

AGENDA--CITY COUNCIL CITY OF MARTINSVILLE, VIRGINIA

Council Chambers – Municipal Building
6:30pm Closed Session 7:00pm Regular Session
Thursday November 4, 2021

6:30 pm - Closed Session

Items to be considered in Closed Session, in accordance with the Code of Virginia, Title 2.2, Chapter 37—Freedom of Information Act, Section 2.2-3711(A)—Closed Meetings, the following:

- A. Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members, attorneys or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, or other specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel, as authorized by Subsection 7.

7:00 pm - Regular Session

Pledge to the American Flag and Invocation by Council Member Pearson

1. Consider adoption of an ordinance on first reading, approving the Voluntary Settlement Agreement for Reversion, and authorizing filing of Petition. (15 mins)
2. Consider setting a schedule to conduct a series of public meetings to provide information on various reversion topics. (15 mins)
3. Consider information related to the 2022 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) list. (15 mins)
4. Hear an update on a number of projects. (20 mins)

5. Business from the Floor -

The public comment portion of the Council meeting provides citizens the opportunity to discuss matters relevant to the operation of the City, which are not listed on the printed agenda.

Citizens who wish to participate in a meeting's public comment period may do so by emailing their comments to Karen Roberts, Clerk of Council, at kroberts@ci.martinsville.va.us, calling in their comments to 276-403-5182, faxing comments to 276-403-5280, or mailing comments to City of Martinsville, attn.: Karen Roberts, P.O. Drawer 1112, Martinsville, VA 24114. *Comments must be received by 12:00noon Wednesday November 3.* Citizens may also request to speak at the Council meeting in the same manner. Comments, or a request to speak, must be received by noon the day before a Council meeting for consideration by Council at the meeting.

Any person submitting comments or requesting to speak must identify themselves by name and address, including zip code, limit their remarks to 3 minutes or less (as read aloud), address a topic of City business, and **refrain from making any personal references or accusations of a factually false and/or malicious nature.** Priority for comments is given to City residents, taxpayers, and business owners. Speakers may not yield time. Groups of speakers on the same topic must designate a single representative. Comments violating these rules may not be presented at the Council meeting. Any speaker violating these rules may be removed from the podium or from the Council chamber.

This policy does not apply to public hearings, at which any citizen of Martinsville may appear and speak on the subject of the public hearing.

6. Comments by members of City Council. (5 minutes)
7. Comments by City Manager and City Attorney. (5 minutes)

Date: November 4, 2021

Item No: 1.

Department: City Attorney

Issue: Consider adoption of an ordinance on first reading, approving the Voluntary Settlement Agreement for Reversion, and authorizing filing of Petition.

Summary: Establishing more detail to the MOU mediated by the City & County and approved in June, a Voluntary Settlement Agreement (VSA) has since been negotiated, reviewed by the Commission on Local Government which conducted a public hearing and issued its own Report recommending the reversion process proceed. Council has since conducted another public hearing. The Ordinance approves this VSA and logistical details for filing the Petition for a Special to Court to grant final approval.

Attachments: Draft ordinance.

Recommendations: Adoption on first reading at Council's pleasure, by roll call vote. Unless Council decides otherwise, final adoption on second reading will occur at Council's November 9th meeting.

CITY OF MARTINSVILLE, VIRGINIA

ORDINANCE No. 2021-R/U-1

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT A VOLUNTARY SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT OF TOWN STATUS ISSUES BETWEEN THE CITY AND HENRY COUNTY, VIRGINIA, AND TO PETITION AN APPROPRIATE CIRCUIT COURT FOR AN ORDER AFFIRMING, VALIDATING, AND GIVING FULL FORCE AND EFFECT TO THE AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, in August 2021, the City of Martinsville (“City”) and the County of Henry (“County”) approved a Voluntary Settlement Agreement between the City of Martinsville and the County of Henry (the “Agreement”), which constituted a Voluntary Settlement Agreement authorized by Chapter 34 of Title 15.2 of the Code of Virginia (§ 15.2-3400 et seq.); and

WHEREAS, the Agreement provides for the reversion of the City to town status within Henry County and addresses the allocation of governmental services following that change in governmental structure, the transfer of certain properties, the sharing of certain revenues, a temporary moratorium of annexation rights, and other matters; and

WHEREAS, in August 2021, the City and the County presented the Agreement to the Commission on Local Government (the “Commission”), which conducted a hearing in September 2021 as required by law and issued its findings and recommendations in a Report dated October 2021; and

WHEREAS, the City conducted a duly advertised public hearing to take citizen comments concerning both the Agreement and the Commission Report on October 26, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 34 of Title 15.2 of the Code of Virginia (§ 15.2-3400 et seq.) requires the City and the County, subsequent to the Commission’s review, to approve the Agreement by ordinance passed by a recorded vote of the majority of the members of each governing body after a duly advertised public hearing on the Agreement, and thereafter to petition an appropriate Circuit Court for an order affirming, validating, and giving full force and effect to the Agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia,

1. The City Council, by this Ordinance, approves and adopts the Agreement, a copy of which is attached hereto, pursuant to Chapter 34 of Title 15.2 of the Code of Virginia (§ 15.2-3400 et seq.).
2. The City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager and the City’s legal counsel to petition an appropriate Circuit Court for an order, pursuant to Chapter 34 of Title 15.2 of the Code of Virginia (§ 15.2-3400 et seq.), affirming, validating, and giving full force and effect to the Agreement.

3. The City Manager and the City's legal counsel shall take all other actions and employ such special consultants as may be needed to obtain the necessary Court approval of the Agreement.
4. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect on the date of its adoption.

Adopted this ____ day of _____, 2021.

* * * * *

Attest:

Karen Roberts, *Clerk of Council*

Date: November 4, 2021

Item No: 2.

Department: City Attorney

Issue: Consider setting a schedule to conduct a series of public meetings to provide information on various reversion topics.

Summary: As everyone is aware, there are still many questions, misconceptions, and misinformation about the reversion process throughout the community. In an effort to engage citizens and provide correct information about the process, a draft schedule with times/dates and various reversion topics for a series of public meetings is provided for Council's consideration.

As noted in the attachment, a registration process for citizens desiring to attend is suggested to maintain limits on attendance for safety purposes.

Attachments: Draft "Conversations about Reversion" schedule

Recommendations: This information being presented with staff's recommendation that Council strongly consider the attached schedule, subject to any changes or modifications Council deems appropriate. A motion to approve (voice vote) the schedule and topics is appropriate.

Conversations about Reversion

There are many questions, misconceptions and misinformation about the reversion process floating around our community. Martinsville City Council wishes to engage our citizens in a conversation about the process, to answer questions, and to clear up the false information.

These conversations will consist of a brief introduction followed by an informal conversation with questions and answers. Council members and members of city staff will be present. The sessions will last for one hour.

To ensure both an informal atmosphere and an opportunity for citizens to be heard, and to maintain health safety, these sessions will require pre-registration by name and address, and will be limited to one dozen citizen participants for each session.

Any citizen wishing to register to attend a session may do so by contacting Karen Roberts, Clerk of Council, at kroberts@ci.martinsville.va.us, calling 276-403-5182, faxing 276-403-5280, or mailing City of Martinsville, attn.: Karen Roberts, P.O. Drawer 1112, Martinsville, VA 24114. Registration must be made by noon the day before each session, and will be filled on a first-come, first served basis. Preference will be given to citizens of the City. All sessions will be televised on MGTV-21 and linked on the City website and social media.

The sessions are all in Council Chambers, 55 East Church Street, second floor, as follows:

The Reversion Process	Tuesday, November 16, 2021	6:00-7:00 p.m.
Schools	Tuesday, December 7, 2021	6:00-7:00 p.m.
Town / City changes	Tuesday, January 4, 2022	6:00-7:00 p.m.
Taxation & Finances	Tuesday, January 25, 2022	6:00-7:00 p.m.
Jail, Courts, & Justice	Tuesday, February 1, 2022	6:00-7:00 p.m.

Meeting Date: November 4, 2021
Item No: 3.
Department: Community Development

Issue: Consider information related to the 2022 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) list.

Summary: Each year, the City has the option of adding, modifying, or deleting projects on the CEDS list to reflect changing local needs and priorities.

As with years past, the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) requires that the WPPDC Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) annual report be submitted by March 31 to align with the PDC's planning grant. In light of this timeframe, WPPDC is requesting that each jurisdiction determine their respective project priority list in order to meet the necessary deadline for the 2022 document update.

Attachment: Excerpt of 2021 CEDS document listing projects specific to Martinsville. Highlighted green is priority #1; yellow #2; and blue #3.

Recommendation: This is being placed on Council's agenda at this time simply for discussion purposes. Approval of the 2022 CEDS project list will occur at the December 14 Council meeting. Any changes to the list will need to be incorporated into the final approved document.

Revitalization of Uptown Business District--City of Martinsville	1/III Incentivize small businesses (interior makeover/elevator)	EDA	\$900,000	\$900,000	Positive	80
Revitalization of Uptown Business District--City of Martinsville	1/II Construct/ retrofit condos/apartments in Uptown	EDA	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Positive	15
		DHCD	\$300,000			
		VHDA	\$500,000			
		City	\$200,000			
Neighborhood Revitalization Project West End/Pine Hall Road Neighborhood in Martinsville	1/IV Housing rehab; creation of community space	CDBG	\$1,000,000	\$1,250,000	Positive	Indirect
		Local	\$250,000			
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District--City of Martinsville	1/II Purchase blighted properties on Starling Avenue and adaptively reuse	HUD/NSP	\$700,000	\$1,000,000	Positive	20/Indirect
		HTC	\$300,000			
Southside Community Park Upgrading--City of Martinsville	1/III Upgrade existing four (4) fields to accommodate youth and collegiate softball and baseball tournaments. This would include new lighting where necessary, upgrade concession stand and new sports surfaces.	DCR	\$200,000	\$3,000,000	Positive	N/A
		EDA	\$600,000			
		ARC	\$150,000			
		VTC	\$750,000			
		Other	\$1,300,000			
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District--City of Martinsville	1/IV Purchase blighted properties, prepare site for development (Draper - West Church Street) - City of Martinsville	Brownfield	\$400,000	\$825,000	Unknown	100/Indirect
		EDA	\$325,000			
		City	\$100,000			
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District--City of Martinsville	1/III Rives Road Site Development- full site development including A & E, site grading	EDA	\$1,400,000	\$1,400,000	Positive	400
Community Development Projects--	1/III Further develop lots- at Clearview Business Park	EDA	\$750,000	\$750,000	Positive	200+

City of Martinsville to prepare for companies- Parcels 2 & 4

Community Development Project - City of Martinsville	1/V	Recruit manufacturers of Clean Energy Components to Martinsville Area and Enterprise Zone	EDA	\$100,000	\$100,000	Positive	Indirect
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District--City of Martinsville	1/III	Upgrade, widen, and landscape Beaver Street from Fayette Street to Memorial Blvd - City of Martinsville	MAP-21 VHDA	\$800,000 \$50,000	\$850,000	Positive	Indirect
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District--City of Martinsville	1/I	Prepare City-owned site at corner of Fayette & Beaver Sts for residential, educational or commercial development - Martinsville Area and Central Business District	EDA Local CDBG Grants	\$300,000 \$200,000 \$1,000,000 \$2,000,000	\$3,500,000	Positive	Indirect
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District--City of Martinsville	1/II	Write arts & cultural plan for Arts & Cultural District	NEA City ARC	\$25,000 \$25,000 \$32,000	\$82,000	Positive	Indirect
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District--City of Martinsville	1/II	Enhance Fayette Area Business District facades/greenscape/ economic revitalization - Fayette Street from Moss Street to Memorial Blvd. Planning stipend for Citizens Design - CIRD	CDBG Local CIRD Match - Ink	\$1,000,000 \$1,000,000 \$35,000 \$10,000	\$2,045,000	Positive	Indirect
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District--City of Martinsville	1/IV	Purchase blighted properties - prepare site for redevelopment (202 Cleveland Avenue) - City of Martinsville	Brownfield EDA City	\$900,000 \$500,000 \$500,000	\$1,900,000	Unknown	150 - Indirect
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District--City of Martinsville	1/III	Work with partners to develop an amphitheater on Depot Street	NEA ARC	\$50,000 \$50,000	\$100,000	Positive	5/Indirect

Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District--City of Martinsville	1/III Acquire and redevelop properties along commercial corridor for reuse	ARC	\$250,000	\$3,250,000	Positive	50
		CDBG	\$2,000,000			
		EDA	\$1,000,000			
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District--City of Martinsville	1/IV Develop new (or redevelop existing) location in Uptown Martinsville or adjacent areas to serve as community music venue.	IRF	\$600,000	\$1,100,000	Positive	5/indirect
		ARC	\$200,000			
		HTC	\$300,000			
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District--City of Martinsville	1/III Commonwealth Corridor Enhancement & Pedestrian linkages to Uptown & Fayette Street	VDOT	\$1,000,000	\$1,500,000	Positive	Indirect
		CDBG	\$500,000			
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District--City of Martinsville	1/III Purchase of West Church Street and/or Fayette Street property, complete feasibility study, adaptive reuse	IRF	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	Positive	20/Indirect
		CDBG	\$500,000			
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District--City of Martinsville	1/III Purchase of Main Street property, complete feasibility study, adaptive reuse	IRF	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	Positive	20/Indirect
		CDBG	\$500,000			
MINet Fiber Optic Expansion-- City of Martinsville	1/III Citywide expansion of MINet Martinsville fiber optic and wireless system to reach businesses and homes	EDA	\$2,000,000	\$20,500,000	NA	NA
		Other	\$11,000,000			
		Local	\$7,500,000			
Community Development Project - Hooker Field Upgrades-- City of Martinsville	1/III Upgrades to the concession, seating, and restroom areas at Hooker Field - covered seating, ADA compliant restrooms expanded press box/concession/office space	ARC	\$200,000	\$1,700,000	Positive	N/A
		DRC	\$500,000			
		OTHER	\$1,000,000			

Virginia Museum of Natural History-- City of Martinsville	1/II	Construct Outdoor Education Pavilion in rear of VMNH, to include exhibits interpreting eastern North American forest ecology	EDA	\$50,000	\$150,000	Positive	NA
			DCR	\$50,000			
			Local	\$50,000			
Wilson Park Upgrading-- City of Martinsville	1/IV	Connection of outdoor education pavilion in rear of VMNH with a bridge, crossing over Oakdale Avenue, along with a 1,000 foot canopy loop into the grand old trees in the park.	EDA	\$600,000	\$2,000,000	Positive	NA
			ARC	\$800,000			
			Other	\$600,000			
Community Parks Upgrading-- City of Martinsville	1/IV	Upgrade nine (9) existing parks (Baldwin, Beaver Creek, Jackson Street, West End, J. Russel Mason, Chatham Heights, Cole & Carol St, Victor A. Lester, Spruce St.) to improve accessibility and safety. This would include new lighting where necessary, concession stands, age-appropriate playground equipment and new playing surfaces.	DCR	\$200,000	\$1,500,000	Positive	NA
			ARC	\$200,000			
			EDA	\$300,000			
			Local	\$800,000			
Community Development Project - Small Business Development Strategic Plan - City of Martinsville	1/IV	Write a Small Business Development Strategic Plan for the City of Martinsville. Strategic plan will contain actionable items for the development of and scaling up of small businesses in the City of Martinsville including coplementing the roles of existing partners and organizations	EDA	\$50,000	\$125,000	Positive	NA
			ARC	\$50,000			
			Other	\$25,000			
Community Development Project - - Small Business Scale-up Grant Program--City of Martinsville	1/III	A grant program guided by the Small Business Development Strategic Plan to assist small businesses in growing, expanding and scaling up within the City of Martinsville	EDA	\$100,000	\$300,000	Positive	NA
			ARC	\$100,000			
			Other	\$100,000			
Community Development Project - Move to Martinsville -- City of Martinsville	1/III	Partnering with the "Move to Martinsville" group to place strategic marketing pieces in other geographic markets to communicate the quality of live, value and opportunity to increase the number of people who move to Martinsville from other regions.	EDA	\$50,000	\$100,000	Positive	N/A
			ARC	\$25,000			
			OTHER	\$25,000			
Community Development Project - Amy Avenue	1/III	Revitalization of Amy Avenue in the City of Martinsville to include owner occupied rehabilitation, new single family	CDBG	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	Positive	N/A
			Other/Private	\$500,000			

City of Martinsville	housing and new multi-family housing. In addition curb and gutter improvements should be included.					
Community Development Project - 100 Block W Church St.-- City of Martinsville	1/III Redevelopment of 100 Block W. Church Street including	ARC	\$400,000	\$1,200,000	Positive	N/A
	parcels fronting W Market Street and	CDBG	\$400,000			
	Moss street into Workforce Housing.	OTHER	\$400,000			
Community Development Project - Vacant Buildings Inventory Uptown City of Martinsville	1/III Develop and maintian a vacant buildings inventory for Uptown	CDBG	\$25,000	\$50,000	Positive	N/A
	and if time/resources permitting other parts of the city. The purpose of the inventory is baseline data so that incentives and/or enforcement can be discussed to encourage property owners to pursue highest and best use of Uptown properties	Other	\$25,000			
Community Development Project - Entrance Cooridor Beautification and Revitalization - City of Martinsville	1/IV Signage, landscaping and other physical improvements	EDA	\$50,000	\$150,000	Positive	NA
	to the major entrance corridors to the City of Martinsville	ARC	\$50,000			
	These entrance coordors are typically found in the "Entrance Corridor Overlay" located on the City of Martinsville's Zoning Map	Other	\$50,000			
Community Development Project - Uptown Martinsville Design Study and Uptown entrance cooridors - City of Martinsville	1/IV Develop a design study for Uptown Martinsville that may	EDA	\$50,000	\$150,000	Positive	NA
	result in design guidelines, façade guidelines and other	ARC	\$50,000			
	design guidance to be considered by City Council. In addition, the physical enhancement and beautificationof entrance corridors into Uptown Martinsville may be pursued.	Other	\$50,000			
Community Development Project - Fruit Part at West End Park City of Martinsville	1/IV Develop a community orchard, garden and/or similar	EDA	\$20,000	\$60,000	Positive	NA
	facility at West End Park in the City of Martinsville.	ARC	\$20,000			
	The purpose of this enhancement to the park would be to allow resident/citizen access to locally grown fruits and vegetables.	Other	\$20,000			

Meeting Date: November 4, 2021

Item No: 4.

Department: City Manager

Issue: Hear an update on a number of projects.

Summary: City staff will present an update on a variety of projects throughout the City. Several of these projects have been brought to Council previously for action(s) necessary for implementation.

Attachment: None – information will be presented at the meeting.

Recommendation: This is being presented for information purposes – no action by Council is necessary.