

**CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE
CITY OF MARTINSVILLE, VIRGINIA**

Wednesday, August 13, 2025

MINUTES

5:00 PM

Room 208, Municipal Building

Committee Present: Jennifer Bowles, Andy Hall, Gene Teague

Staff Present: Kaylin Hernandez

Absent: Kimble Reynolds, Barbara Seymour

1. Call to Order

2. Regular Agenda or New Business

a) Review of Charter Language Revisions

- Committee members discussed AI-suggested language revisions to the 38th power of Chapter 1, § 2, which pertains to the Martinsville Redevelopment and Housing Authority. Members approved the revisions with minor edits to combine the first and second paragraphs for concision.
- In Chapter 5, § 1 regarding the City Manager, members suggested removing the written notice provision to give greater flexibility to City Council. Members emphasized that there should be a written agreement between the City Council and City Manager in compliance with HR policies regarding contract negotiations.
- In Chapter 6, § 4 regarding the Commonwealth Attorney, Mr. Hall advocated for changing the statement “shall prosecute” to “may prosecute.” He argued that this revision accurately reflects the Code of Virginia and the ability of the Commonwealth Attorney to choose whether to prosecute.
- Members agreed to remove Chapter 6, § 11 due to duplicitous language.
- The section on vacancies, previously located in Chapter 13, § 1, will be moved to Chapter 6 (Constitutional Officers) for better organization.
- Members expressed interest in speaking to City Council regarding Chapter 7, §§ 1-2 to grant Council more flexibility and protections.
- In Chapter 10, § 2, which is newly added, the committee agreed to add a provision on the removal of school board members. The language mirrors state procedures.

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b) Approval of Meeting Minutes, 8/6/2025

- A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Teague, seconded by Ms. Bowles, and approved with a 3-0 vote.

3. Adjournment