



November 18, 2025
Martinsville City Council
Meeting Minutes

5:00pm, Work Session

Martinsville Municipal Building; Council Chambers

A Work Session Meeting was held at Martinsville Municipal Building, on November 18, 2025 at 5:00 PM. The topic of discussion was the Building Facility Condition Assessment Final Results Presented by the Mosely Group, Discussion of Potential Housing Request for Proposal with Identified Vacant Properties, and the City's Upcoming Legislative Agenda.

Council Members participating included Vice Mayor, Kathy Lawson; Julian Mei; Rayshuan Gravely, and Mayor, LC Jones. Council Member Aaron Rawls entered at 5:10 PM.

Moseley Group Topics of Discussion

- Facility Condition Index
 - 11, 365, 565 in Deficiencies vs 12, 367, 080 in Value.
- Municipal Building Space Needs
- Space needs study was conducted with several City and Constitutional Departments. Current Space Needs shortfall of about 47, 532 square ft. The building is classified as being high-priority with need for significant investment to address conditions. Three courtrooms will be adequate to serve caseload projections for the next 20 years.
- Questions from Mosely Group
 - Does renovation exist as a feasible option?
 - In a new building option, will City Administration and Courts be combined in one building?
 - What are available sites for new construction?
- Staff will work with Mosely Group to bring back real-world solutions



- The Interim City Manager met with the County, and they are willing to work with the City toward possible solutions.

Potential Housing Request for Proposal with Identified Vacant Properties Topics of Discussion

- Discussion around issuing possible RFP to developers interested in developing vacant properties in the City of Martinsville
- Selection Committee Composition
- Key Parcels
 - York Street
 - Wingfield
 - Askin
 - Second Street
 - Jordan St
 - Cherry St
 - Boden St
 - Village St
 - Morningside Ln

Legislative Agenda

- Discussion around Legislative Agenda before issuing to the General Assembly. Final edits were made and key priorities included:
- 1% Sales Tax, Penny Tax
- Teacher Retention and Recruitment
- Code Enforcement Efforts
- Affordable Housing
- Infrastructure Improvements

7 PM Regular Session

Martinsville Municipal Building; Council Chambers

Council Members Present: Rawls, Gravely, Mei, Lawson, Jones.

1. Call to Order
 - a. Mayor Jones called the meeting to order beginning at 7PM.
2. Pledge of Allegiance



3. Invocation

- a. Led by Bishop Shasta Carmichael

4. Presentations and Proclamations

- a. Proclamation Honoring December 1, 2025 as World AIDS Day
 - i. Presented to Tom Salyer
- b. Proclamation Honoring November 11, 2025 as Veteran's Day
 - i. Presented to John Rehder, MHC's 2025 Outstanding Military Veteran Award Recipient

5. Consent Agenda

- a. Discuss and Consider October 28, 2025; November 5, 2025; and November 12, 2025
 - i. Motion to Approve October 28, 2025 Minutes and November 2, 2025 made by Kathy Lawson and Second by Councilman Rawls.
 - ii. Approved 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.
 - iii. Motion to Approve November 5, 2025 made by Councilman Rawls and Second by Councilman Mei. Approved with 4-0-1 Vote.
 - Approved with the following 4-0-1 recorded vote:
 - a. Council Member Rawls, aye.
 - b. Council Member Mei, aye;
 - c. Mayor Jones, aye;
 - d. Vice Mayor Lawson, abstain due to not being present at the meeting;
 - e. Council Member Gravely, aye.



iv. Motion to Approve November 12, 2025 made by Councilman Mei and Second by Vice Mayor Lawson.

- Motion to table in order to further consult with legal counsel made by Councilman Mei and Second by Councilman Rawls

a. Approved with the following 5-0- recorded vote:

- i. Council Member Rawls, aye.
- ii. Council Member Mei, aye;
- iii. Mayor Jones, aye;
- iv. Vice Mayor Lawson, aye;
- v. Council Member Gravely, aye.

6. Regular Agenda or New Business

a. Discuss and Consider Authorizing City Manager to Initiate RFP for Temporary Structures for Courts

b. During the Work Session, there was a report from the Mosley Group on the Facility Condition Assessment. Based on this report and the ongoing space issues of the City, there is a need for the City to take action to reorganize the building to better accommodate the basement offices and the courts in the facility. Requesting from Council to issue an RFP for an installation of temporary structures for Court services to take place.

i. Motion to Authorize the Interim City Manager to initiate RFP process for Temporary Structures for Courts made by Vice Mayor Lawson and Second by Councilman Rawls.

ii. Once the RFP is secured, the Interim City Manager will return to Council for cost analysis.

iii. Approved 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.



- c. Discuss and Consider Resolution Approving Request for Statement of Qualifications and Proposals for the Development of Vacant Properties
 - i. Motion to Approve Pending Legal Review made by Vice Mayor Lawson and Second by Councilman Rawls.
 - ii. Approved 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.

- d. Discuss and Consider Adoption of 2026 Legislative Agenda and Authorizer Staff to Submit to State Delegate and Virginia General Assembly
 - i. Motion to Approve and submit to State Delegate and Virginia General Assembly made by Councilman Mei and Second by Vice Mayor Lawson
 - ii. Approved 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.



- e. Discuss and Consider FY25 and FY26 Appropriations Ordinance on Second Reading
 - i. Motion to Approve made by Vice Mayor Lawson and Second by Councilman Gravely.
 - ii. Approved 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.
- f. Discuss and Consider A Resolution Allowing for the Allocation of Audit Completion, Carryover Funds
 - i. Schools have carryover funds in the budget annually due to frugal financial practices. In the past, the Schools have come to Council to use said funds for capital projects. The City of Martinsville is unique in this. Interim City Manager Fincher suggests amending this process to allow for thresholds. Upon Audit Completion, Up to 250,000 automatically goes to Schools for School Board determination, between 250,000.1 up to 500,000 goes to the City General Fund, anything over is split between City and Schools 50/50.
 - ii. Motion to Approve Resolution made by Councilman Mei and Second as Vice Mayor Lawson
 - Approved with the following 5-0 recorded vote:
 - a. Council Member Rawls, aye.
 - b. Council Member Mei, aye;
 - c. Mayor Jones, aye;
 - d. Vice Mayor Lawson, aye;
 - e. Council Member Gravely, aye.



- g. Hold a Public Hearing for and Discuss and Consider FY25 Schools' Appropriations on First Reading
 - i. Motion to Open Public Hearing made by Councilman Mei and Councilman Rawls
 - Approved with the following 5-0 recorded vote:
 - a. Council Member Rawls, aye.
 - b. Council Member Mei, aye;
 - c. Mayor Jones, aye;
 - d. Vice Mayor Lawson, aye;
 - e. Council Member Gravely, aye.
 - ii. Motion to Close Public Hearing made by Vice Mayor Lawson and Second by Councilman Mei.
 - Approved with the following 5-0 recorded vote:
 - a. Council Member Rawls, aye.
 - b. Council Member Mei, aye;
 - c. Mayor Jones, aye;
 - d. Vice Mayor Lawson, aye;
 - e. Council Member Gravely, aye.
 - iii. Motion to Approve on First Reading made by Vice Mayor Lawson and Second by Councilman Mei.
 - Approved with the following 5-0 recorded vote:
 - a. Council Member Rawls, aye.
 - b. Council Member Mei, aye;
 - c. Mayor Jones, aye;
 - d. Vice Mayor Lawson, aye;
 - e. Council Member Gravely, aye.



- h. Hold a Public Hearing for Proposed Charter Amendments and Discuss and Consider Authorizing Submission to the Virginia General Assembly for Approval
 - i. Motion to Open Public Hearing made by Councilman Mei and Seconded by Councilman Gravely.
 - Approved with the following 5-0 recorded vote:
 - a. Council Member Rawls, aye.
 - b. Council Member Mei, aye;
 - c. Mayor Jones, aye;
 - d. Vice Mayor Lawson, aye;
 - e. Council Member Gravely, aye.
 - ii. Motion to Close Public Hearing made by Vice Mayor Lawson and Second by Councilman Gravely.
 - Approved with the following 5-0 recorded vote:
 - a. Council Member Rawls, aye.
 - b. Council Member Mei, aye;
 - c. Mayor Jones, aye;
 - d. Vice Mayor Lawson, aye;
 - e. Council Member Gravely, aye.
 - iii. No Action was taken regarding the Charter. The City Council would like to postpone the discussion.



- i. Discuss and Consider Adoption of Resolution by the Martinsville Redevelopment and Housing Authority Approving Commitment Letter Extension and Loan in Support of Aaron Lofts Affordable Housing Project
 - i. Motion to Recess as Council and Reconvene as Martinsville Redevelopment and Housing Authority made by Vice Chair Lawson and Second by Commissioner Mei.
 - Approved with the following 5-0 recorded vote:
 - a. Council Member Rawls, aye.
 - b. Council Member Mei, aye;
 - c. Mayor Jones, aye;
 - d. Vice Mayor Lawson, aye;
 - e. Council Member Gravely, aye.
 - ii. Motion to Approve Resolution made by Commissioner Lawson and and Second by Commissioner Mei.
 - Approved with the following 5-0 recorded vote:
 - a. Commissioner Rawls, aye.
 - b. Commissioner Mei, aye;
 - c. Chairman Jones, aye;
 - d. Commissioner Lawson, aye;
 - e. Commissioner Gravely, aye.
 - iii. Motion to Adjourn as Martinsville Redevelopment and Housing Authority and Reconvene as Martinsville City Council made by Commissioner Lawson and Second by Commissioner Mei.
 - Approved with the following 5-0 recorded vote:
 - a. Council Member Rawls, aye.
 - b. Council Member Mei, aye;
 - c. Mayor Jones, aye;
 - d. Vice Mayor Lawson, aye;
 - e. Council Member Gravely, aye.



City Hall Reporting and Announcements

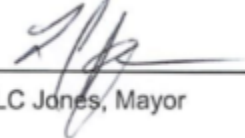
- A. Financial Report
- B. Uptown Sewer Line Repairs
 - a. The Water Department has been making repairs around the Uptown Farmer's Market. The Water Department has been relining the pipes to prevent collapse of dated, clay pipes. This was done meticulously to circumvent the destruction of the Uptown Farmer's Market. Council and Citizens expressed great appreciation for the Water Resources Department.
- C. Events and Announcements

Business From the Floor

- a. None

Adjournment

- a. Vice Mayor Lawson made the motion to adjourn at 9:00 PM.

 12.30.2018

LC Jones, Mayor

Attest:
_____
Deputy Clerk of Council, City of Martinsville



**PROCLAMATION FROM THE CITY OF MARTINSVILLE
HONORING NOVEMBER 11, 2025 AS VETERAN'S DAY**

WHEREAS, Veterans Day is a time to honor and recognize the men and women who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States with courage, dedication, and unwavering commitment to the principles of freedom and democracy; and

WHEREAS, throughout our nation's history, members of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Space Force have answered the call to defend our country in times of peace and conflict; and

WHEREAS, these brave individuals have made countless sacrifices—leaving behind their homes, families, and livelihoods—to protect the liberties and security we enjoy today; and

WHEREAS, the City of Martinsville is proud to be home to many veterans whose leadership, character, and service continue to strengthen our community; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that we join together to express our gratitude and appreciation to all veterans for their service, their families for their support, and those who continue to serve our nation today;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that I, **L.C. Jones, Mayor of the City of Martinsville, Virginia**, do hereby recognize **November 11, 2025**, as ***Veterans Day*** in the City of Martinsville and encourage all residents to honor and remember the service and sacrifice of our veterans through appropriate ceremonies, observances, and acts of gratitude.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Martinsville to be affixed this 18th day of November, 2025.

LC Jones, Mayor
Mayor of the City of Martinsville



PROCLAMATION FROM THE CITY OF MARTINSVILLE RECOGNIZING DECEMBER 1, 2025 AS WORLD AIDS DAY

WHEREAS, World AIDS Day is a solemn reminder of the countless lives forever changed by HIV/AIDS—lives lost too soon, families who have grieved unimaginable loss, and individuals who continue to face this disease with courage, resilience, and hope; and

WHEREAS, since the earliest days of the epidemic, communities across the nation and around the world have united to confront stigma, challenge fear, and lift the voices of those often unheard—reminding us that compassion is as essential as any treatment; and

WHEREAS, the City of Martinsville recognizes that behind every statistic is a person: a neighbor, a friend, a loved one—each deserving dignity, understanding, and access to the care that allows them to live long, fulfilling lives; and

WHEREAS, advancements in medicine have given us powerful tools to prevent transmission, improve health outcomes, and envision a future where HIV is no longer a threat—yet these advances can only achieve their promise when all members of our community have equitable access to education, testing, and treatment; and

WHEREAS, on this day, we honor the tireless advocates, caregivers, medical professionals, families, and survivors who have carried the weight of this epidemic on their shoulders and who continue to insist that no one stands alone in their struggle; and

WHEREAS, World AIDS Day calls each of us to reaffirm our shared humanity, to confront stigma with truth, to meet fear with compassion, and to work together toward a world where every life is valued and every voice is heard;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, L. C. Jones, Mayor of the City of Martinsville, Virginia, do hereby proclaim December 1, 2025, as **WORLD AIDS DAY** in the City of Martinsville and urge all residents to reflect, remember, and recommit themselves to the work of building a healthier, more compassionate, and more just community for all.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, this 18th Day of November, 2025.

LC Jones, Mayor
Mayor of the City of Martinsville