

April 21, 2021

REGULAR MEETING

PUBLIC HEARING

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Town Board was held Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 7:00 PM at the Municipal Offices on Cemetery Road. Present were: Supervisor Terrence Thisse; Councilmen Brad Allen, Janusz Karelus, Darren Jantzi and Michael McGrath; Town Clerk Mary Kelley; Highway Superintendent Tyler Jones; Tax Collector Deanna Doviak; Lewis County Legislator Greg Kulzer; Phillip Damuth; Steve Hirschey, Beth Steria, CTHC Circuit rider; and Gary Rosiczkowski. Absent: Attorney Joseph Russell.

MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting were emailed to the board members prior to this meeting. Councilman Karelus made a motion, seconded by Councilman Allen to approve the minutes of the last meeting as presented. All were in favor. Motion carried.

BILLS – Abstract 4-2021

General:	Voucher # 75-97	\$12,087.13
Highway:	Voucher # 47-66	\$18,249.99
Glenfield Water:	Voucher # 23-28	\$ 7,340.53
Glenfield Sewer:	Voucher # 14-16	\$ 343.73
Martinsburg Water #1:	Voucher # 20-24	\$ 1,228.67
Martinsburg Water #2:	Voucher # 4	\$ 502.14
Street Lighting:	Voucher # 7-8	\$ 825.90
Whitaker Park:	Voucher # 4-5	\$ 2,035.95

After some discussion, Councilman Karelus made a motion, seconded by Councilman Allen to approve payment of bills as presented. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. Rosiczkowski was present to discuss damage to his fields on the Flat Rock Road after an ATV event sponsored by Timberview earlier this month. Hundreds were in attendance. People parked and/or rode across his hay fields across from the Flat Rock Inn. The owner of the Flat Rock Inn, Gordon Yancey, had his property blocked off to parking and/or riding of ATV's, trucks and cars. There is also stone in his field. Law enforcement was called but they had to leave to answer other calls across the county.

Discussion was also held on the "fence" the owner of the Inn has in place to keep vehicles out. The barrels being used are in the town right of way. It was stated that Mr. Yancey should provide parking for his customers. Supervisor Thisse said he will contact Department of Health about this matter. The Town does have a fence law. Highway Superintendent Jones will have the Code Enforcement Officer look at the fencing to see if Mr. Yancey is in compliance.

More discussion was held on the ATV Event that was held. No event permits were applied for to either Lewis County or the Town of Martinsburg. Supervisor Thisse reported that he contacted an insurance company to see what insurance was available for events such as this one and the cost.

7:30 PM Councilman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Councilman Karelus to open a Public Hearing to hear comments on a proposed agreement with Charter Communications (Spectrum). Service area of the cable company was discussed. Supervisor Thisse made one comment that the original contract with them listed roads they were to serve with cable and they didn't cover all the territory as required. There being no other comments from the public, Supervisor Thisse held the hearing open and went on to regular business.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

Councilman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Councilman Allen to accept the Town Clerk Report for March as presented. Total State and Local Revenues collected were \$4,540.56. All were in favor. Motion carried.

COOPERATIVE TUG HILL COUNCIL

Ms. Steria reported on the following:

- Nominations for Community Recognition Award
- Webinar on Cyber Security
- Webinar on Open Government Issues in Planning and Zoning decisions
- CDBG Cares Act funding
- Archival webinars

LEWIS COUNTY LEGISLATOR REPORT

Mr. Kulzer reported that the county would like the five towns involved to meet together to review and work on the Events Law. Discussed was held on the stimulus money (American Rescue Plan) coming to towns, villages and counties. No one is sure when it will be available. CHIPS funding being reinstated was discussed. The solid waste facility at the County is going ahead as scheduled.

There being no further comments, Councilman Allen made a motion, seconded by Councilman Jantzi to close the Public Hearing at 8:00 PM. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Jantzi made a motion, seconded by Councilman McGrath to table further discussion the cable franchise agreement until the Attorney is available and for more time to review the original contract. All were in favor. Motion carried.

A Public Hearing by the IDA (Industrial Development Agency) will be held at the town Municipal Offices on April 27 at 10:00 AM to hear comments on proposed PILOT for solar projects.

HIGHWAY

Discussion was held on the purchase of a new lawn mower. A quote has been received for \$13,000. The dollar amount would be split between certain funds – sewer (\$2000); water (\$2000); general (\$2000); highway (\$7000) – as it would be used at the treatment plants, cemeteries, playground, etc. The Supervisor proposed that it be funded with CHIPS money this year, to be paid back next year. Councilman Jantzi made a motion, seconded by Councilman Karelus to proceed with the purchase of the mower. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on hiring (2) seasonal workers. Two workers were not budgeted for at \$14.00 an hour. There has been some savings in the highway budget so it can be done the Supervisor stated.

Supervisor Jones reported an increase in CHIPS funding of \$118,000.

Under the American Rescue Plan, the Town is due to receive \$150,000 which can be used, among other things, for infrastructure.

The Clerk is to email the board copies of the town property maintenance law and fence law.

GLENFIELD WATER

A business owner in the Glenfield Water District has asked for some relief on his very high water bill. The laundromat was closed during the COVID pandemic and therefore a water leak was not detected. There was a large water loss. The board is willing to reduce the bill but the matter is tabled until some figures of past billing are obtained.

Highway Superintendent Jones said he has to schedule water tank inspections. The cost will be \$2500 per tank. There is a leak in Martinsburg Water tank so he had to drop the water level and some people are experiencing less water pressure.

MARTINSBURG WATER DISTRICT #1

Discussion was held on putting in a new water line on Alger Road. Water pipe prices have increased. If the town goes with a 6" line, a hydrant can be placed at the end of the line. Councilman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Councilman Karelus to go with 2500 feet of 6" line. The cost to the town to extend the water line on the Alger Road will be approximately \$17,605. That will be upgrading from 4" line to 6" HDPE line. Demko Farms will be connecting to the waterline on the Alger Road. Demko's cost will be hiring a contractor to install the water main. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Damuth was present to discuss his renting of cropland in the water district adjacent to the wells on Cemetery Road. The board approved his request to broadcast seed on the acreage in lieu of rent for this year.

PLAYGROUND

Councilman Jantzi made a motion, seconded by Councilman Karelus to allow the Little League teams to use the General Martin Playground. There is a Use Facility Form they will need to fill out regarding insurance. All were in favor. Motion carried.

GLENFIELD WATER PROJECT

A proposal from Pearson and Timmerman to assist Barton and Loguidice in completion of separate step tests and 72 hour pump tests on each of two 8-inch diameter bedrock public water supply test/production wells was discussed. Councilman Allen made a motion, seconded by Councilman Jantzi to accept the proposal of \$16,600 from Pearson and Timmerman for well testing of the two wells in the 3-G Field Day grounds. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Since well development has been added to the project, Councilman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Councilman Karelus to accept an amendment to renew the original contract with Municipal Solutions dated April 5, 2019 for loan structuring and finance/grant administration. All were in favor. Motion carried.

WHITAKER PARK

Mr. Hirschey reported that the leaf blower he uses at the Park is broke. Councilman Karelus made a motion, seconded by Councilman Jantzi authorizing the purchase of a used leaf blower from Steele's Ace Hardware for \$500.00. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Hirschey has contacted the Department of Health regarding opening Whitaker Park for the season. Covid regulations limit a gathering of 200 people in an outdoor setting. The large pavilion will be limited to 100 people inside and the small pavilion, 40 people. Tables will be situated 6 feet apart in the pavilions. There will be extra cleaning, signage and wearing of masks coming into the office. The plan is to open May 21.

Kevin Townsend, NYMIR insurance agent, will be providing a Harassment and Discrimination workshop on June 15 at 3:00 PM at the Municipal Building.

Supervisor Thisse reported that there are multiple bids on the Glenfield Elementary and Port Leyden Schools. These schools will be closed and pupils will be attending South Lewis Central.

The Wind Tower Decommission Plan, for Roaring Brook Wind, is still in the discussion phase.

Councilman Karelus made a motion, seconded by Councilman McGrath, authorizing the Supervisor sign an agreement with Advanced Business Systems for IT services. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The board reviewed the current event law. Some changes need to be made. Councilman Allen made a motion, seconded by Councilman Jantzi to hold a Public Hearing, May 19, 2021 at 7:15 PM to hear comments on amending Local Law #2-2021 regarding events on town property. All were in favor. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Councilman Jantzi made a motion, seconded by Councilman Karelus, to adjourn at 9:30 PM. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kelley, Town Clerk