



MARTINSVILLE CITY COUNCIL

MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, August 25, 2026

Martinsville's Vision

Martinsville is a thriving, full-service city centrally located in southern Virginia, offering excellent education and superior quality of life in a picturesque setting while embracing inclusivity and opportunities to ensure a sustainable and fulfilling lifestyle to live, visit, and grow.

Martinsville's Mission

Martinsville City proudly promotes a safe, healthy, thriving community dedicated to delivering excellent services and meaningful public participation.

Regular Session - 7pm, Council Chambers

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Pledge to the American Flag**
- 3. Invocation**
 - a. Bishop Alan Preston -- Refuge Temple Ministries
- 4. Presentations and Proclamations**
 - a. Proclamation Honoring September as National Hispanic Heritage Month Presented to Eli Salgado and Southern Virginia Latino Association (SOVALA)
 - b. Proclamation Honoring September as National Recovery Month Presented to Ariel Johnson, Virginia Harm Reduction Coalition
 - c. Planning Commission Monthly Update



- d. Public Works Departmental Update

5. Regular Agenda or New Business

- a. Receive a Briefing on the Finalized Arts and Culture Master Plan for the City of Martinsville
- b. Discuss and Consider Ordinance No. 2026-17, Grant Received for Economic Development Authority, on Second Reading
- c. Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2026-18, ARC Grant Appropriations for MiNet, and Subsequently Discuss and Consider Approval on First Reading
- d. Discuss and Consider, in the Capacity of the Martinsville Redevelopment and Housing Authority, a Resolution Approving an Extension of the Commitment Letter in Support of the Aaron Street Lofts Affordable Housing Project to November 30, 2026.

6. City Hall Reporting & Announcements

- a. Finance Report
- b. News & Events

7. Communications from Visitors / Business from the Floor

Description: The purpose of City Council Meetings is to conduct the City's Business. City Council allows for public comment, limited to matters on which the Council has the power and authority to act and are not listed on the printed agenda. Participation: Citizens who wish to participate in a meeting's public comment period may do so by signing up at the podium at the entrance prior to the beginning of the meeting, emailing their comments to Peyton Nibblett, Deputy City Clerk, at pnibblett@martinsvilleva.gov, calling in their comments to 276-403-5196, or mailing comments to the City of Martinsville, attn.: Peyton Nibblett, Martinsville, VA 24114 (a.) Comments, or a request to speak, must be received by noon the day before a Council meeting for consideration by the Council at the meeting. (b.) Any person submitting comments or requesting to speak must identify themselves by name and address, including zip code. (c.) Remarks are to be limited 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. (d.) Priority for comments is given to City residents, taxpayers, and business owners. (e.) Speakers may not yield time. (f.) Groups of speakers on the same topic must designate a single representative. Comments violating these rules may not be presented at the Council meeting. (g.) Any speaker violating these rules may be removed from the podium or from the Council Chamber. (h.) 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.

8. Comments by Members of City Council

9. Comments by City Manager

10. Adjournment





STAFF REPORT

TO: City Council

FROM: Hannah Powell, Interim Community Development Director

SUBJECT: Receive a Briefing on the Finalized Arts and Culture Master Plan for the City of Martinsville

STAFF/ DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBLE: Community Development

MEETING DATE: August 25, 2026

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

Presented by Julia Guerrero from Civic Centered LLC

- Commissioned by the Arts and Cultural Commission to lead the creation of Arts and Culture Master Plan.

Arts & Cultural Committee contracted with Civic Centered to create the Arts and Culture Master Plan following allocation of funds from City Council in 2025. The Arts and Culture Master Plan will be the framework for the committee to strategically use arts and cultural initiatives to promote tourism and economic development. The Arts and Culture Master Plan will be brought back at the next Council Meeting for a formal vote from City Council.

POLICY EXPLANATION:

Not Applicable

FISCAL IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE:

Not Applicable

Available Budget: Not Applicable

Purchase Amount: Not Applicable

ACTION REQUESTED/ALTERNATIVES

City Council Receive Briefing (No action required at this time)

ATTACHMENTS:

None



STAFF REPORT

TO: City Council

FROM: Economic Development Authority (EDA)

SUBJECT: Discuss and Consider Ordinance No. 2026-17, Grant Received for Economic Development Authority, on Second Reading

STAFF/ DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBLE: City Management

MEETING DATE: August 25, 2026

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

Presenter: Economic Development Authority

The City of Martinsville's Economic Development Authority has received a \$935,000 grant from the Harvest Foundation to support approved capital infrastructure improvements. In accordance with §§ 15.2-2507 and 15.2-1427 of the Code of Virginia, a public hearing has been duly advertised and conducted prior to Council's consideration of this budget amendment.

Fiscal Impact:

Revenue Increase: \$935,000 (Harvest Foundation Grant)

Expenditure Increase: \$935,000 (Building Improvements – Economic Development Authority)

No Net Impact to General Fund. The expenditure is fully supported by grant funding.

First Reading: August 11, 2026

Second Reading: August 25, 2026

POLICY EXPLANATION:

§§ 15.2-2507 and 15.2-1427 of the Code of Virginia

FISCAL IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE:

No Net Impact on the General Fund. The expenditure is fully supported by grant funding.

Available Budget: Not Applicable

Purchase Amount: Not Applicable

ACTION REQUESTED/ALTERNATIVES

City Council Open Floor for Public Hearing, Close
City Council Approve Ordinance 2026-17 on Second Reading

ATTACHMENTS:

1.	Ordinance 2026 - 17 (Appropriation for Economic Development Authority) (1)
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ORDINANCE NO. 2026-17

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY BUDGET

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026–2027

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of §§ 15.2-2507 and 15.2-1427 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, the Martinsville City Council has duly advertised and conducted a public hearing on **August 11, 2026**, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Martinsville Municipal Building to consider amendments to the City’s budget for Fiscal Year 2026–2027; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to amend the Building Improvements line within the Economic Development Authority budget to recognize additional grant funding; and

WHEREAS, these adjustments are necessary to properly account for revenues received and to appropriate funds for approved capital infrastructure improvements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARTINSVILLE, VIRGINIA, that the Fiscal Year 2026–2027 budget be, and hereby is, amended as follows:

Harvest Foundation Grant \$935,000

TOTAL REVENUES \$935,000

The above revenues are hereby appropriated for the following expenditure. This expenditure is fully supported by the identified grant revenues.

Building Improvements \$935,000

TOTAL EXPENDITURES \$935,000

This Ordinance shall become effective upon adoption, August 25, 2026.

Recorded Roll Call Votes:

Aye

Nay

Abstain

Absent

ATTEST:

Mayor

Deputy City Clerk



STAFF REPORT

TO: City Council

FROM: Rob Fincher, City Manager

SUBJECT: Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2026-18, ARC Grant Appropriations for MiNet, and Subsequently Discuss and Consider Approval on First Reading

STAFF/ DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBLE: City Management

MEETING DATE: August 25, 2026

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

The proposed ordinance amends the City's Fiscal Year 2026–2027 budget to recognize \$700,000 in Appalachian Region Commission (ARC) grant funding and provide \$300,000 in matching funds from the City's Fund Balance, for a total appropriation of \$1,000,000.

The funds will be appropriated for the MiNet Fiber Expansion project. The proposed amendment will provide the necessary budget authority to expend the grant and required local match for approved capital infrastructure improvements.

A public hearing is being held on August 25, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers in accordance with §§ 15.2-2507 and 15.2-1427 of the Code of Virginia.

First Reading: 8/25/26

POLICY EXPLANATION:

VA Code § 15.2-2506.

FISCAL IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE:

The amendment increases the FY 2026–2027 budget by \$1,000,000, consisting of \$700,000 in grant revenue and \$300,000 in Fund Balance contribution. The full \$1,000,000 is appropriated for the MiNet Fiber Expansion project.

Available Budget: Not Applicable

Purchase Amount: Not Applicable

ACTION REQUESTED/ALTERNATIVES

City Council Open the Floor for Public Hearing

City Council Close the Floor for Public Hearing
Approve Ordinance No. 2026-18, Appropriating Grant Funds and a required Grant-Match
Contribution from the City for the MiNet Fiber Expansion

ATTACHMENTS:

1.	Ordinance 2026 - 18 (ARC Grant Appropriation)
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ORDINANCE NO. 2026-18

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY BUDGET

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026–2027

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of §§ 15.2-2507 and 15.2-1427 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, the Martinsville City Council has duly advertised and conducted a public hearing on **August 25, 2026**, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Martinsville Municipal Building to consider amendments to the City’s budget for Fiscal Year 2026–2027; and

WHEREAS, these adjustments are necessary to properly account for revenues received and to appropriate funds for approved capital infrastructure improvements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARTINSVILLE, VIRGINIA, that the Fiscal Year 2026–2027 budget be, and hereby is, amended as follows:

Appalachian Region Commission Grant\$700,000

Contribution from Fund Balance (Grant Match) ... \$300,000

TOTAL REVENUES \$1,000,000

The above revenues are hereby appropriated for the following expenditure. This expenditure is fully supported by the identified grant revenues.

MiNet Fiber Expansion \$1,000,000

TOTAL EXPENDITURES \$1,000,000

This Ordinance shall become effective upon adoption, September 8, 2026.

Recorded Roll Call Votes:

Aye

Nay

Abstain

Absent

ATTEST:

Mayor

Deputy City Clerk



STAFF REPORT

TO: City Council

FROM: Rob Fincher, City Manager

SUBJECT: Discuss and Consider, in the Capacity of the Martinsville Redevelopment and Housing Authority, a Resolution Approving an Extension of the Commitment Letter in Support of the Aaron Street Lofts Affordable Housing Project to November 30, 2026.

STAFF/ DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBLE: Community Development

MEETING DATE: August 25, 2026

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

At City Council's November 18, 2025 meeting a Resolution was adopted approving the extension of the City's loan commitment for the Aaron Mills project from December 31, 2025 to June 30, 2026. The extension was requested by the developer and at that time it was anticipated that loan closing would occur around April, 2026. City Council granted an additional extension to August 31, 2026. The Developer has since requested another extension as the loan closing was delayed due to the state. Before City Council is a resolution approving an additional extension until November 30, 2026.

POLICY EXPLANATION:

Code of Virginia § 36-19

FISCAL IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE:

Not Applicable

Available Budget: Not Applicable

Purchase Amount: Not Applicable

ACTION REQUESTED/ALTERNATIVES

City Council Approve the Resolution and Authorize an Extension of the Commitment Letter until November 30, 2026.

ATTACHMENTS:

1.	RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MARTINSVILLE REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY APPROVING AN EXTENSION OF THE COMMITMENT
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LETTER IN SUPPORT OF THE AARON ST

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MARTINSVILLE REDEVELOPMENT AND
HOUSING AUTHORITY APPROVING AN EXTENSION OF THE COMMITMENT
LETTER IN SUPPORT OF THE AARON STREET LOFTS AFFORDABLE HOUSING
PROJECT**

WHEREAS, on February 27, 2024, the City of Martinsville Redevelopment and Housing Authority (the “Housing Authority”) adopted a Resolution approving the donation of property to Aaron Street Lofts, LLC (“Aaron Street”) and a Commitment Letter (the “Commitment Letter”) providing for the use of American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 funds for a loan from the Housing Authority to Aaron Street in the amount of \$500,000 (the “Loan”), all in support of the development of the Aaron Street Lofts affordable housing project in the City of Martinsville (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority subsequently approved extensions of the Commitment Letter to allow additional time for the completion of all requirements necessary to close the Loan; and

WHEREAS, the Project has been completed and the Loan has at all times been intended to reimburse Aaron Street for a portion of the eligible development costs associated with the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority and Aaron Street continue to work toward finalizing the remaining documentation and closing requirements associated with the Loan; and

WHEREAS, the first extension of the Commitment Letter expiration date was June 30, 2026, and the Housing Authority and Aaron Street extended the Commitment Letter for an additional two (2) months, through August 31, 2026, to allow sufficient time to complete the loan closing process; and

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority and Aaron Street desire to extend the Commitment Letter for an additional three (3) months, through November 30, 2026, to allow for further time to complete the loan closing process; and

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority finds that extending the Commitment Letter is in furtherance of its public purpose of promoting affordable housing opportunities within the City of Martinsville.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF MARTINSVILLE REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY:

1. That the Housing Authority Board hereby approves an extension of the Commitment Letter commitment period from August 31, 2026 to November 30, 2026.
2. That the Executive Director of the Housing Authority is hereby authorized to execute any documents necessary to effectuate this extension.
3. That the Executive Director and his designees, acting as representatives and agents of the Housing Authority, are authorized to take such other actions as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the intent of this Resolution and to facilitate the closing of the Loan.
4. That this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Adopted by the Commissioners of the City of Martinsville Redevelopment and Housing Authority at a meeting held on the 25th day of August, 2026.

The Commissioners of the Housing Authority voted as follows on the foregoing Resolution:

Ayes:

Nays:

Abstain:

Executive Director
Martinsville Redevelopment and Housing Authority