

**MARTINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES
NOVEMBER 2, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Borough Council was held on Monday, November 2, 2015 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: President Connie S. Lamborn, Vice-President Durban D. Metzler, Councilman P. Robert Dickson, Councilwoman Janet E. Blattenberger, Councilman Douglas D. Smith, and Councilwoman Linda K. Smith (*Mayor Rex Hartman was excused and Ed Bennett was absent*)

In addition to the council, present were Manager Randy Stoltz, Borough Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily, Chief Kerry Hoover, Attorney Frederick B. Gieg, Jr., Attorney Mike Gieg and Attorney Chris Jancula, Bart Marney, Katrina Pope of Inter-municipal Relations Committee and Brian Hess of the Morrisons Cove Herald.

President Connie Lamborn announced that there will be an executive session following the adjournment of the meeting to discuss property acquisition.

The MINUTES of the regular meeting of October 5, 2015, 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 October 2015 as prepared by Treasurer Jane Staily.

The LIST OF BILLS for October 2015 check nos. 8148-8185 in the amount of \$133,610.77 was approved on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Durban Metzler. The motion passed unanimously.

Katrina Pope, the Education and Enforcement Coordinator for the INTER-MUNICIPAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE, was present in place of Executive Director John Frederick to update council on recycling in the county. A copy of their program report for Recycling and Sustainable Material Management was passed out to council. She wanted to thank Martinsburg for our recycling efforts. Katrina encouraged council to contact their legislatures to ask them to pass the new legislation which defines drop off points and fees. The legislation has already been passed in six other states.

[Katrina Pope left at 7:16 p.m.]

Martinsburg's COMMUNITY CLEAN UP DAY will be held this spring in May 2016. We have one every other year.

MAYOR REX HARTMAN could not be attendance due to a change in his work schedule.

Chief Kerry Hoover presented the POLICE REPORT as written. Stuckey Ford has not provided Chief Hoover with a firm price for a trade in value for the old police cruiser. Their quote for the new cruiser was set up for repayment in five years instead of three years. The quote from Tri Star Motors was for a three year lease with a \$1.00 buy-out in the end. *Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Durban Metzler, authorized Chief Hoover to purchase a 2016 FORD EXPLORER from Tri State Motors for a total cost of \$31,469.39 (three \$11,023.13 annual payments; a one-time \$400 document fee; less \$2,000 trade in of the old 2008 Ford Crown Vic). The motion passed unanimously.* Chief Hoover reported that there is a new company in Roaring Spring that is starting to do light packages which may be considered for the next police car.

MARTINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES
NOVEMBER 2, 2015 – PAGE 2

Chief Hoover commended our **VOLUNTEER FIREMEN** for all their hard work on the numerous fatal accidents they have assisted in last month. Today the fire department spent all day starting at 9 am and they are still out there fighting a fire. The volunteer firemen were also out assisting the police department on **TRICK OR TREAT NIGHT**, which had a good turnout due to the nice weather. No reported mischief that evening. There was a **MOCK CRASH** at the airport on Saturday. It was a full scale drill with the fire and police departments and it went very well.

Manager Randy Stoltz reported that the **GULF STREAM CAFÉ BUILDING** was offered at sheriff's sale on October 7 – Republic Financial paid \$32,812.73 to assume ownership – they are interested in selling the building; two sets of **TRAFFIC COUNTERS** were set up on October 8 on N. Nicodemus Street to determine the traffic volume – approximate speed can also be determined – we are waiting on the results; October 15 we hosted a PennDOT Local Technical Assistance Program on **SEAL COATING**; Manager Stoltz attended a luncheon meeting in Altoona on October which was sponsored by **EXPLORE ALTOONA** – Tourism Consultant Bill Geist was the keynote speaker and he spoke about tourism trends and was very complimentary of Blair County and its tourism attractions; cars have been parking directly in front of the **SUBWAY RESTAURANT** which does not have a parking lane so yellow curbing was painted on October 19 to indicate no parking; on October 28 the Community Development Committee met to discuss the empty building at **114 W. PENN STREET**; the grand opening of the **C & S MARKET** was held on October 29; and attended an **LED STREET LIGHT** presentation on October 30 – First Energy has a program that they will replace our current street lights at no cost with new LED fixtures.

*Council on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by Doug Smith, voted to allow Borough Manager Randy Stoltz to pursue changing over our 126 street lights from sodium vapor to **LED LIGHTING** through the free program with Penelec. The motion passed unanimously.*

The **2015 STATE PENSION FUNDING** received was \$5,908.49 less than the total minimum municipal obligation for the year. While the State seldom fund the obligation 100%, this year's allocation was several thousand dollars less than previous years. Pension Plan Administrator Jane Staily explained that the 2015 State Pension Funding was lower than previous years as the unfunded liabilities went up in both plans and PMRS lowered the interest rate in the plans. It was explained that the Auditor General's office examines the Act 205 Report done every other year and the annual AG 385 Rosters and then the State pays the lesser of what is entitled based on the number of full-time employees or actual plan costs. Unlike PennDOT Liquid Fuels the State does not send municipalities an estimate of what they will receive for budget planning purposes.

Attorney Frederick Gieg, Jr. reported that he has prepared the three **2016 TAX ORDINANCES** for advertisement for consideration for adoption next month.

Linda Smith reported that the **REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE** has planted mums at the square. A letter to the editor will be prepared thanking the greenhouses for the flowers and all the volunteers and Dick Leidy for keeping them watered. No date has been set yet for when the banners will be taken down for the season. There is currently no money to purchase the additional wreaths needed to decorate the solar light pole erected since last Christmas.

Manager Randy Stoltz reported that the **RECYCLING FUND BALANCE** will be disbursed among the three municipalities based on the number of recycling keys purchased in each.

A committee needs to be appointed to review the upcoming **ATLANTIC BROADBAND FRANCHISE** renewal. We will be meeting with Roaring Spring Borough again to review the contract document. The agreement will be up for renewal in two years. The topic was tabled for now.

Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Doug Smith, approved to advertise the 2016 BUDGET for the 10-day public inspection period to be considered for adoption at the December meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Linda Smith, approved to advertise the 2016 REAL ESTATE TAX ORDINANCE as Ordinance No. 2015-603 to remain at 20.5 mills for consideration for adoption at the December 1, 2015 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Council on a motion by Durban Metzler, seconded by Rob Dickson, approved to advertise the 2016 PER CAPITA TAX ORDINANCE as Ordinance No. 2015-604 to remain at \$5.00 for consideration for adoption at the December 1, 2015 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Doug Smith, approved to advertise the 2016 EARNED INCOME TAX ORDINANCE as Ordinance No. 2015-605 to remain at 5 mills for consideration for adoption at the December 1, 2015 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

ROB DICKSON expressed interest in remaining on council. Since he was appointed after the spring primary his name will not appear on the fall ballot. He would like residents to write him in for the position.

The borough office will be closed on Wednesday, November 11, 2015 in honor of **VETERANS DAY**.

There are four upcoming **WEBINARS** for any council person who wishes to attend.

Janet Blattenberger commend **MANAGER RANDY STOLTZ** on good management of the borough which helps to keep taxes down.

Connie Lamborn attended the **SOUTH CENTRAL COUNTIES BOROUGH ASSOCIATION** dinner meeting on October 19 at the Duncansville Community Center.

A copy of the last meeting of the **MARTINSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY** was included in the agenda packet.

There will be an **EXECUTIVE SESSION** following the adjournment of the meeting to discuss property acquisition.

*The meeting **ADJOURNED** at 8:15 p.m. on a motion by Durban Metzler, seconded by Doug Smith. The motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

M. Jane Staily
Borough Secretary