

**MARTINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**MAY 3, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Borough Council was held on Monday, May 3, 2021 in the municipal building. The meeting started at 7:00 p.m. with prayer by Richard Brantner, Jr. and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Mayor Richard A. Brantner, Sr., Vice President Durban D. Metzler, Pro-tem Ed Bennett, Councilman Charles E. Kensinger, Councilman Darin B. Meck and Councilwoman Linda K. Smith (*Rob Dickson and Neil Gartland were absent*)

In addition to council, present were Manager Richard Brantner, Jr., Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily, Chief Kerry Hoover, Lt. Justin Davis, Attorney Mike Gieg, James Dell and Sandy Weyandt

*The **MINUTES** of the regular meeting of April 5, 2021 were approved on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by Charles Kensinger. The motion passed unanimously.*

The **FINANCIAL AND TREASURER'S REPORTS** for April 2021 were prepared and presented by Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily.

*The **LIST OF BILLS** for April 2021, check nos. 10309-10326 in the amount of \$11,929.21 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. He prepared a Proclamation for Police Appreciation Week and presented it to the Martinsburg Borough Police Department. *Council on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Linda Smith, proclaimed the week of May 9, 2021 as **MARTINSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT APPRECIATION WEEK**. The motion passed unanimously.*

Chief Hoover presented the **POLICE REPORT** as written. He thanked Mayor Rich Brantner (Sr.) for the **PROCLAMATION** in support of law enforcement. Chief Hoover participated along with North Woodbury Township Police Chief Dave Rosamilia, Sheriff Jim Ott and Senator Judy Ward in a presentation at Homewood on **TELEPHONE SCAMS**. Recently our police phone number has been showing up on the caller I.D. of the local phone scams. Received three **NEW PORTABLE RADIOS** on April 22 from Motorola. April 24 was **NATIONAL DRUG TAKE BACK DAY** and the police department collected 50.5 lbs. of drugs. The old **POLICE CRUISER** was taken in to Metzler's Auto for water pump repairs on April 26. The actual water pump was still under warranty but we will have to pay the labor fee of \$1,160.00. On April 28 Lt. Davis's police car was dripping oil and a part was ordered to fix it. The 2016 car will be needing tires. The police department will be going over their vehicle maintenance budget this year. It was the consensus of council to keep track of each cars repair costs in the vehicle maintenance part of the budget so they can monitor it month by month. The police department was very busy last week and they are just now catching up on the reporting.

**BOROUGH MANAGER** Rich Brantner reported:

APR 8 – the borough crew started **PAINTING** the borough garage

APR 9 – had a meeting with the Zimmerman's engineer and architect on the placement of the **DENTIST OFFICE** to be built on the property on Penn Street

APR 14 – met with Jane, Kerry and April Ressler of the **TEETER GROUP** to go over the boroughs insurance policy

APR 22 – the borough crew put in a **STORM WATER BOX** on S. Walnut Street to help alleviate the rain water coming down South First Alley onto S. Walnut Street

APR 24 – the borough crew spent most of Saturday repairing a **WATER LEAK** at W Allegheny and Nicodemus Street

APR 27 – Mike Bowser of PennDOT came by to look at the projected **PAVING PROJECT FOR 2021**

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APR 27 – receive notification from Penelec that a large part of Martinsburg will be **OUT OF POWER** on Wednesday May 12 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to do some upgrades to the substation

APR 27 – had a **MANHOLE BREAK** apart in front of the Village at Morrisons Cove – we had to dig up the repair and didn't finish up until 8:00 p.m.

MAY 3 – received notification that Fox's Pizza will be changing their name to **SMALL TOWN PIZZA**

Borough Secretary Jane Staily reported that notification was received from the Blair County Assessment Office recommending that Martinsburg Borough refund the Martinsburg Volunteer Fire Company for a portion of the 2021 Borough Real Estate Tax that they paid. Since the demolition of the two apartment buildings, the assessed value was reduced on both parcels. ***Council on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Charles Kensinger, approved to refund the MARTINSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE CO. NO. 1 a total of \$400.96 as over payment of the 2021 Borough Real Estate Taxes paid on 201 S. Market Street (\$219.95) and 104 E Penn Street (\$181.01). The motion passed unanimously.***

Ordinance No. 2021 – 630 regarding one hour parking was properly advertised and ready for adoption. ***Council on a motion by Charles Kensinger, seconded by Linda Smith, adopted ORDINANCE NO. 2021-630 ESTABLISHING ONE (1) HOUR PARKING regulation for the three (3) public parking spaces at and near the U. S. Postal Service located at 101 E. Allegheny Street and consolidating prior ordinances of the Borough of Martinsburg establishing various parking regulations. The motion passed unanimously.***

Ordinance No. 2021-631 regarding stop signs on Henry's Pond Lane was properly advertised and ready for adoption. ***Council on a motion by Charles Kensinger, seconded by Darin Meck, adopted Ordinance No. 2021-631 regulating traffic by the use and erection of STOP SIGNS ON, NEAR AND AROUND HENRY'S POND LANE and consolidating prior ordinances regulating traffic on, near and around the streets of Martinsburg Borough by the use and erection of stop signs. The motion passed unanimously.***

Linda Smith reported that the **REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE** is recommending that four benches be placed around the property that Gene Henry donated to the borough at the corner of E. Allegheny Street and S. Walnut Street. Two benches on the E. Allegheny Street side and two on the S. Walnut Street side. Three benches are already being paid for by donors and the committee would like to see the borough provide the fourth one. ***Council on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by Charles Kensinger, authorized to PURCHASE A BENCH in memory of W. Gene Henry at an estimated cost of \$700 to be paid for from the general fund. The bench will be placed on the E. Allegheny Street and S. Walnut Street corner lot. The motion passed unanimously.*** The committee will be planting flowers in flowers beds between the benches. No pots will be used. The committee has a fourth volunteer to start help water flowers.

Charles Kensinger and Mayor Richard Brantner (Sr.) were appointed to the **W. GENE HENRY MEMORIAL COMMITTEE** to come up with ideas to honor Mr. Henry for all he contributed to the borough throughout the years.

***A motion was made by Ed Bennett, seconded by Linda Smith, to allow the pertaining streets to be closed for the 2021 AGRICULTURAL PARADE on June 29, 2021 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.***

Manager Rich Brantner, Jr. met with PennDOT to put the bid proposal together for the 2021 paving project. The paving project is to be completed by August 20. Streets to be paved will be Walnut Street, part of Woodlawn Avenue and part of Railroad Street. ***Council on a motion by Ed***

*Bennett, seconded by Darin Meck, approved to advertise the 2021 PAVING PROJECT for bid proposals. The motion passed unanimously.*

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The State should be getting the COVID PANDEMIC MONEY in May which means Martinsburg could get the first half as early as June 2021 estimated at about \$90,000.

Penelec has a planned power outage for May 12 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. for parts of Martinsburg. Manager Brantner called Tel Power to see about getting an auto disconnect switch for the generator for the signal light. We have used stop signs in the past for power outages but the turning lane is always an issue. The use of a generator to power the signal light in these instances would be quicker and safer. *Council on a motion by Charles Kensinger, seconded by Darin Meck, authorized TEL POWER TO INSTALL A MANUAL DISCONNECT for the signal light to be paid for from the Highway Liquid Fuels Fund. The motion passed unanimously.*

Manager Rich Brantner, Jr. has been cleaning the municipal building when he has time and Renee Gunnett was also helping out when she could. The building is in dire need of ROUTINE CLEANING. Manager Brantner will make contact with an individual to obtain a quote for the cleaning of the building to be tabled until next month once the quote is received.

Minutes of the MARTINSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY of the regular meeting of April 12, 2021 were included in the agenda packets.

*The meeting ADJOURNED at 7:56 p.m. on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Darin Meck. The motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

M. Jane Staily  
Borough Secretary