

MARTINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES  
AUGUST 3, 2020

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Borough Council was held on Monday, August 3, 2020 in the municipal building. The solicitor participated by way of video-conferencing (Zoom) due to the **COVID-19 PANDEMIC**. The meeting started at 7:00 p.m. with prayer by Rich Brantner, Jr. and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Mayor Richard A. Brantner, Sr., President P. Robert Dickson, Vice-President Durban D. Metzler, Pro-tem Edward L. Bennett, Councilman David L. Harker, Councilman Charles E. Kensinger, Councilman Darin B. Meck and Councilwoman Linda K. Smith

**OTHERS PRESENT THROUGH ZOOM:** Attorney Matt Gieg

In addition to council, present were Manager Richard Brantner, Jr., Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily, Chief Kerry Hoover, and Sergeant Justin Davis

*The **MINUTES** of the regular meeting of July 6, 2020 were approved on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by Durban Metzler. The motion passed unanimously.*

The **FINANCIAL AND TREASURER'S REPORTS** for July 2020 were prepared and presented by Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily.

*The **LIST OF BILLS** for July 2020 check nos. 10046-10078 in the amount of \$47,334.10 was approved on a motion by Charles Kensinger, seconded by Darin Meck. The motion passed unanimously.*

**MAYOR RICHARD BRANTNER, SR.** presented his report as written.

Chief Hoover presented the **POLICE REPORT** as written. The **LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION PROGRAM** at the Memorial Church of the Brethren on July 22 was a nice event. The police department appreciated what they did in support of law enforcement. Two days later Sergeant Davis and Officer Morris were presented with **MEDALS OF VALOR** outside the courthouse. The medal of valor is the highest award the District Attorney can present. This was a very nice ceremony. The awards are displayed in the break room for council to view after the meeting. **TRICK OR TREAT 2020** was discussed at the last chiefs' meeting and none of the municipalities have decided yet what they are going to do in regard to the pandemic this year. Chief Hoover would like to request **NEW PORTABLE RADIOS** for the 2021 Equipment Fund budget. He is getting prices. Motorola can no longer get parts for the old radios. Sergeant Davis has been attending the **HUSTON TOWNSHIP** supervisors' meetings. They are happy with our policing service.

**BOROUGH MANAGER** Rich Brantner reported:

JUL 7 – replaced a **SEWER LATERAL** at 609 E. Allegheny Street

JUL 13 – **SPRAYED WEEDS** along the curbs in the borough

JUL 21 – had a class in State College for **CONTINUING EDUCATION** hours for water/wastewater

JUL 22 – the borough received a \$5,400 dividend check from the **TEETER GROUP**

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JUL 24 – attended the Law Enforcement Medal of Valor for **SERGEANT DAVIS** at the Blair County Courthouse

JUL 29 – **MOODY AND ASSOCIATES, INC.** came in to blow off and pull the well pump in well no. 1 as we were having turbidity issues

JUL 30 – Brian had a class for his **CONTINUING EDUCATION** hours

JUL 30 – Dusty had a review class for him to take his **WASTEWATER TEST** on August 6<sup>th</sup>

AUG 3 – T. L. Long started **TEARING DOWN** 212 S. Market Street

The borough will be receiving a \$2,200 **RECYCLING GRANT** this year.

Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily reported that the **PMRS PENSION ORDINANCES** will be advertised in the newspaper this week for consideration for adoption next month.

Attorney Matt Gieg reported via ZOOM that the **PENSION ORDINANCES** will be retro active to July 1, 2020. The **WAYNE COOKE** shed matter has been resolved. Manager Rich Brantner, Jr. sent the agreement to Edgewood Acres last week. Attorney Matt Gieg reviewed the **SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY** prepared by Manager Brantner and he is satisfied with it.

Manager Rich Brantner, Jr. and Ed Bennett will be getting together to review the **STREETS TO BE PAVED** for next year to be included in the 2021 budget.

Durban Metzler reported that the municipal authority had their monthly meeting on July 16<sup>th</sup>. The **OAKVIEW DEVELOPMENT PROJECT** was discussed.

Linda Smith reported that the **REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE** has been doing a lot of watering in July and the flowers look great.

Charles Kensinger has been working on his **NIMS 700**. Rob Dickson and Darin Meck still need to get their NIMS student ID numbers.

The rescheduled **SPRING CLEANUP** day is still set for Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. It was decided to wait until the last week of August to mail out the flyers to the Martinsburg Borough residents only just in case there is any change in the pandemic social distancing rulings closer to that time.

The Martinsburg Community Library in accordance with Section 411 of the State Library Code of Pennsylvania must have at least one board member appointed by Martinsburg Borough. *Upon the recommendation of Library Director Danette Feathers, council on a motion by Charles Kensinger, seconded by Linda Smith, appointed Judy Thomas and Brooke Long-Yarrison to the **MARTINSBURG COMMUNITY LIBRARY**. The motion passed unanimously.*

It was the consensus of borough council to table the scheduling of **TRICK-OR-TREAT NIGHT** 2020 until closer to October in case the pandemic social distance rule prohibits it.

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April Ressler of The Teeter Group presented the borough with a \$5,475.42 insurance **DIVIDEND CHECK** in July. This is one of the largest dividend checks we have received.

Manager Richard Brantner, Jr. used the fire company's social media policy as a template to prepare one for the Martinsburg Borough employees. Each employee must sign the acknowledgement sheet stating they received a copy. ***Council on a motion by Charles Kensinger, seconded by Ed Bennett, adopted the Social Media Police as written. The motion passed unanimously.*** After Attorney Matt Gieg's recommendation, the social medial policy motion was revised ***on a motion by Charles Kensinger, seconded by Ed Bennett, to adopt the SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY as written as Resolution No. 2020-0803-01. The motion passed unanimously.***

David Harker presented council with his letter of resignation from council since he will be moving out of the borough. ***With regret, council on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Linda Smith, accepted David Harker's LETTER OF RESIGNATION effective August 21, 2020 as he will no longer be living in the Borough of Martinsburg after that date. The motion passed unanimously.***

Martinsburg Borough Council and Chief Hoover found it appropriate to give Sergeant Justin Davis a well deserved promotion. ***Council on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded Darin Meck, promoted Sergeant Justin Davis to LIEUTENANT effective immediately. The motion passed unanimously.*** David Harker suggested the promotion be made to Assistant Chief. Chief Hoover explained that at this time the position of Assistant Chief does not exist in the personnel manual to be able to make that promotion right now. Justin Davis was congratulated and he expressed his appreciation.

***Council on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Linda Smith, approved to advertise a request for LETTERS OF INTEREST to be received by September 1, 2020 from anyone living in the borough qualified and interested in being the council person to replace David Harker. The motion passed unanimously.***

***Council on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Durban Metzler, approved to change the boroughs IT person from Cyber Protection to CHRIS BROOKS effective October 1, 2020 keeping the monthly retainer the same. The motion passed unanimously.***

Minutes of the July 13, 2020 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 Ed Bennett, seconded by Darin Meck. The motion passed unanimously.***

Respectfully submitted,

M. Jane Staily  
Borough Secretary