

**MARTINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 24, 2019**

A special meeting of the Martinsburg Borough Council was held on Monday, June 24, 2019 in the municipal building to consider the fireworks ordinance for adoption and to appoint a new mayor with prayer by Rich Brantner, Jr. and the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

In addition to the council, present were Manager Richard Brantner, Jr., Secretary Jane Staily, Chief Kerry Hoover, Sgt. Justin Davis and Attorney Matthew Gieg of Gieg Law Offices

REX HARTMAN'S LETTER OF RESIGNATION from the office of mayor due to his residency change was accepted at the meeting of June 3, 2019. Two letters of interest were received for the office of mayor: Richard A. Brantner (Sr.) and Sheldon Weaver. Sheldon Weaver stepped down and recommended that Richard Brantner be appointed as the new mayor. He initially just wanted to help fulfill the office when he learned there was a vacancy but felt Richard Brantner (Sr.), the retired chief of police of Martinsburg, would be a better fit for the position.

[Sheldon Weaver left at 7:04 p.m.]

Durban Metzler inquired if there would be a conflict of interest for Richard Brantner to take the office of mayor when his son Richard Brantner, Jr. was the borough manager. Attorney Gieg assured council this was not a conflict of interest. Connie Lamborn mentioned how valuable Richard Brantner's previous police experience would be to the office of mayor. ***Council on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by Rob Dickson, appoint RICHARD A. BRANTNER (SR.) to fulfill the office of mayor. The motion passed unanimously.*** The Blair County Board of Elections will be notified of council's appointment as their recommendation to the fall election ballot for the vacancy in the office of mayor.

Council on the motion by Durban Metzler, seconded by Ed Bennett, adopted Resolution No. 2019-0624-01 appointing RICHARD A. BRANTNER (SR.) to the vacancy in the office of mayor until December 31, 2019. The motion passed unanimously. President Connie Lamborn swore Richard A. Brantner (Sr.) in to the office of mayor.

The fireworks ordinance was advertised for consideration of adoption this evening. ***Council on a motion by Rob Dickson, seconded by Linda Smith, adopted ORDINANCE NO. 2019-617 REGULATING THE USE OF FIREWORKS with the correction that Section 3 be revised to read "24 hours" not "20 hours. The motion passed unanimously.***

Council on a motion by Durban Metzler, seconded by Ed Bennett, appointed the MARTINSBURG BOROUGH POLICE DEPARTMENT AS "CODE OFFICER" as required in the Fireworks Ordinance No. 2019-617. The motion passed unanimously.

LOGAN TORNATORE was hired full-time in the police department starting May 23, 2019. We were initially told he could be immediately added to our health insurance but later received an email that our agreement with Highmark does not permit full-time employees to be put on the policy until after the 90-day probation period. ***Council on a motion by Rob Dickson, seconded by Ed Bennett, approved to request a special exception to permit Logan Tornatore to begin medical insurance coverage with Highmark immediately foregoing the 90 day waiting period if it is permissible. The motion passed unanimously.***

There was an **EXECUTIVE SESSION** from 7:25-8:20 p.m. to discuss real estate matters with the 114 W. Penn Street property.

RICHARD BRANTNER (SR.) thanked council for having the confidence in him to be the new mayor.

*The meeting **ADJOURNED** at 8:21 p.m. on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Rob Dickson. The motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

M. Jane Staily
Borough Secretary