May 6, 2026
Martinsville City Council
Special Called Session
Meeting Minutes

Call Open Session to Order – 5:30PM Martinsville Municipal Building; Council Chambers

The City of Martinsville City Council met on May 6, 2026 at 5:30 pm in Council Chambers, in the Martinsville Municipal Building located at 55 W Church St, Martinsville VA to participate in School Budget Workshops with the City Schools and School Board.

Members in Attendance: Mayor Jones, Vice Mayor Lawson, and Councilman Mei. Councilman Gravely entered at 5:40 PM. Councilman Rawls was absent.

City School Budget Workshops were held with the City Council. Dr. Talley, School Superintendent, and Travis Clemmons, City Schools' Chief Administrative Officer, went over their proposed budget for the year. The City Schools anticipate a revenue increase of $1,223,486 for the upcoming year from the following sources of revenue: Local Funds, State Funds, State Sales Tax, State Grants, Adult Ed Regional Funds, and Recovered Costs.

Requests from the Principals were submitted to the Superintendent as follows:

- Clearview: Furniture for $11, 275
- Albert Harris: $356, 440
    - SPED Transition Teacher
    - Full-Time Substitute Teacher
    - Math Coach
    - Resource Paraprofessional
    - SPED Paraprofessional
    - Bus Monitors
- Patrick Henry Elementary: Gifted Teacher for $80,000 (split with Albert Harris)
- Martinsville High School: Reading Specialist for $85,000

Requests from the School Division's were submitted to the Superintendent as follows:

Technology: $155, 178
- Annual Replacement
- Help Desk
- Professional Development n
- Salary Adjustments
- Replacement Peripherals
- Cybersecurity

Safety and Security: $50, 180
- Window Armor
- Camera System
- Drone Safety Program

Transportation: $204, 000
- SPED Bus
- Regular Bus
- Salary Adjustment

Student Services:$124, 256
- Salary Adjustments
- Attendance Support
- Support Position

Instruction: $320, 000
- Teachers at Middle School for Advanced Coursework

Superintendent Talley also spoke on the necessary need for a Teacher Salary Scale Adjustment. The City currently provided better starting salary but falls behind quickly at the 5 and 10 year marks for Step/ Tiered Pay. This trend also follows suit for paraprofessional staff.

Overview of School Capital Needs

- High Priority
  - AHES Roofing Replacements
  - Replace Bard Units at CELC
  - Druid Hills Roof Replacement
  - Replace Electrical Panels at Druid Hills
  - Replace Second Boiler at MHS
  - HVAC Infrastructure at MMS
  - Annual Bus Replacements (2 per year)
- Second Tier
  - Playground replacements at AHES and PHES
  - Replace track at MHS
  - New parking lot beside MMS gym
  - Roof Replacement for Vocational Building
  - Ongoing LED lighting upgrade division-wide
  - Fire alarm replacement at AHES
  - Restroom upgrades division-wide
  - Stormwater drainage study
  - Continue asbestos abatements, carpet, and tile replacements
  - Add modular unit at PHES
  - Move Bus Garage to new location

Of the Budget Requests, the City Schools presented the following:

Anticipated Revenues $30, 611, 809
Anticipated Expenditures $30, 790, 155
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Variance of $178, 346

The City Schools receive $6, 370, 983 from the City annually, they are requesting from City Council and City Manager an additional $178, 346 to make up for the variance.

City Manager, Rob Fincher, stated at this time that the City is working to absorb the cost of the Health Insurance increase for the City Schools, and match the level the City is absorbing for City Employees.

The City School's Budget Workshop ended at 6:10 PM.

As this was the last planned Budget Workshop, City Manager Fincher then opened the discussion with the City Council to discuss edits for the Total City Budget.

In an effort to reach consensus on the Contributions to Outside Agencies portion of the annual City Budget, Mayor Jones opened discussion to Council on the topic of accepting the City Manager's proposed funding for the remaining, non-mandated outside organizations, a cut of 4% to each Outside Agency.

Vice Mayor Lawson asked about the amount to return all Non-mandated Outside Agencies back to level funding, as opposed to the proposed 4% reduction. This would be a net increase of about $53,000

All members in attendance consented to have the budget reflect the 4% returned to all outside agencies, except for those proposed to have no funding by the City Manager or those not receiving funds in the past fiscal year.

The City Manager and Chief Finance Officer will work to create a Proposed Budget reflective of the consensus reached.

1. Adjournment
    a. Meeting concluded at 6:45 PM

Julian Mei, Councilmember

5-12-26

Rayshaun Gravely, Councilmember

Kathy Lawson, Vice Mayor

5-12-26

LC Jones, Mayor

Attest:

Deputy Clerk of Council, City of Martinsville