

MARTINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES
JULY 9, 2018

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Borough Council was held on Monday, July 9, 2018 in the municipal building. The meeting started at 7:00 p.m. with prayer by Rich Brantner, Jr. and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Rex L. Hartman, President Connie S. Lamborn, Vice-President Durban D. Metzler, Councilman Edward L. Bennett, Councilman David L. Harker, Councilman P. Robert Dickson, and Councilwoman Linda K. Smith (*Doug Smith was absent*)

In addition to the council, present were Manager Richard Brantner, Jr., Secretary Jane Staily, Chief Kerry Hoover, Sgt. Justin Davis, 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 4, 2018 were approved on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by David Harker. The motion passed unanimously.*

The **FINANCIAL AND TREASURER'S REPORTS** for June 2018 were presented by Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily.

*The **LIST OF BILLS** for June 2018 check nos. 9210-9267 in the amount of \$292,422.11 (including a \$150,000 transfer to the Reserve Fund and \$20,233.35 transfer to Payroll) was approved on a motion by Rob Dickson, seconded by Linda Smith. The motion passed unanimously.*

Mayor Rex Hartman reported that there was a good turn out for the Fourth of July park celebration.

Chief Kerry Hoover presented the **POLICE REPORT** as written. Attended a **RIGHT-TO-KNOW SEMINAR** along with Rich Brantner and Jane Staily at the Freedom Fire Hall on June 13. Attended a **HAZMAT AWARENESS TRAINING** along with Sgt. Justin Davis and Patrolman Bryce Young at the Martinsburg Fire Hall on June 25. On the Agricultural Parade night the 2013 Ford Explorer had a severe **ANTIFREEZE LEAK** which reduced our department's vehicles from two to one for patrolling parade night – Metzler's garage estimated the repair to cost around \$1,100 but it could have been worse had the cruiser been in the actual parade line up and continued to run the engine. Last week was extremely busy during the July 4th celebrations – the department chased **FIREWORKS** all week long as people were not aware of the new firework law limitations – there are very few places within the borough that comply with the law for letting off fireworks. On a day following the Fourth of July someone set off fireworks in town at 2:30 a.m. Chief Hoover recommended that council consider passing an ordinance on fireworks. It is easier to enforce a law by enacting a local ordinance. Considering the close proximity to housing Chief Hoover felt that the use of all aerial fireworks should be banned in town. It was suggested that next year around June something be put in the newspaper about the fireworks law. Linda Smith commended the police department on how they handled the large crowds during the July Fourth celebration. Chief Hoover reported that two people suffered **HEAT EXHAUSTION** during the parade.

BOROUGH MANAGER Rich Brantner reported:

JUN 5 - DEP did an **INSPECTION** at the wastewater treatment plant

JUN 12 - sprayed for **WEEDS** along the curbs throughout the town

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JUN 13 – attended a **RIGHT-TO-KNOW SEMINAR** along with Jane Staily and Chief Hoover at the Freedom Fire Hall

JUN 15 – JD’s Detailing put a **CERAMIC COATING** on the new pickup truck at no cost to the borough

JUN 18 – **PAINTED CROSSWALKS**, turning arrows, stop bars at signal light and speed lines for the police

JUN 21 – **BLACKTOPPED** pot holes and utility cuts

JUN 26 – **TEETER GROUP INSURANCE** had a ribbon cutting ceremony at their new building

JUN 27 – Municipal Sales foamed about 3100’ of sewer main to help **CONTROL ROOTS**

JUL 3 – the **TRAIN RIDE** to watch the parade was a success again this year with 156 passengers – there were 162 in 2015

JUL 5 – Ken Kensinger came and took his **ANTIQUES** and two display cabinets back

JUL 6 – went out to Nolt’s and found a **DISPLAY CABINET** for \$195 and picked it up to put the remaining antiques in that have been collected throughout the years

Linda Smith inquired if there is anything that can be done to the **RED BRICK** along the sidewalks that is chipping off. Manager Rich Brantner is looking into it.

Tussey Mountain Mulch is being contacted about our **COMPOST PILE** getting so full. The County offered to help chip it up but it costs \$400 per hour to use their grinder. The cost of the compost keys may have to be increased next year to cover costs.

Connie Lamborn and her committee are still working on the **EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND REGULATION MANUAL**.

David Harker suggested that the **RECYCLING COMMITTEE** have a meeting soon.

It was suggested to check with Central High School to see if they have a room for the **NIMS CLASS**.

No bids were received for the second round of bid requests for the sale of **114 E. PENN STREET**.

The **COUNCIL PHOTO** has been scheduled for Monday, August 6, 2018 at 6:15 p.m.

Secretary Jane Staily (also elected Tax Collector) presented a list of exonerations for the per capita tax. This list has already been approved by the Spring Cove School District. *Council on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Linda Smith, approved to **EXONERATE** the list of twenty-seven (27) tax payers from the **2017-2018 PER CAPITA TAX** duplicate. The motion passed unanimously.*

The 2018 School Real Estate Tax bill has been received for the property of **114 W. PENN STREET**. It was the consensus of council to wait until September to pay it since the County does not meet until sometime in August to review tax exemptions. They will be missing the discount date but by not paying it until September they won’t have to chance not getting it refunded from the County if they are exonerated from paying the bill.

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The kick off for the **WALK WORKS HISTORY HIKE** will be held on Friday, July 20 at 10 a.m. starting at the municipal building. Anyone wishing to walk the 2.4 mile route can attend.

Attorney Matt Gieg reported that the lease agreement with C & S Market for future parking at the 114 W. Penn Street property has been prepared. The agreement will cost \$250 per year for five years. Contractors for the sidewalks will be moving in next week. *Council on a motion by Durban Metzler, seconded by Rob Dickson, authorized to accept and execute the **LEASE AGREEMENT** between the Borough of Martinsburg and Williamsburg Holdings LLC for the strip of land on the west side of the **114 W. PENN STREET PROPERTY** at a cost of \$250 per year for five years to be paid annually. The motion passed unanimously.*

Minutes of **MARTINSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY** for the June 11 and June 27, 2018 meetings were included in the meeting packet.

A thank you was received from the **MARTINSBURG LIBRARY** for the borough's annual allocation of \$3,500.

There was an **EXECUTIVE SESSION** for police personnel and the E. Penn Street Property from 7:50 – 8:37 p.m.

*Council on a motion by Rob Dickson, seconded by Durban Metzler, approved to have Attorney Matt Gieg list with the **ALTOONA BLAIR COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORP.** the **114 W. PENN STREET PROPERTY** for sale for \$230,000. The motion passed unanimously.*

*The meeting **ADJOURNED** at 8:39 p.m. on a motion by Durban Metzler, seconded by Ed Bennett. The motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

M. Jane Staily
Borough Secretary