



July 23rd, 2025
Martinsville City Council
Special Called, Closed Session Meeting Minutes

5:15pm, Call Open Session to Order -

Martinsville Municipal Building; Council Chambers

As a Continuation of the July 22, 2025 City Council Meeting, where the Special Called Meeting Date of July 23, 2025 was established by City Council; A Special Called, Closed-Session Meeting was held at Martinsville Municipal Building, on July 23, 2025 at 5:15 PM.

Council Members participating included Vice Mayor, Kathy Lawson; Julian Mei, Aaron Rawls, and Mayor LC Jones. Council Member Gravely entered executive session at 5:45PM.

Call Open Session to Order: Mayor Jones called the meeting to order in Council Chambers and advised Council would go into Closed Session beginning at 5:15 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 4-0 recorded vote: Council Member Rawls, aye; Council Member Mei, aye; Mayor Jones, aye; Vice Mayor Lawson, aye; Council convened in Closed Session to discuss the following matters:

- a. 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 City Attorney and City Manager position.
- b. 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 Legal Briefings and ongoing Opioid Litigation.



5:15 PM, Closed Session -

Martinsville Municipal Building; Room 208

Council convened in Closed Session to discuss the following matters:

- a. 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 City Attorney and City Manager position.
- b. 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 Legal Briefings and ongoing Opioid Litigation.

6:55 PM, Return to Open Session and Certification of Closed Session -

Martinsville Municipal Building; Council Chambers

With a Motion by Lawson and Second by Gravely, City Council certifies 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 Rawls, aye;
Councilman Gravely, aye;
Councilman Mei, aye;
Vice Mayor Lawson, aye;
Mayor Jones, aye.

Council certifies that only business matters under the following:

- a. 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 City Attorney and City Manager position.



- b. 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 Legal Briefings and ongoing Opioid Litigation.

6:55 Take Any Action Necessary as a Result of Closed Session

Martinsville Municipal Building; Council Chambers

- a. Discuss and Consider Resolution to approve the City of Martinsville's Participation in the Proposed Settlement of Opioid-Related Claims against Henry Schein, Inc., General Injectables & Vaccines, Inc, and Insource, Inc.
 - i. Motion to authorize City Manager or City Attorney to sign Resolution made by Kathy Lawson and Second by Julian Mei. 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 take action regarding subsection A (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 City Attorney and City Manager position.) in regards to City Manager position following Closed Session Discussion made by Vice Mayor Lawson
 - i. Motion to allocate \$20,000 from General Fund to Brown Edwards for the purpose of a Forensic Audit made by Councilman Rawls and Second by Councilman Mei.
 - ii. Approved with the following 4-1 vote: Councilman Rawls, aye; Councilman Gravely, aye; Councilman Mei, aye; Vice Mayor Lawson, aye; Mayor Jones, nay



- iii. Motion to place City Manager on administrative leave with pay effective immediately. Approved with the following 4-1 vote: Councilman Rawls, aye; Councilman Gravely, aye; Councilman Mei, aye; Vice Mayor Lawson, aye; Mayor Jones, nay.
- iv. Motion to appoint Chief Robert Fincher as Acting City Manager effective immediately until the next Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting made by Kahty Lawson and Second by Julian Mei. Approved with the following 5-0 vote: Councilman Rawls, aye; Councilman Gravely, aye; Councilman Mei, aye; Vice Mayor Lawson, aye; Mayor Jones, aye.

Adjournment

- a. Mayor Jones made the motion to adjourn at 7:05 PM.