contract for a second amendment to our existing **INDUSTRIAL SITES REUSE PROGRAM** contract for \$41,659.00 which will be a 75%/25% split – grant of \$31,244.00 and borough share of \$10,414.00 – the total of the entire ISRP contract for the 114 W. Penn Street project stands at \$60,974.00 grant and \$31,244 borough match.

Attorney Chris Jancula reported that they continue to work on the **MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT**. There seems to be enough resistance to the complicated version that they may go back to the original agreement. Frankstown Township also sent a similar letter as Martinsburg disapproving of the complicated version. There has been no word on the police mutual aid agreement.

Linda Smith reported that the **REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE** will be taking the flowers out and replacing them with pines. They were asking the borough crew to get the wreaths out for them to be put out the same day. Originally the committee was planning to do the work on November 21st until Linda was made aware this evening that the Christmas parade was scheduled for November 18th. She will be reporting back to her committee to try and get it done before the parade date.

*Council on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by Janet Blattenberger, approved to allocate \$500 to the **2017 COVE CHRISTMAS LOVE PROGRAM**. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Council on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Janet Blattenberger, authorized to execute a letter granting permission for the park to temporarily close the necessary roads for the upcoming **CHRISTMAS PARADE** to be held on Saturday, November 18 subject to obtaining the necessary permits and proof of insurance. The motion passed unanimously.*

Martinsburg Borough Tax Collector Jane Staily presented council with a list of 2017-18 Per Capita Tax payers that completed forms for **EXONERATION/EXEMPTION** from paying the tax. *Council on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Janet Blattenberger, authorized to **EXONERATE/EXEMPT** 22 tax payers from paying the **2017-2018 PER CAPITA TAX** of \$5.00 per person. The motion passed unanimously.* A second list will be prepared in the spring.

*Council on a motion by Rob Dickson, seconded by Janet Blattenberger, approved to advertise the **2018 BUDGET** for the 10-day public inspection period to be considered for adoption at the December meeting. The motion passed unanimously. No tax increase is required for this budget.*

*Council on a motion by Durban Metzler, seconded by Janet Blattenberger, approved to advertise the **2018 REAL ESTATE TAX ORDINANCE** as Ordinance No. 2017-609 to remain at 1.871 mills for consideration for adoption at the December 4, 2017 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Linda Smith, approved to advertise the **2018 PER CAPITA TAX ORDINANCE** as Ordinance No. 2017-610 to remain at \$5.00 for consideration for adoption at the December 4, 2017 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Rob Dickson, approved to advertise the **2018 EARNED INCOME TAX ORDINANCE** as Ordinance No. 2017-611 to remain at 5 mills for consideration for adoption at the December 4, 2017 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.*

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Minutes of the October 9, 2017 meeting of the **MARTINSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY** were included in the council agendas.

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

Respectfully submitted,

M. Jane Staily
Borough Secretary