

**MARTINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES  
DECEMBER 7, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Borough Council was held on Monday, December 7, 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:** Mayor Rex L. Hartman, 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 (*Ed Bennett was absent*)

In addition to the council, present were Manager Randy Stoltz, Borough Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily, Chief Kerry Hoover, Richard A. Brantner, Jr., Attorney Matt Gieg, Attorney Chris Jancula, and Brian Hess of the Morrisons Cove Herald.

*The MINUTES of the regular meeting of November 2, 2015, were approved on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by Durban Metzler. The motion passed unanimously.*

The FINANCIAL AND TREASURER'S REPORTS were presented for November 2015 as prepared by Treasurer Jane Staily.

*The LIST OF BILLS for November 2015 check nos. 8186-8222 in the amount of \$45,537.76 was approved on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Doug Smith. The motion passed unanimously.*

Chief Kerry Hoover presented the POLICE REPORT as written. On November 16 Chief Hoover went to Hollidaysburg for a DRONE DEMO purchased through funds donated by NPC for Blair County Law Enforcement. It can be used to look for missing or wanted persons but they may have a problem using it close to the airport. The drone requires two people to operate it. The NEW POLICE CAR has been ordered but they do not have any in stock so it could take up to 90 days for the car to come in. The results of the TRAFFIC STUDY count for N. Nicodemus Street have been received but the chief has not had time to review it yet. A resignation was received from PATROLMAN JAMES BRANTNER. He is taking a full-time position with the Allegheny Township Police Department. *Council on a motion by Durban Metzler, seconded by Janet Blattenberger, accepted PATROLMAN JAMES BRANTNER'S RESIGNATION from the Martinsburg Police Department effective December 11, 2015. The motion passed unanimously.*

Manager Randy Stoltz reported that on November 6 he and Brian Miller helped Chief Hoover cut some trees at the POLICE PISTOL RANGE; on November 24 two WINDOW SASHES were replaced by Cove Lumber under warrantee – they were both clouded on the inside window glass; the SNOWFLAKE STREET DECORATIONS that were put up were turned on Friday, November 27; attended an open house on December 4 at GIEG AND GIEG as they celebrated their 75<sup>TH</sup> YEAR ANNIVERSARY; and attended a LED STREET LIGHT presentation – First Energy has a program that they will replace our current street lights at no cost with new LED fixtures – a list was submitted of our lights and Manager Stoltz was in the process of submitting pole numbers and locations on Penelec forms in 24 light blocks for replacement.

Durban Metzler recommended that the decorative lighted SNOWFLAKES remain up and lighted until the end of January.

Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily announced that a third ELECTED AUDITOR is still needed. As a reminder, copies of the CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION RESIDENCY AFFIDAVITS are required from each of the elected officials before they can be sworn in at the January meeting.

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Attorney Matt Gieg reported that the **2016 TAX ORDINANCES** were prepared and advertised for consideration for adoption this evening. Attorney Gieg expressed his appreciation to council for their support in Gieg and Gieg Attorneys 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of years in business. Gieg and Gieg has been the borough solicitor since 1977.

Linda Smith reported that the V.F.W. paid for the extra **WREATHS** needed for the new solar light poles that have been installed since last Christmas. The tables, chairs and pots from town center have been put away for the winter.

Manager Randy Stoltz sold four of the **OLD CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS** and received \$200 for them to be deposited into the Christmas Light Fund. The decorations were advertised on Muncibid and on the borough’s website.

The **ATLANTIC BROADBAND CABLE FRANCHISE** expires in two years. A committee will soon need to be appointed to review the items for the new contract.

*Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Rob Dickson, adopted **ORDINANCE NO. 2015-603 Real Estate Tax to maintain the 2016 rate at 20.5 mills. The motion passed unanimously.***

*Council on a motion by Durban Metzler, seconded by Linda Smith, adopted **ORDINANCE NO. 2015-604 PER CAPITA TAX to maintain the 2016 rate at \$5.00. The motion passed unanimously.***

*Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Durban Metzler, adopted **ORDINANCE NO. 2015-605 EARNED INCOME TAX to maintain the 2016 rate at 5-mills. The motion passed unanimously.***

***2016 EMPLOYEE PAY RAISES** were approved at 1.5% as recommended by the Personnel Committee on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Doug Smith. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Rob Dickson, adopted the **2016 BUDGET** as advertised for the required 10-day public inspection period. There will be no millage increase. The motion passed unanimously.*

FUND	ESTD BEGINNING BAL JAN 1 2016	REV	EXP	ESTD YR END BAL DEC 31, 2016
GEN OPR	140720	747330	747330	140720
HIWAY	82487	56023	69250	69260
VIDEO PROD	2995	550	250	3295
EQUIP - PLGIT	0	0	0	0
EQUIP - FNB	187732	24870	22000	190602
MED CARE REIMB	9283	1767	3500	7550
CHRISTMAS LIGHT	16	0	0	16
REVITALIZATION	2149	0	1900	249
BLDG MAINT	27107	5010	0	32117
POLICE PISTOL RANGE	813	0	0	813
RECYCLING	9240	8620	1792	16068
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>462542</b>	<b>844170</b>	<b>846022</b>	<b>460690</b>

*Council on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by Janet Blattenberger, approved to donate \$500 to **COVE CHRISTMAS LOVE**. The motion passed unanimously.*

Martinsburg Borough Tax Collector Jane Staily presented council with a list of 2015-16 Per Capita Tax payers that meet the guidelines for **EXONERATION/EXEMPTION** from paying the tax. *Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Durban Metzler, authorized to*

**EXONERATE/EXEMPT 78 tax payers from paying the 2015-2016 PER CAPITA TAX of \$5.00 per person. The motion passed unanimously.** A second list will be prepared in the spring.

**Council on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Doug Smith, approved to advertise the 2016 BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING DATES as follows. The motion passed unanimously.**

JAN 4	APR 4	JUL 11	OCT 3
FEB 1	MAY 9	AUG 1	NOV 7
MAR 7	JUN 6	SEP 6(TUE)	DEC 5

The **CHRISTMAS TREE PICK-UP** date was set for Monday, January 11, 2016 at 8 a.m.

President Connie Lamborn announced that times were available for volunteers to sign up for the **SALVATION ARMY KETTLE DRIVE** if anyone was interested.

Janet Blattenberger was thanked for the **CHRISTMAS COOKIES** she brought in for the meeting.

Janet Blattenberger expressed an interest in having all of the **BOROUGH ORDINANCES** reviewed and updated.

PSAB Classroom Training is offering **2016 NEWLY ELECTED MUNICIPAL OFFICIAL BOOT CAMP** at seventeen different locations.

Minutes of the November 9, 2015 meeting of the **MARTINSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY** were included in the council packets.

PSAB is offering a free webinar on **PREPARING FOR YOUR REORGANIZATION MEETINGS** to be held on Tuesday, December 15, 2015 from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

The **GULF STREAM CAFÉ BUILDING** on W. Penn Street is going to a realtor. The borough has received checks for taxes and water and sewer rental on the property.

**The meeting ADJOURNED at 8:06 p.m. on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Doug Smith. The motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

M. Jane Staily  
Borough Secretary