



July 28, 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, and Aaron Rawls.

a. Discuss and Consider Motion to go into Closed Session. Motion made by Vice Mayor Lawson and Second by Councilman Gravely. 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 City Attorney Position.

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

Peyton Nibblett, Deputy City Clerk was also present. City Manager Robert Fincher entered at 6:00pm.

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 - 7:00pm, Council Chambers

Present: Mayor Jones, Vice Mayor Lawson, Councilman Gravely, Councilman Rawls, Councilman Mei.

- Call to Order
 - Mayor Jones called the meeting to order beginning at 7:00pm.
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Invocation
 - Pastor Bennett, Wesley Memorial
- Presentations and Proclamations
 - Planning Commission Update
 - Given by Planning Commission Chair, Joey Martin
 - Commission held election of officers at last meeting
 - Received no public comment
 - Two Ordinances were reviewed
 - Blighted Properties
 - Junkyard Ordinances
 - Public Hearing on August 19, 2026 on Comprehensive Plan in City Council Chambers
 - Briefing from City Manager on Requested Hiring of Position
 - Operational Project Manager
- Regular Agenda or New Business

A. Items of Consent

The following items on the agenda do not generally require any discussion or debate, because they are routine procedures:

- A) July 14, 2026 City Council Meeting Minutes
- B) Appropriations Resolution
- C) Youth Advisory Committee Request to Apply for Project Hope Grant — Community Care Baskets

- a. Motion to Approve Consent Agenda 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. Discuss and Consider Approval on Second Reading of An Ordinance (Ordinance No. 2026-13) Appropriating for Water/Wastewater Design

- a) Motion to Approve on Second Reading by Vice Mayor Lawson and Second by Councilman Rawls. Approved with the following 5-0 vote:

- 1) Councilman Rawls; aye
- 2) Councilman Gravely; aye
- 3) Councilman Mei; aye
- 4) Vice Mayor Lawson; aye
- 5) Mayor Jones; aye

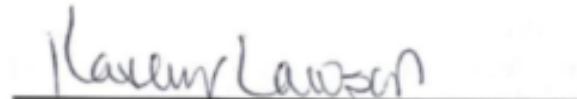
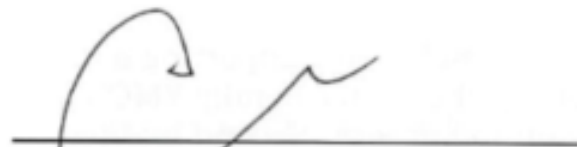
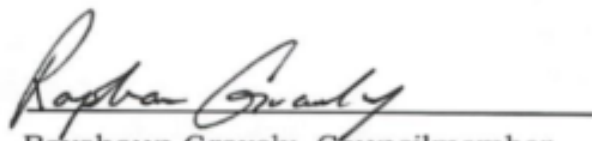
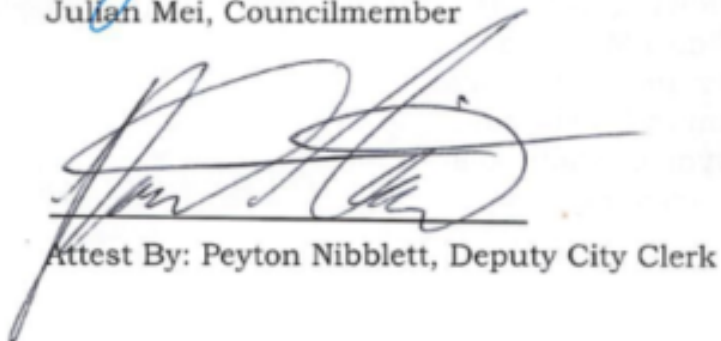
C. Discuss and Consider Approval on Second Reading of An Ordinance (Ordinance No. 2026-16) Rezoning 59 parcels, generally located along Liberty Street and York Street

- b) Motion to Approve on Second Reading by Vice Mayor Lawson and Second by Councilman Mei. Approved with the following 5-0 vote:

- 1) Councilman Rawls; aye
- 2) Councilman Gravely; aye
- 3) Councilman Mei; aye
- 4) Vice Mayor Lawson; aye0
- 5) Mayor Jones; aye

Adjournment

- A. Motion to adjourn made by Vice Mayor Lawson at 7:30pm.


LC Jones, Mayor
Kathy Lawson, Vice Mayor
Aaron Rawls, Councilmember
Rayshaun Gravely, Councilmember
Julian Mei, Councilmember
Attest By: Peyton Nibblett, Deputy City Clerk