AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF MARTINSBURG CODE, PART 5, GENERAL OFFENSES CODE, CHAPTER 5, ADMINISTRATIVE, BY ADDING ARTICLE 551, REQUIREMENT OF WATCHMAN FOR VACANT OR OPEN BUILDINGS, SECTION 551-01 TO SECTION 551-02.

Section 551.01 Vacant or Open Buildings—Watchman Required

(a) Any person or persons owning, maintaining, operating, collecting rents for, or having any legal or equitable interest in any vacant and open building, or any uncompleted abandoned building, or any vacant boarded-up building or any otherwise enclosed vacant building must have a watchman on duty upon the premises on which any one of such aforementioned buildings is situated every day continuously between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m., unless the building has been secured by methods approved by the City Engineer.

(b) Said watchman required under the provisions of this ordinance shall remain on duty daily during the required hours until such building is either occupied or razed.

Section 551.02 Penalty

(a) Any person who violates the provisions of this section shall be punished by a fine of not less than $100.00 nor more than $300.00 for the first offense and not less than $300.00 nor more than $500.00 for the second and each subsequent offense.

(b) A separate and distinct offense shall be regarded as committed each day on which such person or persons shall violate the provisions of this section.

Be it further Ordained by the City Council of the City of Martinsburg that this Ordinance shall take effect upon the date of adoption.

Introduced: ________________
Adopted: ________________

THE CITY OF MARTINSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA, a Municipal corporation

By: ______________________

__________ Mayor

Attest: