



June 24th, 2025
Martinsville City Council
Meeting Minutes

5:00 pm - Closed, Executive Session Meeting

New College Institute, Gardner Board Room

A Closed meeting of the City of Martinsville, Virginia's Council, was held on June 24th, 2025, at 5:00 PM in Gardner Board Room at New College Institute. Council Members participating included Vice Mayor, Kathy Lawson; Councilman, Julian Mei; Councilman, Rayshaun Gravely; Councilman, Aaron Rawls; and Mayor LC Jones. Staff present included Acting City Manager, Rob Fincher. Mayor Jones called the meeting to order and advised Council would go into Closed Session beginning at 5:00 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 Mei with the following 5-0 recorded vote: Council Member Rawls, aye; Council Member Mei, aye; Mayor Jones, aye; Vice Mayor Lawson, aye; Council Member Gravely, aye. Council convened in Closed Session to discuss the following matters:

- A. 2.2-3711 A (1) Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body; In regards to the City Manager, City Attorney Designee and City Attorney position.
- B. 2.2-3711 A(7) Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body; In regards to current and ongoing litigation matters.
- C. 2.2-3711 A(8) Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to permit the closure of a meeting merely because an attorney representing the public body is in attendance or is consulted on a matter; In regards to personnel disclosures and pending or ongoing reviews of such disclosures.



- D. 2.2-3711 A (1) Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body; In regards to Economic Development Authority Employment MOU.

Certification of Closed Session

Motioned by Lawson and seconded by Gravely, that the City Council certify that only those matters permitted by the Code of Virginia Sec. 2.2-3711 and specifically referenced in the motion to enter closed session were discussed during the closed session. Approved with the following 5-0 vote: Councilman Gravely, aye; Councilman Mei, aye; Councilman Rawls, aye; Vice Mayor Lawson, aye; Mayor Jones, aye. City Council exited from Closed Session at 6:50 PM. Council certifies that only business matters under the following:

- E. 2.2-3711 A (1) Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body; In regards to the City Manager, City Attorney Designee and City Attorney position.
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- H. 2.2-3711 A (1) Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body; In regards to Economic Development Authority Employment MOU.



Action taken as a result of Closed Session;

- a. Motion to authorize Sands Anderson to hire a recommended auditor to assist with legal funds made by Vice Mayor Lawson and Seconded by Councilman Rawls. Motion was approved with the following 5:0 vote; Councilman Rawls, aye; Councilman Gravely, aye; Councilman Mei, aye; Vice Mayor, Lawson aye; Mayor Jones, aye.
- b. Motion to authorize Sands Anderson to prepare MOU for Economic Development Authority for the hiring of the Economic Development Director made by Vice Mayor Lawson and seconded by Councilman Mei. Motion was approved with the following 5:0 vote; Councilman Rawls, aye; Councilman Gravely, aye; Councilman Mei, aye; Vice Mayor, Lawson aye; Mayor Jones, aye.

7:00 PM Work Session: New College Institute

1. Briefings and Presentations
 - a. Police Department Update
 - b. Presentation of Senior Capstone Project

7:10 PM Regular Session: New College Institute

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Invocation
4. Presentations and Proclamation
 - a. Proclamation Honoring Independence Day
 - b. Proclamation Honoring the Lady Bulldogs as Martinsville Middle School Soccer Champions 2025
5. Consent Agenda
 - a. Discuss and Consider June 10, 2025 Meeting Minutes
 - i. Motion was approved with the following 5:0 vote; Councilman Rawls, aye; Councilman Gravely, aye; Councilman Mei, aye; Vice Mayor, Lawson aye; Mayor Jones, aye.



6. Public Hearing

a. Hear Names for School Board Nominations

- i. Motion to open the floor was made by Kathy Lawson and seconded by Councilman Mei. Motion was approved with the following 5:0 vote; Councilman Rawls, aye; Councilman Gravely, aye; Councilman Mei, aye; Vice Mayor, Lawson aye; Mayor Jones, aye.
- ii. Mike Williamson and Sarah Morrison were provided by Councilman Gravely.
- iii. Motion to Close the floor was made by Kathy Lawson and seconded by Councilman Mei. Motion was approved with the following 5:0 vote; Councilman Rawls, aye; Councilman Gravely, aye; Councilman Mei, aye; Vice Mayor, Lawson aye; Mayor Jones, aye.

7. Regular Agenda or New Business

a. Discuss and Consider Nominations for School Board

- i. Pushed to June 26, 2025 Community Meeting

b. Discuss and Consider Resignation From Planning Commission

- i. Motion to approve was made by Julian Mei and seconded by Vice Mayor Lawson. Motion was approved with the following 5:0 vote; Councilman Rawls, aye; Councilman Gravely, aye; Councilman Mei, aye; Vice Mayor, Lawson aye; Mayor Jones, aye.

c. Discuss and Consider Adopting on Second Reading Fy25 Appropriations

- i. Motion to adopt on Second Reading as presented by Kathy Lawson and seconded by Councilman Gravely. Motion was approved with the following 3:2 vote; Councilman Rawls, nay; Councilman Gravely, aye; Councilman Mei, nay; Vice Mayor, Lawson aye; Mayor Jones, aye.



- d. Water Resources Asset Management Plan Presentation
 - i. Given by Dewberry an Asset Management Plan Presentation relating to aging Water and WaseWater Infrastructure for a 10-year span. Decaying infrastructure is cause for concern with a depreciation value of 56% for Water Capital and 39% for WasteWater Capital. Fy 21-25 Capital Outlay Expenditures are less than the cost of depreciation.
- e. Discuss and Consider Contracting with Moseley Inc. for Court Condition Assessment
 - i. An RFP was placed with about 3 applications; Moseley was the winning consultant to do a building assessment/
 - ii. Approval to execute the contract and appropriate the funding from Fund Balance for \$108,000 with a motion by Councilman Rawls and seconded by Councilman Mei. Motion was approved with the following 5:0 vote; Councilman Rawls, aye; Councilman Gravely, aye; Councilman Mei, aye; Vice Mayor, Lawson aye; Mayor Jones, aye.
- f. Discuss and Consider Finalization of 1 Ellsworth Lease Option
 - i. Motion to approve Lease Alternative Payment Option 4 with intention to bring back to Council for final approval made by Councilman Rawls and seconded by Councilman Mei. Motion was approved with the following 5:0 vote; Councilman Rawls, aye; Councilman Gravely, aye; Councilman Mei, aye; Vice Mayor, Lawson aye; Mayor Jones, aye.



- g. Discuss and Consider Ordinance Authorizing Bonuses, Payable out of State Funds for Qualifying Employees of Certain State-Supported Local Agencies
 - i. Motion to Adopt Ordinance with intention to bring back to Council for final approval made by Vice Mayor Lawson and seconded by Councilman Rawls. Motion was approved with the following 5:0 roll call vote; Councilman Rawls, aye; Councilman Gravely, aye; Councilman Mei, aye; Vice Mayor, Lawson aye; Mayor Jones, aye.
- 8. City Hall Reporting
 - a. Munis/Tyler Connect Presentation 2025
 - b. Financial Update
 - i. Audit is Complete and will be brought to Council on July 22nd to present to Council. A copy of the financial report will be sent to Council beforehand.
 - ii. ARPA has been fully caught up on reporting. Money has been encumbered and spent properly. Reports will continue regularly.
- 9. Business from the Floor
- 10. Comments from Council
- 11. Comments from City Manager
- 12. Adjournment
 - a. Mayor Jones made the motion to adjourn at 8:30PM.