



MINUTES -- CITY COUNCIL CITY OF MARTINSVILLE, VIRGINIA

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Tuesday, November 19, 2024

2:00 pm Executive Session Room 208, Municipal Building

A Closed meeting of the City of Martinsville, Virginia's council, was held on November 19, 2024, at 2 PM in Conference Room 208, Martinsville Municipal Building, Martinsville, VA. Council Members participating included Kathy Lawson, Aaron Rawls, Tammy Pearson, and Mayor Jones. Council member Lawrence Mitchell was absent. Staff present included City Manager Aretha Ferrell-Benavides, HR Director Travis Hodge, Chief Operating Officer Edena Reese-Atmore, City Attorney Designee and Interim Managing Director of Development Eric Payne, Public Works Director Greg Maggard, Management Analyst Sita Conde, Public Information Officer Kendall Davis and Assistant to City Manager Peyton Nibblett.

Mayor Jones called the meeting to order and advised Council would go into Closed Session beginning at 2:00 PM. In accordance with the Code of Virginia, Title 2.2 Chapter 37, Freedom of Information Act and upon a motion by Council Member Lawson and seconded by Council Member Pearson with the following 4-0 recorded vote: Council Member Pearson, aye; Mayor Jones, aye; Vice Mayor Rawls, aye; and Council Member Lawson, aye. Council convened in Closed Session to discuss the following matters: Discussion or consideration of confidential proprietary information and trade secrets developed and held by a local public body providing certain telecommunication services or cable television services and subject to the exclusion in subdivision 18 of § 2.2-3705.6.

- a. Discussion or Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members, attorneys or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, or other specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel, as authorized by Subsection 7.
- b. Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.
- c. Discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community.



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There was no action taken out of the Closed session.

There being no further business, Councilor Pearson motioned to adjourn and Councilor Lawson seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4pm.

4:00 pm EDA Meeting & Joint EDA, City Council Room 208, Municipal Building

A Joint meeting of the City of Martinsville, Virginia's council, and the Martinsville Economic Development Authority was held on November 19, 2024, at 4 PM in Conference Room 208, Martinsville Municipal Building, Martinsville, VA. Council Members participating included Kathy Lawson, Aaron Rawls, Tammy Pearson, and Mayor Jones. Council member Lawrence Mitchell was absent. Economic Development Authority Members participating include Michael Scales, Olivia Garrett, Lee Prillaman, Eric Phillips, Marcus Stone, Ronnie Fultz, and James Frith. City Staff present included City Manager Aretha Ferrell-Benavides, HR Director Travis Hodge, Chief Operating Officer Edena Reese-Atmore, City Attorney Designee and Interim Managing Director of Development Eric Payne, Public Works Director Greg Maggard, Management Analyst Sita Conde, Public Information Officer Kendall Davis and Assistant to City Manager Peyton Nibblett.

Mayor Jones called the meeting to order and advised Council would go into Closed Session beginning at 4:00 PM. In accordance with the Code of Virginia, Title 2.2 Chapter 37, Freedom of Information Act and upon a motion by Council Member Lawson and seconded by Council Member Pearson with the following 4-0 recorded vote: Council Member Pearson, aye; Mayor Jones, aye; Vice Mayor Rawls, aye; and Council Member Lawson, aye. Council convened in Closed Session to discuss the following matters: 2.2-3711.A.5: Discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community. 2.2-3711 A(3) and 2.2-3711 A(6) Discussion concerning items related to the discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real



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property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, as allowed.

Eric Phillips called the meeting to order and advised the Economic Development Authority would go into Closed Session beginning at 4:00 PM. In accordance with the Code of Virginia, Title 2.2 Chapter 37, Freedom of Information Act and upon a motion by Lee Prillaman and seconded by Marcus Stone with the following 5-0 recorded vote: Michael Scales, aye; Olivia Garrett, aye; Lee Prillaman, aye; Eric Phillips, aye; and James Frith, aye. The Economic Development Authority convened in Closed Session to discuss the following matters: 2.2-3711.A.5: Discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community. 2.2-3711 A(3) and 2.2-3711 A(6) Discussion concerning items related to the discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, as allowed.

City Council joint executive session with EDA adjourned at 5pm. There being no further business, Councilor Pearson motioned to adjourn and Councilor Lawson seconded. Economic Development Authority member Michael Scales motioned to adjourn and Lee Prillaman seconded. The joint closed session meeting was adjourned at 5pm.



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5:00 pm Work Session & Briefing Room 208, Municipal Building

1. Discuss Consent Agenda Items

- a. Consider Approval of Minutes, October 22nd
- b. Consider Approval of Sheriff's Honor Guard Donation Appropriation
- c. Consider Approval of Appointment to Children Services Act, Community Policy and Management Team
- d. Consider Second Reading: Request of Right of Way Abandonment Ordinance No. 2024-4
- e. Consider Approval of Police Department HEAT Grant
- f. Consider Approval of Police Department Operation Ceasefire

2. Briefings and Presentations

- a. Briefing of New Non-Emergency Transport Contract with SOVA by Dan Howell, Fire Chief
- b. Briefing of Flood Resilience Study Update by John Turner, EMS
- c. Briefing by Citizen Advisory Board
- d. YMCA Briefing by Brad Kinkema
- e. Discussion of Proposed Charter Changes



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7:00 pm - Regular Session **City Council Chambers, Municipal Building**

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge to the American Flag
3. Invocation
 - a. Invocation Led by Pastor Tony Lopez
4. Proclamations and Presentations
 - a. Presentation of Electric Department Recognition by Managing Director of Administration, Travis Hodge
5. Consent Agenda
 - a. Consider Approval of Minutes, October 22nd, 2024
 - b. Consider Approval of Sheriff's Honor Guard Donation Appropriation
 - c. Consider Approval of Appointment to Children Services Act, Community Policy and Management Team
 - d. Consider Second Reading: Request of Right of Way Abandonment Ordinance No. 2024-4
 - e. Consider Approval of Police Department HEAT Grant
 - f. Consider Approval of Police Department Operation Ceasefire
 - i. Consent Agenda **Approved** by Motion made by Councilor Lawson and Seconded by Councilor Mitchell. Approved with the following vote; Lawson, aye; Mitchell, aye; Pearson, aye; Rawls, aye; and Jones, aye.
6. Public Hearing



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7. Regular Agenda or New Business

a. Discuss and Consider ARPA Funds

i. Final Allocations of ARPA Funds for

1. IT Cyber Security and Network Update
2. SCADA System for Water/Sewer
3. Youth Program Fund FY2025
4. Law Clerk Funding FY2025
5. Economic Development Authority

a. **Approved** by Motion made by Councilor Lawson and Seconded by Councilor Pearson. Approved with the following vote; Lawson, aye; Mitchell, aye; Pearson, aye; Rawls, aye; and Jones, aye.

b. Discuss and Consider Proposed Charter Change and Set Public Hearing Date

- i. **Approved Public Hearing date of December 17th, 2024** by Motion made by Councilor Lawson and Seconded by Councilor Mitchell. Approved with the following vote; Lawson, aye; Mitchell, aye; Pearson, aye; Rawls, aye; and Jones, aye.

8. Actions necessary as a result of the Executive Session

9. Communications from Visitors / Business from the Floor

A. Alexis Heavner, 935 Brookdale St

10. Comments by Members of City Council

11. Communications

- a. City Manager
- b. City Attorney
- c. Financial Update
- d. Public Information Officer

12. Adjournment