



Minutes -- CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF MARTINSVILLE, VIRGINIA

6:00 PM
Council Chambers
Martinsville Municipal Building

May 8, 2025
Public Hearing and Budget Workshop
Meeting Minutes

1. Opening
2. Pledge to the American Flag
3. Invocation
 - a. Led by Kathy Lawson
4. Public Hearing on Tax Rate
 - a. Motion to Open Public Hearing made by Kathy Lawson with regards to the Real Estate Tax Rate and seconded by Julian Mei.
 - i. **Approved by 5:0 vote: Mayor Jones, aye; Kathy Lawson, aye; Julian Mei, aye; Rayshaun Gravely, aye; and Aaron Rawls, aye.**
 - b. Motion to Close Public Hearing made by Kathy Lawson and seconded by Julian Mei.
 - i. **Approved by 5:0 vote: Mayor Jones, aye; Kathy Lawson, aye; Julian Mei, aye; Rayshaun Gravely, aye; and Aaron Rawls, aye.**
 - c. Discuss and Consider Approval of Real Estate Tax Rate for FY 25-26
 - i. Motion to Postpone Adoption of Tax Rate to allow for more analysis and Community input until May 13th Council Meeting. Motion made by Julian Mei and seconded by Aaron Rawls.
 - ii. **Approved by 5:0 vote: Mayor Jones, aye; Kathy Lawson, aye; Julian Mei, aye; Rayshaun Gravely, aye; and Aaron Rawls, aye.**
5. Budget Workshop
 - a. A Budget Workshop began in which the new numbers provided by the Commissioner of Revenue were analyzed. No new revenue rate changed from estimated .7212 to .7281.



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- b. Outside Agencies were reviewed with the following determined:
 - i. **Tourism Agencies:** FAHI, Piedmont Arts Association, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Museum of Natural History; LEVEL FUNDING of Previous Year
 - ii. **Mandated Agencies:**
 - 1. Blue Ridge Regional Library: \$335,389
 - 2. Piedmont Community Services: \$65,000
 - 3. MHC Department of Social Services: \$638,151
 - 4. E-911: \$687,077
 - 5. MHC Health Department: \$149,578
 - 6. CSA: \$700,000
 - iii. **Citizen and Community Engagement:**
 - 1. Anchor: Level Funding
 - 2. Boys and Girls Clubs: Level Funding
 - 3. Southside Survivor Response Center: \$13,000
 - 4. Focus on Youth CASA: Level
 - 5. Magistrate: Level
 - 6. Community Storehouse: \$10,000
 - 7. Patrick Henry Community College: Level Funding
 - 8. SPCA: \$20,000
 - 9. South Area Agency on Aging: \$1,481
 - 10. Salvation Army: No funding with an invite to return at a later date
 - 11. Legal Aid Society: No Funding
 - 12. Western VA EMS: Level Funding
 - 13. MHC Warming Shelter: \$35,000
 - iv. **Economic Development:**
 - 1. Blue Ridge Airport: Level Funding
 - 2. CPEG: \$40,000
 - 3. Longwood Small Business Development: \$5,000
 - 4. Chamber Partnership for Economic Growth (Uptown Revitalization): \$30,000 Start Up with Joint Meeting in May/June
 - 5. Uptown Partnership: Level funding
 - 6. West Piedmont Planning District: \$9,122
 - 7. MHC EDC: Level Funding

6. Adjournment

- a. Motion to adjourn made at 9:30 PM