

**MARTINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**JULY 7, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Borough Council was held on Monday, July 7, 2014 in the municipal building. The meeting started at 7:00 p.m. with prayer by Randy Stoltz and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Vice-President Durban D. Metzler, Councilman Edward L. Bennett, Councilwoman Janet E. Blattenberger, Councilwoman Linda K. Smith, and Councilman Daniel R. Smouse (*Rex Hardman, Connie Lamborn, Shawn Daughenbaugh, were absent*)

In addition to the council, present were Manager Randy Stoltz, Chief Kerry Hoover, Rich Brantner, Jr., Attorney Frederick B. Gieg, Jr., Attorney Matt Gieg, Junior Councilman Conner Johnson, Junior Councilman Tristan Greenland, Clayton Over of the Altoona Mirror, and Brian Hess of the Morrisons Cove Herald

*The **MINUTES** of the regular meeting of June 2, 2014, were approved on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by Janet Blattenberger. The motion passed unanimously.*

The **FINANCIAL AND TREASURER'S REPORTS** were presented for June 2014 as prepared by Treasurer Jane Staily.

Dan Smouse questioned the **REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE** line item as it reflected 241%. The T. L. Long Excavating expense of \$1,390 was included in that percentage as this bill was approved for payment on April 7, 2014, after the 2014 budget was approved. Council had requested that T. L. Long Excavating be contacted to push the compost pile back and the invoice for this work done was paid in June 2014 under repairs and maintenance, putting it over budget since it was not originally included in the line item when the budget was passed.

*The **LIST OF BILLS** for June 2014 check nos. 7579-7623 in the amount of \$27,022.00 was approved on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Dan Smouse. The motion passed unanimously.*

Chief Hoover presented the **POLICE REPORT** as written. On June 18 several of our officers attended a training seminar sponsored by the Blair County Law Enforcement Officers entitled "**UNDERSTANDING A THREAT**" – it was a good seminar about sovereign citizens; June 19 attended the Blair County Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Foundation **MEMORIAL SERVICE** in front of the court house; June 24 hosted the **AED TRAINING**; the **FOURTH OF JULY WEEK** at the park went well.

The police department will be hosting a **PATROL RIFLE INSTRUCTOR CLASS**. There are currently only two instructors in the entire county that can teach this class. An attendance of 14-20 participants are expected for this week long class. One-half of the course consists of class room instruction while the other half is time spent at the shooting range for a registration cost of \$595 per student. Chief Hoover is recommending that council consider paying for Sgt. Davis to attend. Chief Hoover can attend for free since Martinsburg is hosting the class. Council approved to pay for Sgt. Davis the amount of \$595 to attend the rifle instructor class contingent upon him signing an agreement requiring him to refund the \$595 to the Borough of Martinsburg only if he would leave the borough employment within one year from taking the class. Council questioned where the money would be taken from to enroll him into the class. The course is scheduled to be held in October and the fee can be paid at that time. The topic was tabled until next month when a motion could be made once it is clear which fund the fee will be paid from.

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Janet Blattenberger commended the police department for their services during the **FOURTH OF JULY** celebration week events at the park and the agricultural parade.

Manager Randy Stoltz reported that the last public **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN** meeting was held June 12 – EADS is finishing the plan and it should be in hard copy form for the August council meeting; **NEW WATER SERVICE LINES** were installed on July 2 at 117 and 121 East Allegheny Street to allow for the street to be widened during the sidewalk replacement; and the **STREETSCAPE SIDEWALK PROJECT** started today.

Janet Blattenberger commended the borough crew for coming to her aid during her **SEWER LINE BACKUP**.

Attorney Gieg was asked to review the **PENELEC AGREEMENT** for the streetscape project regarding the placement of the banners on their poles. He prepared a letter to Manager Stoltz concerning this. Penelec included an indemnification provision. He recommended to Manager Stoltz to send Penelec's agreement to the borough's insurance carrier to review to make sure this wouldn't be an extra expense to the borough. Attorney Gieg felt the estimated cost of \$30 to include Penelec in our policy to cover the banners was definitely worth the money.

Manager Randy Stoltz is expecting to get **WINELAND WELLS 1 & 2** online soon. He is also hoping to get the programmers out at the nitrate plant on Thursday to program things for the nitrate removal system.

Linda Smith reported that the **REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE** met this morning. Their topics for discussion will come up under new business on the agenda.

Correspondence was received from **SHAWN DAUGHENBAUGH** that he must resign his duties as council member effective July 7, 2014, due to his job requiring him to reside in another municipality.

The Revitalization Committee is recommending 8-foot **SOLAR LIGHT POLES**. They would like to order 18 of the lights. There is a savings of free freight for every twelve poles ordered. Six people are already interested in purchasing poles as memorials. Manager Stoltz would like to buy the initial eighteen (18) from the grant money. *Council on a motion by Ed Bennett, seconded by Linda Smith, approved to purchase eighteen (18) 8-foot **SOLAR LIGHTS** at \$410 each totaling \$7,380 from the grant. The motion passed unanimously.* Each donor of a solar light pole will pay \$450 each (\$410 for the light plus cost of nuts and bolts to install) and should execute an agreement for the borough to maintain the pole where it is placed. Attorney Gieg will draw up the agreements.

*Council on a motion by Dan Smouse, seconded by Janet Blattenberger, authorized to sign the agreement with **PENELEC TO ALLOW THE BANNERS** to be erected on their poles. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Council on a motion by Dan Smouse, seconded by Ed Bennett, authorized to purchase the liability insurance with The Teeters Group, to include **PENELEC AS THE CO-INSURED** on the policy for the banners. The motion passed unanimously.*

The Revitalization Committee presented a design for the street **BANNERS**. There are several ideas being considered. We currently have twenty-two poles that we put Christmas lights on each year that Penelec has already agreed to allow us to use to place

the banners. *Council on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by Dan Smouse, authorized to purchase twenty-two (22) banners from the streetscape grant money. The motion passed unanimously.* The design for the banners has not yet been decided. The committee wanted to stamp sidewalk and make a brick pattern. Manager Stoltz found a company that makes stencils in the pattern of a brick. The stencil is 16” wide making a 4” brick. A special gun is used to shoot a thin set mortar to uniform all of our sidewalk, the new and the old. There is money in the grant to pay for this. *Council on a motion by Dan Smouse, seconded by Janet Blattenberger authorized to STENCIL THE SIDEWALKS in the streetscape project so that the new and old portions of sidewalk look uniform to be paid for from the streetscape project grant money. The motion passed unanimously.*

Vice-President Durban Metzler on behalf the Martinsburg Borough Council recognized our two outgoing Junior Councilmen by presenting them with resolutions in recognition of their service this year. Both CONNER JOHNSON and TRISTAN GREENLAND had numerous accomplishments to be proud of as they move on from high school to further their education.

Council received a letter of resignation from SHAWN DAUGHENBAUGH effective July 7, 2014. His new job requires him to move his residency to another municipality which makes him ineligible to remain on our borough council. An ad will be placed in the newspaper in request of letters of interest from anyone interested in replacing him. *Council authorized to advertise for letters of interest from eligible residents from the Borough of Martinsburg interested in replacing Shawn Daughenbaugh for the remainder of his term on borough council ending January 2016 on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by Janet Blattenberger. The motion passed unanimously.*

A schedule for the STREETSCAPE PROJECT was included in the council agenda.

A thank you was received from the MARTINSBURG LIBRARY for the annual allocation of \$3,000 received from the Borough of Martinsburg.

The next SOUTH CENTRAL COUNTIES BOROUGH’S ASSOCIATION meeting will be held on July 24, 2014, at the Knights of Columbus in Hollidaysburg.

Correspondence was received from FEMA acknowledging receipt of our HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN which now makes the Borough of Martinsburg eligible to apply for federal disaster assistance until the plan expires. The correspondence is for informational purposes only. No further action is required.

Linda Smith inquired about an update on any possible leads for a new GROCERY STORE in Martinsburg. It sounds like there may be some possible negotiations going on but nothing to report.

*The meeting ADJOURNED at 8:08 p.m. on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Ed Bennett. The motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

Randy K. Stoltz  
Acting Secretary