

MARTINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES
JUNE 3, 2019

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Borough Council was held on Monday, June 3, 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, Todd Bookhammer, James C. Caporuscio, Lawrence Johnson, Chris Brooks and Brian Hess of the Morrisons Cove Herald

*The **MINUTES** of the regular meeting of May 6, 2019 were approved on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by Rob Dickson with a request to look up and spell out the meaning of MS4 for more clarification on page 2. The motion passed unanimously.*

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

*The **LIST OF BILLS** for May 2019 check nos. 9602-9643 in the amount of \$216,001.72 (including a transfer of \$160,000 to the Reserve Fund) was approved on a motion by Durban Metzler, seconded by Linda Smith. The motion passed unanimously.*

Mayor Rex Hartman turned in his letter of resignation due to a change in residency. *Council on a motion by David Harker, seconded by Rob Dickson, accepted **MAYOR REX HARTMAN'S** letter of resignation with regret. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Council on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Durban Metzler, passed **RESOLUTION NO. 2019-0603-01** in recognition of **MAYOR REX HARTMAN'S** resignation due to a change in residency and to acknowledge his service and recognition to the Borough of Martinsburg as mayor from January 4, 2010 through June 3, 2019. The motion passed unanimously.*

Council has 30 days to appoint a replacement for mayor. According to the Blair County Director of Elections and Voter Registration Sarah Seymour once she receives a copy of the mayor's letter of resignation Martinsburg Borough Council would **APPOINT A NEW MAYOR** until January 7, 2020. The mayor position will go on the ballot in the November [2019] election. The County Republican and Democratic Parties will each be able to nominate a candidate according to Section 2953 of the Election Code. Council will accept letters of interest for the position of mayor until Friday, June 14, 2019 and will appoint a replacement at the special meeting on Monday, June 24, 2019.

Chief Kerry Hoover presented the **POLICE REPORT** as written. Chief Hoover thanked **MAYOR REX HARTMAN** for performing his duties as mayor for nearly ten years. May was a busy month. **LOGAN TORNATORE** started as a full-time officer on May 23, 2019. He thanked Sgt. Davis and the borough crew for putting the **FLAGS** up for Memorial Day. Chief Hoover wanted to thank the VFW Women's Auxiliary and Long's Outpost for donating the new flags this year.

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BOROUGH MANAGER Rich Brantner reported:

MAY 7 – Renee Gunnett attended a **NOTARY CLASS** and will be taking her test on June 11

MAY 7 – Gary and Manager Brantner attended a **CLASS** in Altoona for continuing education credits

MAY 13 – put up the Welcome to Martinsburg **BANNERS** on the poles in the borough

MAY 15 – attended a DEP class for **NEW REPORTING** on our wells that is due by August 19

MAY 20 – sprayed **WEEDS** along the curbs in town

MAY 21 – **PAINTED** crosswalks, stop bars and turning arrows at the signal light and speed lines for the police department – Manager Brantner thanked Chief Hoover and Sgt. Davis for helping

MAY 23 – attended a meeting along with Chief Hoover at Attorney Gieg’s office to review the steps on the **POLICE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION**

MAY 24 – Manager Brantner’s **NEW COMPUTER** was installed

MAY 31 – the municipal authority’s **WATER TANK** that was installed in 1991 was recently inspected inside and out – the report has not been issued yet

David Harker inquired about **PAVING** this year. Manager Brantner reported that while there was not a paving project planned they will be patching potholes. He also reported that the decorative **BRICK STENCILING** done four years ago on the sidewalk at the square can be repaired but it would be costly. The winter salt may have damaged it. He will get a price to repair it. It was suggested that the balance in the Revitalization Committee account be used to repair the brick but council was reminded that the solar lights approved to be expended from that account have not all been purchased yet.

Attorney Matt Gieg met with the Beard Legal Group PC regarding setting up the **MARTINSBURG BOROUGH CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION**. The commission can have three members and one alternate with staggered six year terms.

*Council on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by David Harker, appointed **CHRISTOPHER BROOKS** to a six year term as a member of the Martinsburg Borough Civil Service Commission. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Council on a motion by Durban Metzler, seconded by David Harker, appointed **LAWRENCE JOHNSON** to a four year term as a member of the Martinsburg Borough Civil Service Commission. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Council on a motion by Rob Dickson, seconded by Ed Bennett, appointed **TODD BOOKHAMMER** to a two year term as a member of the Martinsburg Borough Civil Service Commission. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Council on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Linda Smith, appointed **JAMES CAPORUSCIO** as the alternate to the Martinsburg Borough Civil Service Commission. The motion passed unanimously.*

Renewal of each of the four **CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION** members will be for six year terms. All four of the members were then sworn in by Mayor Rex Hartman by saying the Oath of Office. Civil Service Rules and Regulations need to be adopted by the commission. The next full-time police officer will be hired through the commission. A date will be picked and

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advertised for Attorney Matt Gieg, Chief Hoover and Sgt. Davis to meet with the commission. Chief Hoover will get copies of the rules and regulations to the commission members. Chief Kerry Hoover will be the administrative contact for the Martinsburg Borough Civil Service Commission. The commission only hires full-time officers not the part-time officers.

[Chris Brooks, Lawrence Johnson, Todd Bookhammer and James Caporuscio left at 7:44 p.m.]

Attorney Matt Gieg prepared a draft fireworks ordinance put together with Chief Hoover and Sgt. Davis. It is a little restrictive and sets specific time periods and days that they can be set off. The ordinance was initiated by the change in the fireworks law. Professional fireworks displays will have to go through the permitting process. ***Council on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Rob Dickson, approved to advertise the FIREWORKS ORDINANCE NO. 2019-617 to be considered for adoption at the special meeting on Monday, June 24, 2019. The motion passed unanimously.***

Council on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Rob Dickson, approved to advertise a SPECIAL MEETING for Monday, June 24, 2019, to consider the adoption of the Fireworks Ordinance No. 2019-617 and for general purposes. The motion passed unanimously.

Attorney Matt Gieg reported that M & T Bank, the loaning agency for the purchasers of 114 W. Penn Street, has still not approved the buy/sell agreement even though DEP has finally approved it. Attorney Gieg is recommending another 30 day extension. ***Council on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Linda Smith, authorized Attorney Matt Gieg to prepare an addendum to extend the closing date on the 114 W. PENN STREET property for an additional 30 days. The motion passed unanimously.*** The closing will most likely take place at Attorney Huff's office as he is the buyers' attorney. There is no indication that the sale will not go through.

Manager Rich Brantner reported that the Martinsburg Municipal Authority has been approached by the **CURRYVILLE WATER AUTHORITY** requesting to buy water by installing a master meter to Curryville. They will bill their own customers. The authority could just send the Curryville Water Authority a bill based on the usage on the master meter. Curryville Water Authority is planning to go through Pennvest with their project and North Woodbury Township will be their co-signer.

The **EMPLOYEE RULES AND REGULATIONS MANUAL COMMITTEE** will not be meeting this month. Connie Lamborn will eventually give the committee's changes to Attorney Matt Gieg to review.

Linda Smith reported that the **REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE** has planted flowers in various place in addition to the square.

Manager Rich Brantner spoke with Burgmeiers Hauling and they are concerned about the future of **RECYCLING**. The Intermunicipal Relations Committee for Recycling in Blair County has recently hired a new employee to replace John Frederick.

The Blair County **GOVERNMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE** would like an elected official from Martinsburg to attend the upcoming 2019 meetings.

Everett Railroad would once again like to have a **TRAIN RIDE** to the 2019 Agricultural Parade on July 2. Connie Lamborn volunteers to help with the arriving passengers. Porta potties will be rented and trash cans will be set out for the event. Martinsburg Pizza should be informed of the event.

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Manager Rich Brantner received his new office computer one week ago. The new computers will not be compatible with the municipal building camera system. Bettwy Systems was in to review the cameras and is recommending an upgrade to a DVR. Chief Hoover would like to see a few more additional cameras be installed. The new camera system videos will be much clearer and the new system can be accessed by phone. The new system can handle up to sixteen cameras. Some places use the cameras as a safe area for exchanges. The cost of the system is about \$5,000-\$6,000 for everything and has a five year warranty. ***Council on a motion by Durban Metzler, seconded by Rob Dickson, approved to purchase a NEW SECURITY CAMERA SYSTEM for the municipal building from Bettwy not to exceed the cost of \$7,000 to be purchased through the Video Fund (\$3,500) and the Reserve Fund (\$3,500). The motion passed unanimously.***

Minutes of the May 13, 2019 meeting of the MARTINSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY were included in the council agendas.

The meeting ADJOURNED at 8:20 p.m. on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Durban Metzler. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Jane Staily
Borough Secretary