



December 16, 2025
Martinsville City Council
Meeting Minutes

5:30pm, Work Session

Martinsville Municipal Building; Council Chambers

A Workshop was held at Martinsville Municipal Building, on December 16, 2025 at 5:30 PM. The topic of further discussion was the Building Facility Condition Assessment Final Results Presented on November 18, 2025 by the Mosely Group and Identification of Potential Relocation Options.

Council Members participating included Vice Mayor, Kathy Lawson; Julian Mei; Aaron Rawls; Rayshuan Gravely, and Mayor, LC Jones.

Moseley Group Topics of Discussion on **November 18, 2025**

- 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?
 - What is the level of priority for the jail?
 - Aaron Chupp of the Mosley Group spoke on the requirements. Whenever there is a renovation of a jail that increases bed count by 1 or increases by 5M. Must do a Community Based Process Plan. For next year, the study



would begin at the top of the year with a submission date of December 2026 and the state would review with an answer by 2027 for input into the 2028 Budget.

- Discussion led by Councilman Rawls centered around the ongoing process of the temporary relocation of the lower-floor employees and the necessity of improving the City Jail.
- Mayor Jones asked about the plans of working with the County to include the jails and court offices. Rob Fincher stated that The County is willing to work with the City as it relates to the Courts and jails.
- Councilman Mei would like to work with the County to explore possible options. A “team-up” would be mutually beneficial to both the City and the County.
- Greg Maggard said that the City is exploring the possibility of repurposing dilapidated lots on the intersection of Market and Moss in order to suit space needs for judicial spaces.
- Mayor Jones asked for staff’s top two suggestions. Chief Fincher said to prioritize the joint space-needs project with the County and to prioritize the potential development of Market and Moss.
- Greg Maggard and Aaron Chupp will work on an RFP for the Jail Study.

6PM Closed Session

With a Motion Kathy Lawson and Second by Rayshaun Gravely, City Council convened in Closed Session to discuss the following matters:

- A. 2.2-3711(A7) With regard to facility show-cause order. 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.



- B. 2.2-3711(A8) With regard to facility show-cause order. Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.
- C. 2.2-3711(A1) With regard to City Manager, City Attorney, and City Clerk Positions. And with regard to Boards and Commissions Applications. 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; and evaluation of performance of departments or schools of public institutions of higher education where such evaluation will necessarily involve discussion of the performance of specific individuals.

Approved with the following 5-0 vote:

Councilman Rawls, aye;
Councilman Gravely, aye;
Councilman Mei, aye;
Vice Mayor Lawson, aye;
Mayor Jones, aye.

All members of the City Council were present. Staff participating included the Law Offices of Sands Anderson, Managing Director of Public Works, Greg Maggard; Interim City Manager, Robert Fincher; and Deputy City Clerk, Peyton Nibblitt.

All City Staff exited for the discussion of: Section C; 2.2-3711(A1) With regard to City Manager, City Attorney, and City Clerk Positions. And with regard to Boards and Commissions Applications. 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; and evaluation of performance of departments or schools of public institutions of higher education where such evaluation will necessarily involve discussion of the performance of specific individuals.



Certification of Closed Session

With a Motion by Kathy Lawson and Second by Rayshaun Gravley, 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.

Martinsville City Council certifies that only business matters under the following were discussed:

- A. 2.2-3711(A7) With regard to facility show-cause order. 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.
- B. 2.2-3711(A8) With regard to facility show-cause order. Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.
- C. 2.2-3711(A1) With regard to City Manager, City Attorney, and City Clerk Positions. And with regard to Boards and Commissions Applications. 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; and evaluation of performance of departments or schools of public institutions of higher education where such evaluation will necessarily involve discussion of the performance of specific individuals.



7 PM Regular Session

Martinsville Municipal Building; Council Chambers

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

- Call to Order
 - Mayor Jones called the meeting to order beginning at 7PM.
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Invocation
 - Led by Pastor Charles Whitfield
- Presentations and Proclamations
 - Annual Presentation from the Youth Advisory Committee
- Consent Agenda
 - Discuss and Consider November 16, 2025 Minutes
 - Motion to Approve by Vice Mayor Lawson and Second by Councilman Mei. Approved with 5-0 Vote.
 - Approved with the following 5-0 recorded vote:
 - Council Member Rawls, aye.
 - Council Member Mei, aye;
 - Mayor Jones, aye;
 - Vice Mayor Lawson,
 - Council Member Gravely, aye.
- Regular Agenda or New Business
 - A. Discuss and Consider 2026 Meeting Schedule
 - a. Motion to Adopt City Council Meeting Schedule with November 10, 2026 as only Meeting in November and December 8, 2026 as only regular meeting in December. December 29, as Swearing in of new members.



b. Motion to Approve by Vice Mayor Lawson and Second by Councilman Mei. Approved with 5-0 Vote.

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

- Council Member Rawls, aye.
- Council Member Mei, aye;
- Mayor Jones, aye;
- Vice Mayor Lawson,
- Council Member Gravely, aye.

B. Discuss and Consider 2026 City Council Meeting Inclement Weather Resolution

a. Motion to Approve by Vice Mayor Lawson and Second by Councilman Mei. Approved with 5-0 Vote.

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

- Council Member Rawls, aye.
- Council Member Mei, aye;
- Mayor Jones, aye;
- Vice Mayor Lawson,
- Council Member Gravely, aye.

C. Discuss and Consider an Ordinance Repealing Section 2.4 of the City Code on First Reading

a. Motion to Adopt on First Reading made by Vice Mayor Lawson and Second by Councilman Mei. Approved with 5-0 Vote.

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

- Council Member Rawls, aye.
- Council Member Mei, aye;
- Mayor Jones, aye;
- Vice Mayor Lawson,
- Council Member Gravely, aye.

D. Discuss and Consider Boards and Commissions Manual

a. Motion to Adopt by Councilman Mei and Second by Councilman Gravely. Approved with 5-0 Vote.



- i. Approved with the following 5-0 recorded vote:
 - Council Member Rawls, aye.
 - Council Member Mei, aye;
 - Mayor Jones, aye;
 - Vice Mayor Lawson,
 - Council Member Gravely, aye.
- E. Discuss and Consider Outside Agency Funding Policy
 - a. Council will discuss for first meeting in January
- F. Discuss and Consider Appointments to City Boards and Commissions
 - a. Motion to Table until First Meeting In January made by Vice Mayor Lawson and Second by Councilman Rawls
 - i. Approved with the following 5-0 recorded vote:
 - Council Member Rawls, aye.
 - Council Member Mei, aye;
 - Mayor Jones, aye;
 - Vice Mayor Lawson,
 - Council Member Gravely, aye.
- G. Discuss and Consider Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the Donation of City-Owned Real Property to the Economic Development Authority of the City of Martinsville, Virginia
 - a. EDA has been involved in the development of the Armory property on Commonwealth Blvd. The EDA has been in conversation with a particular developer and the developer desires that the EDA have ownership of the property specified.
 - b. Motion to Approve Resolution Authorizing the Conveyance made by Vice Mayor, Kathy Lawson with a second by Councilman, Julian Mei.
 - i. Motion Amended to Approve Contingent upon change to clawback clause of Resolution to four years and 6 months instead of 3 years.
 - c. Amended Motion Approved with the following 4-0-1 vote:



- Councilman Rawls, aye;
- Councilman Gravely, aye;
- Councilman Mei, aye;
- Vice Mayor Lawson, aye;
- Mayor Jones, abstain,

H. Discuss and Consider FY25 Schools' Appropriations on Second Reading

- a. Motion to Approve Schools' Appropriations on Second Reading made by Kathy Lawson and Second by Council Mei.
- b. Approved with the following 5-0 vote:
 - Councilman Rawls, aye;
 - Councilman Gravely, aye;
 - Councilman Mei, aye;
 - Vice Mayor Lawson, aye;
 - Mayor Jones, aye.

I. Hold a Public Hearing for and Subsequently Discuss and Consider E-911 Appropriation Ordinance on First Reading

- a. Motion to Open for a Public Hearing made by Vice Mayor Lawson and Second by Councilman 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 Close Public Hearing made by Councilman Mei and Second by Vice Mayor Lawson.

- b. Approved with the following 5-0 vote:

- Councilman Rawls, aye;
- Councilman Gravely, aye;
- Councilman Mei, aye;
- Vice Mayor Lawson, aye;
- Mayor Jones, aye.



c. Motion to Approve on First Reading made by Councilman Mei and Second by Kathy Lawson.

d. Approved with the following 5-0 vote:

- Councilman Rawls, aye;
- Councilman Gravely, aye;
- Councilman Mei, aye;
- Vice Mayor Lawson, aye;
- Mayor Jones, aye.

J. Hold a Public Hearing for and Subsequently Discuss and Consider First Piedmont Refuse Fees on First Reading

a. Motion to Open for a Public Hearing made by Vice Mayor Lawson and Second by Councilman 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 Close Public Hearing made by Councilman Mei and Second by Vice Mayor Lawson.

b. Approved with the following 5-0 vote:

- Councilman Rawls, aye;
- Councilman Gravely, aye;
- Councilman Mei, aye;
- Vice Mayor Lawson, aye;
- Mayor Jones, aye.

c. Motion to Approve on First Reading made by Councilman Mei and Second by Kathy Lawson.

d. Approved with the following 5-0 vote:

- Councilman Rawls, aye;
- Councilman Gravely, aye;
- Councilman Mei, aye;
- Vice Mayor Lawson, aye;
- Mayor Jones, aye.



City Hall Reporting and Announcements

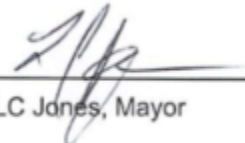
- A. Events and Announcements
- B. Refuse Update
- C. Financial Report

Business From the Floor

- a. None

Adjournment

- a. Vice Mayor Lawson made the motion to adjourn at 8:30 PM.



LC Jones, Mayor

Attest:


Deputy Clerk of Council, City of Martinsville