

April 20, 2017

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Town Board was held Wednesday, April 20, 2017 and called to order at 7:00PM. Present were: Supervisor Terrence Thisse; Councilmen Douglas Dietrich, E. Frank Kogut, Janusz Karelus; Town Clerk Mary Kelley; Attorney Mark Gebo; CTHC circuit rider Beth Steria; Steve Hirschey, Whitaker Park Supervisor; Deb Kogut; Gordon Yancey and Harvey Ingersoll, Lewis County Search and Rescue; Philip Damuth. Absent: Highway Superintendent Tyler Jones and Councilman Michael McGrath.

MINUTES

Mr. Dietrich made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kogut approving the minutes of the last meeting as presented. All were in favor. Motion carried.

BILLS

General:	Voucher #85-113	\$ 8765.15
Highway:	Voucher #62-84	\$91,453.10
Glenfield Sewer:	Voucher #13-15	\$ 401.65
Glenfield Water:	Voucher #19-24	\$ 9681.82
Martinsburg Water #1:	Voucher #20-24	\$ 1839.86
Street Lighting:	Voucher 7-8	\$ 799.61

After the board discussed various bills, Mr. Kogut made a motion, seconded by Mr. Karelus, approving payment of the bills as presented. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Harvey Ingersoll was present to give an update on Lewis County Search and Rescue activities and asked the board if they had any questions. He was asked how many ambulances they had and he reported six ambulances and answered 1800 calls in 2016.

COOPERATIVE TUG HILL COUNCIL

Ms. Steria reported on training, workshops for highway superintendents and workshops/training that can be accessed online.

HIGHWAY

Discussion was held on the cost of uniforms and mats. Mr. Jones got a quote from UniFirst which would be a Lewis County bid. There price is considerably less than what we pay now to G&K Services. Mr. Kogut made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dietrich, to switch providers if we are not in a contract with G&K. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on an increase of hourly rate for highway part timers.

Philip Damuth was present to discuss cropland he rents in the Martinsburg Water District #1 well head protection area on Cemetery Road. Since he cannot spread manure or fertilizer in this area, the crops are poor. He asked if he could just spread grass seed on top with a broadcast spreader. Mr. Thisse said he could contact Rural Water for suggestions. Mr. Thisse asked the cost of grass seed and Mr. Damuth said approximately \$4 a pound for clover so the cost would be \$280 to \$300. Mr. Damuth said he would buy the seed and spread it if the town would not charge the usual rent. Mr. Karelus made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dietrich to waive the rent this year and to give Mr. Damuth permission to seed the area. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Damuth also requested a "No Jake Brake" sign on the hill in front of his house on Whitaker Road.

Mr. Karelus audited the accountant's bank statements for February and March and found things to be in order.

#### GLENFIELD SEWER

A homeowner has a complaint on a sewer back up at his residence on River Street in Glenfield. He said it plugs every year and thinks there is a dip in the line. A video of the line would help find the problem. Mr. Thisse will follow up with Mr. Jones.

#### WHITAKER PARK

A Boy Scout Jamboree is being planned at the park for the weekend of May 19 and approximately 200-300 scouts will be camping there. They will also help with spring clean-up. There is a need to insure that no pedophiles are in the area. Discussion was held on closing the park for the weekend since the scouts would be utilizing all the campsites too. Or, maybe just a portion of the park could be set aside for use by just the boy scouts. The Board agreed it is a good idea to close the park to the public. Mr. Hirschey will post signs and get word out that the Park will be closed to the public May 19, 20, 21. (From 8:00 AM Friday until 8:00 AM Monday.)

Discussion was held on property owned by Michael Nemeth on the Meiss Road. Years ago a town bridge on Lee/Meiss Road was abandoned and a new one put in. There was discussion on whether a land transfer was done at that time. Mr. Nemeth needs clear title to his property. The Clerk is to check the minutes to see if a land transfer was done and/or when. The property was owned by Janusz Karelus at the time.

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT

At the last meeting, it was determined that CDBG funds could be used to fund repairs in the Glenfield Water District. This is the same area (homeowners) that were covered for the housing rehabilitation grant many years ago. Mr. Karelus made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kogut, authorizing the Clerk to cut a check to the Glenfield Water Fund from remaining CDBG funds to pay for repairs on the Glenfield Water tank. All were in favor. Motion carried.

#### UNIFIED SOLAR PERMIT

Mr. Thisse reviewed comments made by Mickey Dietrich regarding a Unified Solar Permit Process for Small-Scale Solar Electric Systems. Lewis County has proposed this permit process. The Clerk is to contact Legislator Kulzer to voice the concern of the board regarding engineering requirements. The board tabled the matter for now until rules are clearer.

#### E CODE

The board reviewed an estimate from General Code to update our online Code book. The estimate is between \$1115 and \$1350 to revise our code and receive sets of printed supplements. Mr. Karelus made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kogut, to authorize General Code to proceed with the supplements and send three sets of printed supplements. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Town Clerk stated her concerns about the drop box which leaks considerably during a rain storm.

Discussion was held on a letter received from the Development Authority of the North Country (DANC). The authority has launched a Community Improvement Demolition Incentive Program that will reduce tipping fees for the disposal of demolition debris at the landfill. The demolition project must be sponsored by a municipality.

Mr. Karelus made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dietrich, authorizing a Deputy Town Clerk to be paid an hourly wage while learning the job of Town Clerk. A rate of \$12.50 was approved at the Organizational Meeting. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Kelley, Town Clerk

