



June 9, 2026
Martinsville City Council
Meeting Minutes

Call Open Session to Order - 5:30pm, Council Chambers; Municipal Building; 55 W Church St, Martinsville VA

Council Members in Attendance: Mayor Jones, Kathy Lawson, Julian Mei Rayshaun Gravely, Aaron Rawls.

a. Discuss and Consider Motion to go into Closed Session. Motion made by Vice Mayor Lawson and Second by Councilman Mei. Council convened in Closed Session with the Following 5-0 vote.

- Councilman Rawls: aye
- Councilman Gravely; aye
- Councilman Mei; aye
- Vice Mayor Lawson; aye
- Mayor Jones; aye

Closed Session 5:30pm, Rm 226; Municipal Building

City Council met in closed session beginning at 6:00pm to discuss the following:

- a. 2.2-3711 (A1) 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. With regard to School Board Interviews and Boards and Commissions Applicants.
- b. 2.2-3711 (A7 & A8) 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. For the purposes of this subdivision, "probable litigation" means litigation that has been



specifically threatened or on which the public body or its legal counsel has a reasonable basis to believe will be commenced by or against a known party. Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. With Regard to Facility Show-Cause Order.

The following City Council Members were in attendance: Kathy Lawson, Rayshaun Gravely, Julian Mei, Aaron Rawls, and Mayor Jones.

Staff in attendance were City Manager, Robert Fincher; City Attorney Representative, Stephen Durbin of Sands Anderson; Greg Maggard, Director of Public Works; Peyton Nibblett, Deputy City Clerk.

Consultants from Mosely Group were also present.

Return to Open Session and Certification of Closed Session - 7:00pm, Council Chambers; Municipal Building

A. Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Lawson, and second by Councilman Mei, City Council certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge:

(i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under Section 2.2-3711; and

(ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting by Council.

B. Approved with the following 5-0 vote.

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



Regular Session - 7:10pm, Council Chambers

Attendance: All members were in attendance.

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Invocation
 - Led by Pastor Greg Hodges
- Take Any Action Necessary as A Result of the Executive Session
 - Motion to appoint to the following Boards and Commission made by Councilman Mei and Second by Vice Mayor Lawson:
 - Dr. Suzanne Ballard to the Arts and Cultural Commission for a term ending December 31, 2028
 - Councilman Mei; aye
 - Councilman Gravely; aye
 - Councilman Rawls; aye
 - Vice Mayor Lawson; aye
 - Mayor Jones; abstain
 - Reason Stated: Does not know the applicant.
 - Joseph Martin to Planning Commission for a term ending December 31, 2028
 - Councilman Mei; aye
 - Councilman Gravely; aye
 - Councilman Rawls; aye
 - Vice Mayor Lawson; aye
 - Mayor Jones; aye
 - Brenell Thomas to Planning Commission for a term ending December 31, 2028
 - Councilman Mei; aye
 - Councilman Gravely; aye
 - Councilman Rawls; aye
 - Vice Mayor Lawson; aye
 - Mayor Jones; aye



- Johnathan Martin to Planning Commission for a term ending December 31, 2028
 - Councilman Mei; aye
 - Councilman Gravely; aye
 - Councilman Rawls; aye
 - Vice Mayor Lawson; aye
 - Mayor Jones; aye
- Presentations and Proclamations
 - Proclamation Honoring Juneteenth Presented to FAHI
 - Proclamation Honoring June as National Sanitation Worker Month Presented to City's Refuse and Wastewater Departments
- Regular Agenda or New Business
 - Discuss and Consider Items of Consent
 - Confirmation of the Following Meeting Minutes:
 - May 26, 2026
 - Upon a Motion by Vice Mayor Lawson and Second by Councilman Mei, Items of Consent Approved with the following 5-0 vote:
 - Councilman Mei; aye
 - Councilman Rawls; aye
 - Councilman Gravely; aye
 - Vice Mayor Lawson; aye
 - Mayor Jones; aye

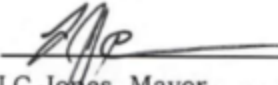


- Discuss and Consider Ordinance No. 2026-9, Rezoning Approximately 13.05 Acres of Property along Chatham Heights Road and Bob Gregory Street from "C-C, Commercial Corridor" and "R-N, Neighborhood Residential" to "R-T, Residential Transitional" on Second Reading
 - Motion from Vice Mayor Lawson to approve on second reading and Second by Councilman Mei.
 - Approved with the following 5-0 vote:
 - Councilman Mei; aye
 - Councilman Gravely; aye
 - Councilman Rawls; aye
 - Vice Mayor Lawson; aye
 - Mayor Jones; aye
- Discuss and Consider Approval of a Resolution Supporting a CDBG Planning Grant Application for the Lester Family YMCA
 - a. Motion by Vice Mayor Lawson to approve, Second by Vice Mayor Lawson. Approved with the following 5-0 vote:
 - Councilman Mei; aye
 - Councilman Gravely; aye
 - Councilman Rawls; aye
 - Vice Mayor Lawson; aye
 - Mayor Jones; aye
- Discuss and Consider Adoption of Budget Ordinance for FY 26-27 on First Reading
 - a. Motion to approve on first reading from Vice Mayor Lawson and Second by Councilman Gravely. Approved on First Reading with the following 3-2 vote:
 - Councilman Mei; aye
 - Councilman Gravely; aye
 - Councilman Rawls; no
 - Vice Mayor Lawson; aye
 - Mayor Jones; no

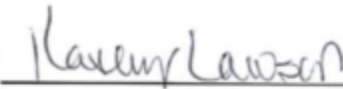


Adjournment

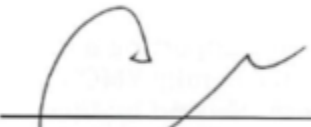
A. Motion to adjourn made by Vice Mayor Lawson at 8:30pm.



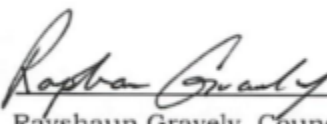
LC Jones, Mayor



Kathy Lawson, Vice Mayor



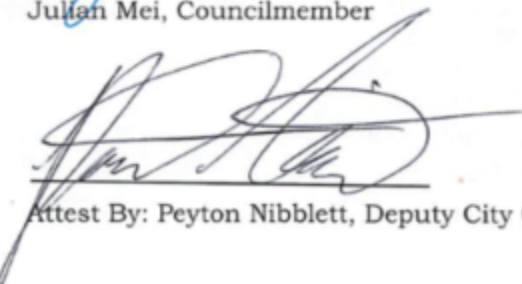
Aaron Rawls, Councilmember



Rayshaun Gravely, Councilmember



Julian Mei, Councilmember



Attest By: Peyton Nibblett, Deputy City Clerk