

MARTINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES
MAY 6, 2019

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Borough Council was held on Monday, May 6, 2019 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 P. Robert Dickson, Councilman David L. Harker, and Councilwoman Linda K. Smith (*Doug Smith was absent*)

In addition to the council, present were Manager Richard Brantner, Jr., Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily, Chief Kerry Hoover, Sgt. Justin Davis, Attorney Matt Gieg and Attorney Chris Jancula of Gieg Law Offices, Logan Tornatore, Todd Bookhammer, James C. Caporuscio, Lawrence Johnson, and Chris Brooks

Four interested candidates for the **CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION** were in attendance to introduce themselves. All four are residents of the Borough of Martinsburg.

James C. Caporuscio has been a resident of Martinsburg Borough for forty-four years. He currently lives at the Village of Morrisons Cove. He worked in management for the J. C. Penney Company for ten years. He was Assistant Director for the Chamber of Commerce in Blair County for over twenty years. He served on the staff of Judge Elizabeth Doyle for fifteen years. He has been retired for two years. He is the chair of the deacons of the Clover Creek Church of the Brethren and is a trustee at the Village of Morrisons Cove. He likes the idea of this particular position because they don't meet in a regular capacity only as needed.

Lawrence Johnson lives on E. Allegheny Street and is originally from Maryland. He has worked for Walmart for the past six years. He has worked in security for twenty-one years. He has worked with state, local and federal officials. Since he is new in the area he would like to help in any way that he can.

Chris Brooks lives on S. Ann Street. He has been through the police academy and worked for the Martinsburg Police Department for two weeks. He served on the Martinsburg Borough Council for eight years some time ago and is very familiar with the process. He feels his capacity on this committee will be just another way for him to serve.

Todd Bookhammer is a resident of Martinsburg Borough and lives on E. Julian Street. He is in charge of the Martinsburg CUB Scouts. He knows how hard it is to get volunteers so he is willing to serve on the committee.

All four have filled out the application which only consists of their general information. President Connie Lamborn thanked them for coming.

[all four candidates left at 7:06 p.m.]

The MINUTES of the regular meeting of April 1, 2019 were approved on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by Rob Dickson with a spelling correction on page 2. The motion passed unanimously.

The **FINANCIAL AND TREASURER'S REPORTS** for April 2019 were prepared and presented by Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily.

*The **LIST OF BILLS** for April 2019 check nos. 9569-9601 in the amount of \$116,567.89 (including a transfer of \$85,000 to the Reserve Fund) was approved on a motion by Durban Metzler, seconded by Rob Dickson. The motion passed unanimously.*

MAYOR REX HARTMAN announced that he will be officially resigning as mayor next month due to a change in residency. He is moving to Bedford County and will eventually be retiring and moving to Florida.

Chief Kerry Hoover presented the **POLICE REPORT** as written. The department is working on citing several properties as **DANGEROUS STRUCTURES**. Most of the properties consist of out buildings, garages, etc.

BOROUGH MANAGER Rich Brantner reported:

APR 2 – the **BOIL WATER ADVISORY** was lifted for all customers that were affected by the water interruption on the water leak of March 30

APR 3 – we had the **ZONING HEARING** on the Penn Street property and the Zoning Hearing Board granted the variance for the property

APR 9 – we ran a 4” water line from Locust Street to the **KURTZ DENTIST OFFICE** to supply their sprinklers in the addition

MAY 2 – Judy Ward’s office had a **BLAIR COUNTY WATER SUMMIT MEETING** pertaining to all the flooding in Blair County last year and on the Municipal Service Reviews, which we are exempt from for now, but they are saying in five years that could change – MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) is the run off of water into storm sewers (streams) from the streets which will need to be treated in some sort

Attorney Matt Gieg suggested a brief **EXECUTIVE SESSION** to discuss legal and personnel matters. He has recently been responding to correspondence with DEP on the **114 W. PENN STREET PROPERTY** and has sent eight drafts of the buy/sell DEP agreement. Stiffler, McGraw and Associates anticipated a two year remediation period for the lot which is now the hold up for the closing of the property. Attorney Gieg prepared a two week extension agreement since the 90 day period from the February 5th agreement has expired to close on the Penn Street property. Both parties, the Zimmermans and the borough, are agreeable to the extension and have been very patient throughout this ordeal. *Council on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Rob Dickson authorize to prepare an addendum to extend the closing date for the sale of the 114 W. PENN STREET PROPERTY for two weeks from today. The motion passed unanimously.*

There was an **EXECUTIVE SESSION** to discuss legal and personnel matters from 7:29 – 8:15 p.m.

Ed Bennett reported that the **STREETS** have been swept and cleaned up. They are planning to paint lines at the cross walks and curbs soon and will also be spraying for weeds.

The Martinsburg Municipal Authority’s Articles of Incorporation have expired. *Council on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Durban Metzler, authorized Gieg Law Offices to prepare the necessary documents to extend the ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE MARTINSBURG MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY. The motion passed unanimously.*

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The Compliance Audit of the **MARTINSBURG VOLUNTEER FIREMAN'S RELIEF ASSOCIATION** has been completed by the Department of the Auditor General for the period of January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2017 and a copy has been received.

President Connie Lamborn reported that the **SCALAR CHART** for the Employee Benefits and Regulations Manual has been updated and the committee continues to work on the manual.

Linda Smith reported that the **REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE** is planning to plant flowers on May 17. At the Boosters' request they will be planting flowers at the play park and also in the two pots at the library.

A recent news article mentioned the **COSTS OF RECYCLING** will be going up and there will be a lot of changes being made. The Recycling Committee will soon be planning a meeting.

There are now four interested candidates for the **CIVIL SERVICE COMMITTEE**. The committee can have up to six members. A council member can be one of the committee members. The committee has not been made official yet.

Attorney Chris Jancula has obtained a few sample **FIREWORK ORDINANCES** to review with Chief Hoover.

A letter was drafted by the **ELECTED TAX COLLECTOR JANE STAILY** requesting council's consideration and approval to move the current tax collection location from the Martinsburg Auto Parts Store building located at 214 S. Market Street to the municipal building at 110 S. Walnut Street as the store was closed on May 4, 2019. *Council on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by David Harker, approved to allow the elected tax collector Jane Staily to use the municipal building for the advertised tax collection hours. Council would like to try it out first from July 1 through December 31, 2019 to see how it goes and then will make a decision to see if it will continue. The motion passed with 5 yays and 1 nay from Ed Bennett.*

*Council on a motion by David Harker, seconded by Durban Metzler, approved to update new **CHECK SIGNING CARDS** for all of the accounts at **PLGIT** to authorize any two of the following people to sign checks. The motion passed unanimously.*

Connie S. Lamborn-President
Linda K. Smith-Council Person

Durban D. Metzler-Vice-Pres.
P. Robert Dickson-Council Person

M. Jane Staily-Borough Sec./Trea.

*Council on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by David Harker, approved and authorized to execute any necessary **DOCUMENTS AND/OR RESOLUTION** to complete the new check signing cards for all of the borough accounts at **PLGIT**. The motion passed unanimously.*

*A motion was made by Ed Bennett, seconded by Rob Dickson, to allow the pertaining streets to be closed for the **2019 AGRICULTURAL PARADE** on July 2, 2019 subject to the Morrisons Cove Memorial Park obtaining the necessary PennDOT permit(s). Council's letter of approval through this motion will be attached to the permit. The motion passed unanimously.*

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Chief Hoover introduced Patrolman Logan Tornatore to council as his recommended third full-time officer. Logan has been a part-time patrolman for our department for three years. He is a 2011 graduate from the Altoona High School and attended the IUP police academy and has been a police officer for three years. He currently lives in Altoona and works as a full-time officer for Saxton Borough. He is a specialist with the Guards and is a resource officer at Forbes Road School. ***Council on a motion by Rob Dickson, seconded by Linda Smith, voted to HIRE LOGAN TORNATORE as the third full-time police officer for the Martinsburg Borough Police Department to begin in two weeks and to be paid \$17.00 per hour. He will be on probation for one year. The motion passed unanimously.***

Council on a motion by Durban Metzler, seconded by David Harker, authorized to advertise any necessary amendments to the POLICE PMRS PENSION ORDINANCE necessary due to the hiring of a third full-time officer to make it Act 600 compliant. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting ADJOURNED at 9:15 p.m. on a motion by Durb Metzler, seconded by Linda Smith. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Jane Staily
Borough Secretary