



April 1, 2025
Martinsville City Council Meeting Minutes

6:00 pm - Work Session

Council Chambers, Municipal Building

Members Present: Mayor Jones, Vice Mayor Lawson, Aaron Rawls, Julian Mei, & Rayshaun Gravely

1. **Briefings and Presentations**

- a. Commissioner of Revenue, Ruth Easley, Elderly and Disabled Tax Relief Suggestions

b. Total Income Tax Exemption

\$0.00 - \$12,500.00 100%

\$12,501.00 - \$20,000.00 75%

\$20,001.00 - \$27,500.00 50%

\$27,501.00 - \$35,000.00 25%

- i. Motion made by Kathy Lawson to follow through with Ruth Easley's recommendation and for outside legal counsel to begin preparing the ordinance. Seconded by Julian Mei. Approved with a 5:0 vote; Mayor Jones, aye; Vice Mayor Lawson, aye; Councilman Julian Mei, aye; Councilman Aaron Rawls, aye; Councilman Rayshaun Gravely, aye.
- c. Update on Opioid Abatement Authority Funds and Engagement
- i. Presented by Interim Managing Director of Development Eric Payne. An update on the estimated funding, summary of direct distributions received. In addition, spoke on the funds distributed to the Drug Court and the lack of impact the Resolution in the current agenda would have on the program. Martinsville share of the funds would be allocated from the grant money, not city funds.



- ii. Approved with a motion made by Kathy Lawson to apply for Funding to support a Kinship Navigator to serve both Henry County and Martinsville using Opioid Abatement Authority grant funds and Seconded by Julian Mei; Approved with the following vote 5:0 Vote: Julian Mei, aye; Kathy Lawson, aye; Mayor Jones, aye; Rayshaun Gravely, aye; Aaron Rawls, aye.

2. Discuss Consent Agenda Items

- a. Discuss and Consider Approval of March 17, 2025 Meeting Minutes
 - i. Amendment necessary, original motion failed not due to a lack of a second, there was further deliberation and an amended motion was made. Necessary amendment has been made.
- b. Discuss and Consider Approval of March 25, 2025 Meeting Minutes
 - i. Motion to remove minutes from the consent agenda and move to regular agenda for discussion made by Councilman Aaron Rawls and seconded by Councilman Mei. Approved with the following vote: Mayor Jones, aye; Vice Mayor Lawson, aye; Councilman Rawls; aye; Councilman Gravely, aye; Councilman Mei, aye.

7:00 PM - Regular Session

Council Chambers, Martinsville Municipal Building

- 3. Call to Order
- 4. Pledge to American Flag
- 5. Invocation
- 6. Presentations and Proclamations
- 7. Consent Agenda
 - a. Moved to Regular Agenda/ New Business



8. Regular Agenda or New Business

- a. Discuss and Consider Setting a Budget Public Hearing Dates for May 8th, first reading, and May 20th, second reading
 - i. Motion to Approve by Kathy Lawson, Seconded by Aaron Rawls for the purpose of discussion. Rayshaun Gravely
- b. Discuss and Consider Setting a Public Hearing Date of May 13th, 2025 for Real Estate Tax Rate Decrease
 - i. Motion to Approve by Kathy Lawson, Seconded by Aaron Rawls for the purpose of discussion. Councilman Gravely asked for Commissioner of Revenue for comments; recommended advertising for a Public Hearing to be held on May 8th.
 - ii. Motion amended by Kathy Lawson to approve **May 8th** Budget Public Hearing, May 8th Real Estate Tax Rate Posting, May 20th Budget Public Hearing, Second Reading and seconded by Councilman Gravely. Approved with the following 5:0 vote: Councilman Mei, aye; Councilman Gravely, aye; Councilman Councilman Rawls, aye; Vice Mayor Lawson, aye; Mayor Jones, aye.
- c. Discuss and Consider Resolution requesting to apply for Opioid Abatement Authority (OAA) Individual Distribution and Gold Standard funds
 - i. Apply for Funding to support a Kinship Navigator to serve both Henry County and Martinsville using Opioid Abatement Authority grant funds.
 - ii. Approved during briefing earlier in the session.



- d. Discuss and Consider a Resolution of participation for Pre-65 Retirees in the Health insurance plan
 - i. Presentation was given by Managing Director of Administration, Travis Hodge. Spoke on current health insurance and health insurance that will be made available. 10.6% decrease for single, active employees and 41% decrease for retirees. The decreases continue throughout family levels.
 - ii. Motion made by Kathy Lawson to approve the resolution and begin open enrollment and seconded by Rayshaun Gravely. Approved with the following 5:0 vote: Councilman Mei, aye; Councilman Gravely, aye; Councilman Councilman Rawls, aye; Vice Mayor Lawson, aye; Mayor Jones, aye.
 - e. Receive a Presentation of the City's Manager's Proposed Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget
 - f. Discuss and Consider Approval of March 17, 2025 Meeting Minutes
 - i. Amendment necessary, amendment as follows: original motion failed not due to a lack of a second, there was further deliberation and an amended motion was made. Necessary amendment has been made.
 - ii. Motion made by Julian Mei and seconded by Aaron Rawls to Table the minutes. Approved with the following 5:0 vote: Councilman Mei, aye; Councilman Gravely, aye; Councilman Councilman Rawls, aye; Vice Mayor Lawson, aye; Mayor Jones, aye.
 - g. Discuss and Consider Approval of March 25, 2025 Meeting Minutes
 - i. Motion to approve made by Kathy Lawson and seconded by Julian Mei. Approved with the following 5:0 vote: Councilman Mei, aye; Councilman Gravely, aye; Councilman Councilman Rawls, aye; Vice Mayor Lawson, aye; Mayor Jones, aye.
9. Take any action necessary as a result of the Executive session.



10. Business From the Floor
 - a. Morgan Leigh
 - b. Connor Worthington
 - c. John Mahan
 - d. Al Martin
 - e. Caleb Robertson
 - f. Charles Roark
 - g. Dru Rothrock
 - h. Virginia Hairston

11. City Hall Reporting and Announcements
 - a. Public Information Update

12. Comments by Members of Council
13. Comments by City Manager
14. Adjournment
 - a. Mayor made the motion to adjourn at 9 PM.