

MARTINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES
AUGUST 1, 2016

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Borough Council was held on Monday, August 1, 2016 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 Douglas D. Smith, Pro-Tem Durban D. Metzler, Councilman Edward L. Bennett, Councilwoman Janet E. Blattenberger, Councilman P. Robert Dickson and Councilwoman Linda K. Smith

In addition to the council, present were Manager Randy Stoltz, Borough Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily, Sgt. Justin Davis, Attorney Mike Gieg, Attorney Chris Jancula and Brian Hess of the Morrisons Cove Herald.

*The **MINUTES** of the regular meeting of July 11, 2016, were approved with one typo on page 2 (Walt Piper not Pipe) on a motion by Linda Smith, seconded by Janet Blattenberger. The motion passed unanimously.*

The **FINANCIAL AND TREASURER'S REPORTS** were presented for July 2016, as prepared by Treasurer Jane Staily.

*The **LIST OF BILLS** for July 2016 check nos. 8476-8516 in the amount of \$87,586.20 (including a transfer of \$14,848.34 to Payroll and \$35,000 to the Reserve Fund) was approved on a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Rob Dickson. The motion passed unanimously.*

Sgt. Justin Davis presented the Police Report as written. Janet Blattenberger reported that Governor Wolfe signed legislation that will allow motorists in all types of vehicles to proceed with caution through a **RED LIGHT** if a vehicle detection system at a signal fails to recognize the vehicle's presence. This law eliminates need to wait for an unresponsive red light to turn green. The law takes effect on Sept. 18, 2016.

Manager Randy Stoltz reported that a **PLAQUE** was installed on July 15 to the flower planter wall around the clock at the square - the plaque was requested by the Revitalization Committee and paid for by donations - it reads: "In Memory of Carolyn Gartland by the Revitalization Committee 2014"; the **OVERHEAD GARAGE DOOR** for a storage building at the borough garage was painted on July 18; the Church of God had their **PARKING LOT REPAVED** on July 21 – they could not mill a straight seam against our alley since the pavement was so old and brittle – this section had been paved by the church many years ago and when we paved from E. Allegheny Street to Penn Street in 1999 we skipped the section at their parking lot since it was already done – the contractor said they would pave a continuous pass to cover the 12-foot wide alley when they paved the lot if we would pay for the cost of the pavement – the estimate was \$1,600.00; also Burgmeier Hauling replaced the three 10-yard front load commingled containers with three 6-yard dumpsters at the **RECYCLING CENTER** that they will be able to load with a smaller rear load truck; and got the **FENCE** at the recycling center repaired – Deckers were sent a bill for the cost of the repair of \$740.

Council received a copy of an email from Manager Randy Stoltz to Connie Lamborn requesting that council find a replacement for his position as **LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR**. They are now requiring more training for this position and since he plans to retire from the borough after February 20, 2018 he does not wish to take the training. He only agreed to be Emergency Management Coordinator back when no one else wanted it after Ralph Sheffy resigned. Doug Smith agreed to contact the Blair County Emergency Coordinator to find out more about the

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position in hopes to find a replacement for Randy. Since Randy has been the coordinator he has dealt with a few power outages, poles hit during the winter, a few floods and a few blizzards. His last incident was setting up a cooling station at the municipal building during a weekend of extreme heat that of which no one came.

Manager Randy Stoltz reported that four people have not yet responded to the income surveys for the **SIDEWALK GRANT**.

Secretary/Treasurer Jane Staily reported that the first draft **BUDGET FOR 2017** will be prepared for next month to begin the budget process.

Attorney Chris Jancula reported that they have been working on the skateboard ordinance and the mutual aid agreement. According to the statute council only has to ratify the mutual aid agreement so it should not cost much to adopt it. *On a motion by Janet Blattenberger, seconded by Linda Smith, council voted to ratify the **MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT** authorizing President Connie Lamborn to execute it and Secretary Jane Staily to attest it. The motion passed unanimously.* This agreement does not have to be advertised. Attorney Jancula was not sure of the logistics on signing it amongst the other municipalities and how the document will be circulated to them. He had Connie and Jane sign it this evening mentioning the possibility of having to maybe resign another one.

A second draft **SKATEBOARD ORDINANCE** was prepared by Attorney Matt Gieg. He changed some of the language around since the first draft. Copies were presented to council for their review. Some of the council members were not prepared to vote for the ordinance as written. There was also some feeling that prohibiting skateboards and the like should only be banned from a one block radius of the square. The whole thing of updating the ordinance originated with Chief Hoover wanting hover boards to be addressed. Some felt hover boards should just be added to what we already have but this would not address the chief's desire to have all the skateboard ordinances combined into one. The draft ordinance was tabled until council could further review it.

Manager Randy Stoltz reported that the **MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY** at its last meeting in July was trying to decide on what **SEWER LINES** to replace. A **NEW CONTROL PANEL** was installed at the wastewater treatment plant – the old one was twenty years old. A few residents questioned the need for a **WATER RATE INCREASE**.

Young, Oakes, Brown and Company completed the **MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY'S AUDIT** for fiscal year ending January 31, 2016. One of the few items they addressed in their recommendation letter was for council to address alternatives to the **MEDICAL REIMBURSEMENT PLAN**. They expressed concern that HIPPA privacy issues may exist and do not believe it would meet the government standards as a "qualified plan" as it currently exists. Manager Stoltz implied that the plan was thoroughly reviewed and compliant when initially prepared and would like to wait and see how the medical insurance works out over the next year or so before banning the plan.

Council inquired how much they can legally consider raising taxes in the first year after **REASSESSMENT**. Secretary Jane Staily will check into it.

Martinsburg Borough was asked to host the next **SOUTH CENTRAL COUNTIES BOROUGH'S ASSOCIATION** dinner meeting in October. The dinner could be held at the fire hall.

Minutes of the **MARTINSBURG VOLUTEER FIRE COMPANY** meeting of July 11, 2016 was included in the agenda.

*The meeting **ADJOURNED** at 8:11 p.m. on a motion by Rob Dickson, seconded by Janet Blattenberger. The motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

M. Jane Staily
Borough Secretary