

November 15, 2022 Council Meeting

The regular meeting of the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia was held on November 15, 2022 in Council Chambers, Municipal Building, at 7:00 PM with Mayor Kathy Lawson presiding. Other Council Members present included Danny Turner, Chad Martin, Jennifer Bowles and Tammy Pearson. Staff present included City Manager Leon Towarnicki, Assistant City Manager and City Attorney Eric Monday, Clerk of Council Karen Roberts, Public Information Officer Kendall Davis, and Police Captain Chad Rhoads.

Mayor Lawson called the meeting to order and advised Council would go into Closed Session beginning at 6:00 PM. In accordance with section 2.1-344 (A) Code of Virginia (1950, and as amended) and upon a motion by Council Member Turner and seconded by Council Member Pearson with the following 5-0 recorded vote: Mayor Lawson, aye; Council Member Martin, aye; Council Member Pearson, aye; Council Member Turner, aye; and Vice Mayor Bowles, aye. Council convened in Closed Session to discuss the following matters: (A) Personnel discussions, authorized by Subsection 1, and (B) Discussion or consideration of the investment of public funds where competition or bargaining is involved, where, if made public initially, the financial interest of the governmental unit would be adversely affected, as authorized by Subsection 6.

Council recessed Closed session at 7:00pm and per Mayor Lawson, would reconvene after the regular session.

Mayor Lawson called the meeting to order and lead the pledge to the flag. Pastor Douglas Bynum of Mount Zion AME Church offered the invocation. Mayor Lawson welcomed everyone to the meeting, stating that printed agendas could be found in the back of the room and on the City website for those watching from home.

Approve minutes from the October 25, 2022 Council meeting – Vice Mayor Bowles made a motion to approve minutes as presented; Council Member Martin seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor.

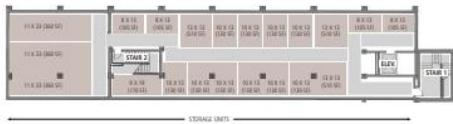
Hear an overview of the November 14, 2022 Southside neighborhood tour and meeting - City Manager Towarnicki detailed the tour of the Southside neighborhood, sharing that the neighborhood looked considerably better than it did during the previous Southside tour. Towarnicki summarized that the neighborhood meeting was held at Wesley Memorial Church with approximately fifteen residents in attendance; Towarnicki, Property Maintenance, Inspections and the Police Department provided residents with updates. Towarnicki shared concerns expressed by residents during the meeting and how those concerns will be handled by the appropriate department. Towarnicki thanked the residents for attending and the church for allowing the City to hold the meeting there. Mayor Lawson stated that residents can be hesitant to report property maintenance issues but she assured them that names are not released.

Consider action as Martinsville Redevelopment and Housing Authority to approve the BB & T building Contract of Sale & Development Agreement – Vice Mayor Bowles made a motion to recess as City Council and convene as the Martinsville Redevelopment and Housing Authority; Council Member Turner seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor. City

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Manager Towarnicki detailed the RFP changes and changes to the contract. They were expecting more offers but they did receive a quality proposal for the BB&T building which checks off all boxes for what they had hoped for that location. John Garland and Jim Cherney of JRS Realty Partners submitted the proposal and were in attendance to share a PowerPoint with previous projects and details of the proposed BB&T project. The building would include restaurant space, apartments and a rooftop event space. Cherney explained that asbestos in the building is a concern along with moving very large equipment out of the building. They allow approximately one year for planning and design and another one to two years for construction. Rental will be based on the square footage of the apartments and will run between \$695-\$995; Cherney described the apartments as work-force rentals. The overall appearance of the building will need to stay the same to qualify for some grants, but they plan to clean the outside of the building and make any repairs. Garland explained there would be accent lighting and other updates to the outside of the building to make it more inviting. There will be more conversations about how the event space, restaurant space and kitchens could be used. Martin recommended making the fourth floor a shared work space. Garland explained that the current proposal would probably be the most feasible and affordable but they are still accepting suggestions. Bowles made a motion to approve the Contract of Sale and the Development Agreement and to authorize the Executive Director to execute all documents related to the project. Martin seconded the motion. Turner asked for clarification about whether the building would need to be completed prior to deeding the property. Towarnicki explained that proposals went out in June through August, the change was made but he would have to check the exact date. Turner disagreed with what Towarnicki explained about the timing of the RFP addendum. Towarnicki confirmed that the change was sent to everyone and as soon as that issue was brought to their attention they made that change. Mayor Lawson asked Towarnicki to provide the addendum date to Turner. Council Member Pearson said that those changes concern her and that the contract approval should be moved back. Lawson said everyone on the list was sent the addendum at the same time so all parties were made aware. Towarnicki shared that they were very open with everyone who toured the building and once they were made aware of the financing issue, the change was made and all interested parties were informed. Turner argued that the change was made in the eleventh hour. The motion passed with a 3-2 vote with Bowles, Lawson and Martin voting in favor, Turner and Pearson voting against. Turner made a motion to recess as the Martinsville Redevelopment and Housing Authority and reconvene as City Council; Martin seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor.

ADAPTIVE RE-USE PROPOSAL FOR
PIEDMONT TRUST BANK
1 ELLSWORTH STREET, MARTINSVILLE, VIRGINIA 24112

10.7.22
Rev. 02

UNIT AREAS

20 STORAGE UNITS TOTAL = 3,480 SF

Sub-Basement Floor Plan

FEDMONT TRUST BANK - ADAPTIVE RE-USE PROPOSAL
10.7.22



UNIT AREAS

HTRNG CENTER = 2,850 SF
 STORAGE 1 = 215 SF
 STORAGE 2 = 600 SF
 OFFICE = 565 SF
TOTAL = 5,030 SF
 1 BEDROOM = 678 SF
 2 BEDROOM = 785 SF
 3 BEDROOM = 886 SF
 4 BEDROOM = 928 SF
 5 BEDROOM = 975 SF
5 APRIL TOTAL = 4,152 SF

Basement Floor Plan

FEDMONT TRUST BANK - ADAPTIVE RE-USE PROPOSAL
03.7.22

UNIT AREAS

KITCHEN & BATHROOM = 2,462 SF
 CEILING = 380 SF
 TOTAL = 8,892 SF
 1 BEDROOM = 838 SF
 1 BEDROOM = 678 SF
 1 BEDROOM = 680 SF
 1 BEDROOM = 500 SF
 1 BEDROOM = 520 SF
 1 BEDROOM = 660 SF
 1 BEDROOM = 670 SF
 2 BEDROOM = 880 SF
 SLABTS TOTAL = 5,410 SF

Level 01 Floor Plan

PEEDMONT TRUST BANK - ADAPTIVE BE-USE PROPOSAL
 10.7.22



UNIT AREAS

1 BEDROOM - 540 SF
1 BEDROOM - 720 SF
1 BEDROOM - 405 SF
1 BEDROOM - 379 SF
1 BEDROOM - 720 SF
1 BEDROOM - 680 SF
1 BEDROOM - 962 SF
1 BEDROOM - 620 SF
1 BEDROOM - 415 SF
1 BEDROOM - 662 SF
2 BEDROOM - 840 SF
2 BEDROOM - 715 SF
2 BEDROOM - 912 SF
2 BEDROOM - 885 SF
2 BEDROOM - 885 SF
2 BEDROOM - 780 SF

16 APES TOTAL - 11,160 SF

Level 02 Floor Plan

Piedmont Trust Bank - Adaptive Re-Use Proposal
10.7.22

UNIT AREA

SWT AREAS

1 BEDROOM = 510 SF
1 BEDROOM = 530 SF
1 BEDROOM = 560 SF
1 BEDROOM = 640 SF
1 BEDROOM = 590 SF
1 BEDROOM = 680 SF
1 BEDROOM = 660 SF
1 BEDROOM = 520 SF
1 BEDROOM = 520 SF
1 BEDROOM = 620 SF
1 BEDROOM = 620 SF
1 BEDROOM = 660 SF
2 BEDROOM = 825 SF

62 APTS. TOTAL = 7,438 SF

Levels 03-04 Floor Plan

PEDEMONT TRUST BANK - ADAPTIVE BS-USE PROPOSAL
10.7.22

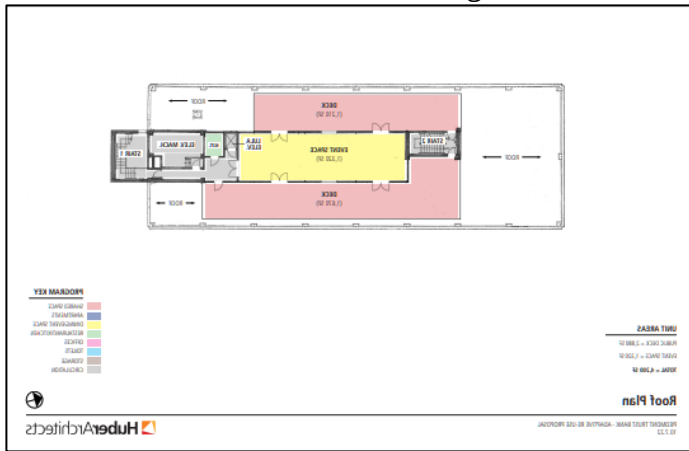


UNIT AREAS

[illegible]

Level 05 Floor Plan

PEDEMONT TRUST BANK - ADAPTIVE 90-1213 PROPOSAL
10.7.22



Consider approval of a Contract establishing roles in Martinsville Uptown Revitalization – Mayor Lawson explained that the verbiage for this agenda item had changed. Council will now consider a resolution supporting the Main Street application by the Uptown Partnership in association with CPEG. City Manager Towarnicki shared that he and City Attorney Monday have met on several occasions with Uptown Martinsville and CPEG and hope to see a more consolidated effort between the two entities. The application deadline is this Friday. The original resolution has been revised to clear the path for Uptown to file the application by that deadline. Vice Mayor Bowles made a motion to approve the resolution; Council Member Martin seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor.

CONTRACT ESTABLISHING ROLES IN MARTINSVILLE UPTOWN REVITALIZATION THIS Contract, ("Contract") made and entered into this _____ day of _____, 2022, by and between the City of Martinsville, a Virginia municipal corporation ("City"), the Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce's Partnership for Economic Growth ("CPEG"), a Virginia non-stock corporation, the Martinsville Henry County Chamber of Commerce, a Virginia non-stock corporation ("Chamber"), and the Martinsville Uptown Partnership ("UPT"), a Virginia non-stock corporation; WITNESSETH: THAT, WHEREAS the City of Martinsville desires to allocate resources toward the revitalization of uptown Martinsville, being geographically defined as the Martinsville Enterprise Zone, revitalization to include (but not limited to) recruitment, marketing, expanded technical support and services, incentive programs, etc., for the purpose of expanding the City's tax base, job creation, and increased business growth and activity in Uptown; and, WHEREAS, CPEG, the Chamber, and UPT has agreed to Contract with the City to provide those and related services; NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual and respective covenants and agreements contained herein and made with respect to the performance of the services by CPEG, the parties to this Contract hereby agree as follows: - Term: The term of this Contract shall extend over a two (2) year period from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2024. During and as part of the fiscal year 2024-25 City budget deliberations and no later than April 30, 2024, the parties will evaluate the results/success of the program and mutually agree regarding extension of the program for additional periods of one year and/or any changes or modifications as may be needed in regard to the scope of work. - Replacement of Prior Agreements: This Contract is intended to supplant all prior agreements between the parties both written and oral, which shall be rendered void and unenforceable upon the execution of this Contract. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the agreement entitled "Memorandum of Understanding, West Piedmont Business Development Center Management" executed between the City and CPEG dated July 20, 2020, shall be incorporated into this Contract as set forth herein. C-PEG will continue to provide the following programs/services: - Uptown events such as, but not limited to, Oktoberfest, Holidays at the Market, Small Business Saturdays, Trick or Treat, festivals and promotional events and videos; - Incubator(s); - Entrepreneurial programs including business plan competitions such as Startup and Grow MHC and expansions of these programs; - Uptown maps and directories; - All City business incentive programs for the City; - Farmers' Market;	- Uptown business recruitment; - Merchant meetings; - Entrepreneurial training and business retention programs. - Payment: In consideration of the various functions of the respective parties as set forth herein, the City shall compensate the parties as follows: - CPEG: \$88,500.00 per annum unless otherwise adjusted during the City's annual budget process, and a one-time \$250,000.00 donation to the capital improvement program to be reserved exclusively for capital improvements in Uptown, payable semi-annually. - Chamber: Chamber acknowledges that the payment to CPEG is sufficient consideration for its adherence to this Contract. - UPT: \$113,552.60 per annum, payable in January of 2023 and 2024. - Council Updates: CPEG, Chamber and UPT shall jointly and concurrently provide updates to City Council no less than on annual basis, to occur in January of each calendar year, and more frequently if necessary to keep Council apprised of activities and efforts in regard to the execution of this Contract. - Quarterly Review: The parties shall, through a designated representative, confer no less than quarterly to review the progress of this Contract and to address and attempt to resolve any disagreement, problem or other issue that may arise in the course of its term. - Conflict Resolution: In event of any disagreement as to the application, interpretation or enforcement of this Contract, the parties shall first attempt to negotiate a solution. In the event negotiation fails, the parties shall submit the issue to professional mediation, and failing that, to professional binding arbitration. In all instances the parties shall bear their own costs and attorney's fees and shall equally split the costs of mediation and arbitration. In the event the parties cannot agree upon a mediator or arbitrator, the selection shall be made by a blind drawing of the names proposed. The drawing shall be made by the City Mayor. - Governing Provisions: This Contract represents the entire understanding between the parties. This Contract shall not be amended except in writing, executed by all the parties. This Contract shall be governed according to the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Each party shall be presumed to have been a participant in drafting this Contract, and no ambiguity shall be construed to the detriment of any particular party. If any provision of this Contract is found to be void and unenforceable for any reason, it shall be severed and the remainder shall remain in full force and effect. Any litigation arising in any way from this Contract shall be venued in the Circuit Court of the City of Martinsville; the parties shall in such cases bear their respective costs and attorney's fees. - Internet, Social Media & Marketing: C-PEG shall retain and manage its current website, www.martinsvilleuptown.net, and social media and provide updated information about UPT and other Uptown organizations and resources. And, UPT shall maintain and control all its current internet and social media content and provide updated information about CPEG and other Uptown organizations and resources CPEG and UPT will collaborate to promote the benefits of Uptown Martinsville to residents, visitors and investors
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9. Façade Grants: CPEG will be the exclusive provider of any façade grants in Uptown, but shall request that UPT make a recommendation on any grant application received. The \$250,000.00 in City funding referenced in this Contract shall be used exclusively for capital improvement grants in the Uptown area.
10. Main Street Program: UPT shall be the designated representative for the Virginia Main Street Program, and shall undertake all efforts necessary to advance Martinsville towards full designation as a Virginia Main Street community ("Advancing Virginia Main Street" accreditation) through engagement and collaboration with DHCD and community partners, including CPEG. Through this work, UPT will engage individuals and organizations around projects, best practices and resources following the Main Street Approach of economic vitality, design, promotions and organization and will support the Uptown revitalization activities led by CPEG outlined in this agreement. CPEG will actively engage and regularly participate with UPT to ensure alignment for Uptown revitalization efforts and VMS advancement.
11. New Business Incubation: CPEG shall be the entity responsible for all business start-up programs and business incubation services.
12. Business Incentives: All City of Martinsville business incentives shall be provided through C-PEG, and C-PEG shall continue to maintain a comprehensive list of such incentives that are available to Uptown entities. C-PEG and UPT shall promote incentives in a collaborative manner.
13. Termination of MURA: The parties acknowledge that the Martinsville Uptown Revitalization Association has ceased to exist as an entity. CPEG shall cease using "Martinsville Uptown Revitalization Association" ("MURA") in any way, and shall undertake to wind up any remaining affair of MURA by the end of calendar year 2022. CPEG shall retain any assets of MURA, which shall be used exclusively to improve Uptown as the C-PEG Board determines appropriate.
14. Chamber as Party: To the extent any of its staff operates concurrently as CPEG staff, Chamber shall direct its staff to adhere to the provisions of this contract.

SIGNATURES:

Liz Harris, President, Board of Directors
Martinsville Uptown Partnership

Amanda C. Cox, President
MHC Chamber of Commerce's
Partnership for Economic Growth

Anne Jacobsen-Smith, Chairperson
MHC Chamber of Commerce

Leon Towarnicki, City Manager
Martinsville

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Council Members
Kathy Lawson, Mayor
Jennifer Bowles, Vice-Mayor
Chad Martin
Danny Turner
Tammy Pearson



City Manager
Leon E. Towarnicki
City Attorney
Eric H. Monday
Clerk of Council
Karen Roberts

Resolution

**In support of Preparation and Submittal of Application by Martinsville
Uptown Partnership for the Virginia Mobilizing Main Street Program**

WHEREAS, the City of Martinsville has identified Uptown revitalization as a priority need based on the potential for significant economic growth; the need for additional commercial, retail, entertainment and public amenities; and additional residential options available to support the economic development plan of the City of Martinsville, Henry County region; and

WHEREAS the City of Martinsville is an active participant and supporter of regional economic development, marketing and tourism, and

WHEREAS Uptown Partnership was formed to help drive the successful revitalization of the Uptown District with its partners; and

WHEREAS Uptown Partnership will work with the City, community residents, Uptown residents, local businesses and property owners to develop an improvement plan for the beautification of Uptown; enhanced traffic and pedestrian flow; and a program to connect private investors/developers with appropriate development opportunities, and

WHEREAS Uptown Partnership has held several public input sessions to ensure that the greater community is supportive of a vibrant business district filled with high-quality, residential, entertainment and cultural spaces that meet the diverse needs of the greater Martinsville-Henry County region; and

WHEREAS the City has approved an annual funding allocation for Uptown Partnership to assist implementation and operation of the Main Street Program, as well as other operational expenses; and

WHEREAS the stakeholders, property owners, and the City Council have requested the City to proceed in addressing the issues related to the physical appearance and vacancy rates of the Uptown District and securing the necessary funding to support the Uptown revitalization initiative;

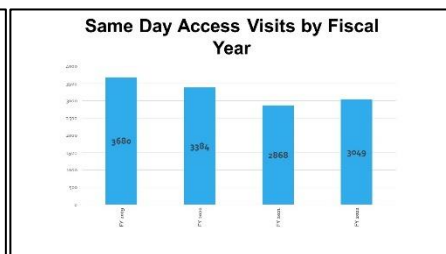
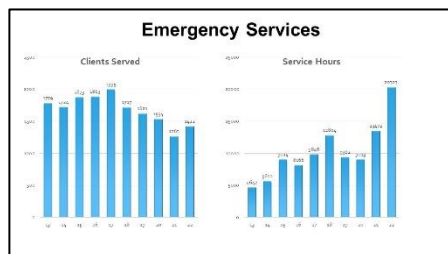
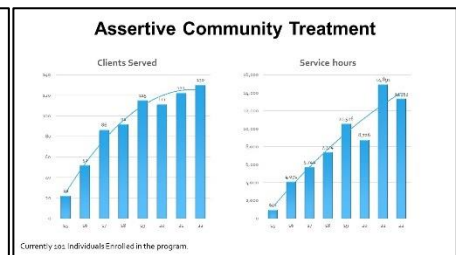
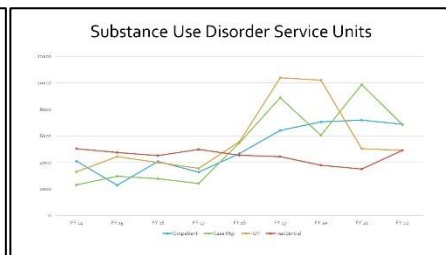
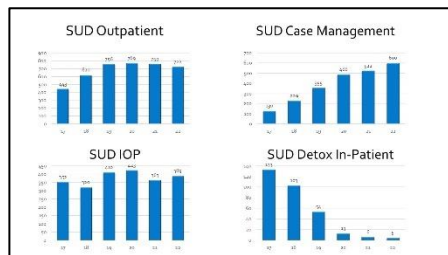
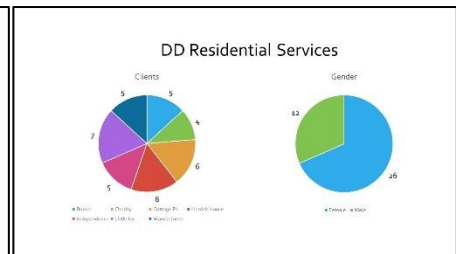
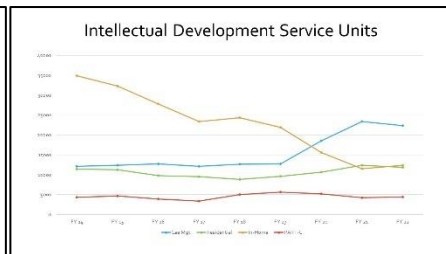
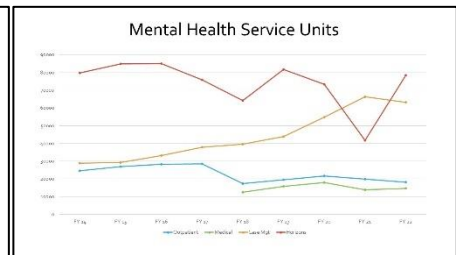
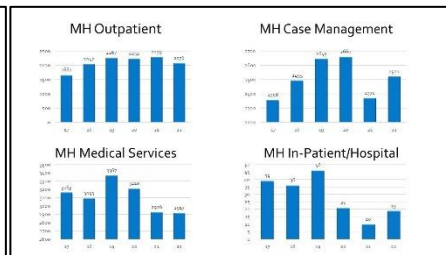
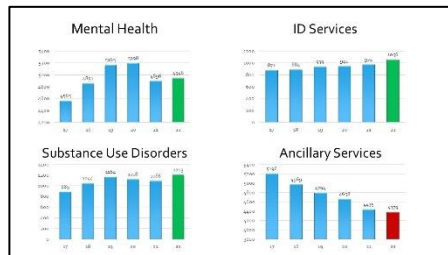
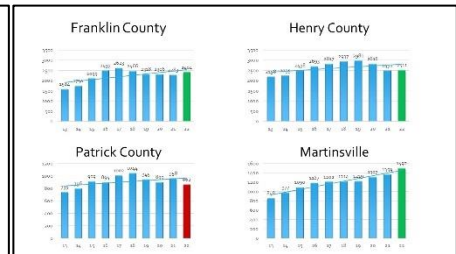
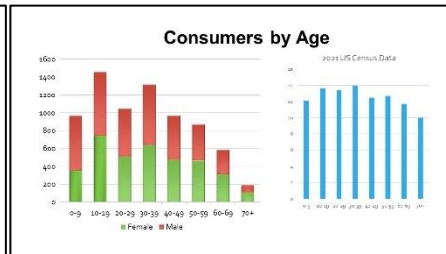
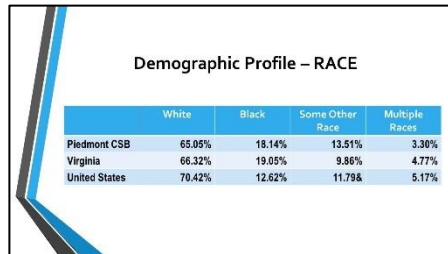
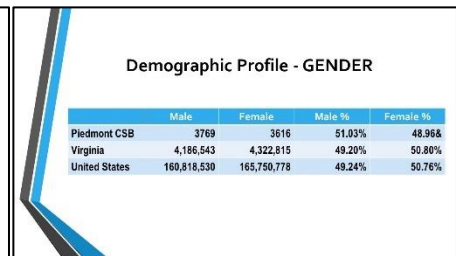
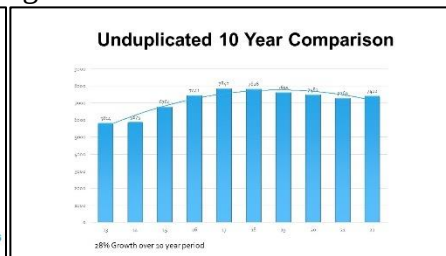
NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of Martinsville, Virginia on this 15th day of November, 2022 that (1) The City wishes Uptown Partnership to apply for a Mobilizing Main Street Designation for the Uptown Business District; and (2) The City hereby authorizes the City Manager, the City's chief administrative official to support the execution and filing of all appropriate documents necessary for the timely submission of the Virginia Main Street Program Application on or before November 18, 2022.

Kathy Lawson, Mayor

Attest: Karen Roberts, Clerk of Council

55 West Church Street, P. O. Box 1112, Martinsville, VA 24114-1112 276-403-5180 Fax: 276-403-5280
www.martinsville-va.gov

Hear an update from Piedmont Community Services – Sharon Buckman, Clinical Division Director and Shannon Clark, CSS Division Director presented a PowerPoint to update Council on substantial growth over the past 10 years, including the demographic profile by race and gender, locations they cover as well as treatment provided. Per capita, Martinsville has a greater need for services than other surrounding communities. Buckman shared that they are making headway in opioid abuse since treatments are more readily available but there is a new concern with fentanyl which continues to be chemically altered to increase potency. Methadone is an opioid replacement but there is still potential for abuse and death by overdose. Piedmont Community Service does not prescribe methadone, only a special treatment program can administer and control those doses. The closest methadone clinic to her knowledge is in Brosville in Pittsylvania County. Clark shared locations of residential facilities in Martinsville. Buckman explained that the trend is more towards community-based services and discussed the Assertive Community Treatment Plan and emergency services. Clark summarized prevention services provided by PCS. Council Member Martin recommended that they provide training on the Safe Talk Program with local barbers since they work closely and often with residents in the community.



Hear a presentation of a Citywide Housing Assessment Study recently completed by Summit Design & Engineering – Community Development Director Mark McCaskill summarized the need for the study which could help the City qualify for future community block grants and briefly explained how the study was completed. Michael Staper and Noah Foster of Summit Design & Engineering Zoomed in to answer questions on the housing assessment. Mayor Lawson shared that this study identified the Southside area was in need of housing assistance and had never

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qualified for block grants in the past. The data on the Westside showed that the CBDG funding had a positive impact on that area. Council Member Turner asked why it appeared that people from out of town are investing in rental property in Martinsville. McCaskill said the study did not focus so much on the finance side of property rentals. Foster said that was not something that was studied but they did look at reasons which could be driving up the price of rentals. The report does compare demographics and minority population and other attributes. Foster said the study was tailored to the condition of the structure as observed from the right-of-way.

Consider approval of the City's purchase of property identified as 447 E. Commonwealth Boulevard – City Manager Towarnicki said the City has leased the field across from Hooker Field for many years to accommodate parking for the Mustangs games and events at that location. The property recently went up for sale without notice so the City negotiated with the property owners for a purchase price of \$150,000. Staff recommends the purchase to avoid parking issues at the field noting the City could later develop the property subject to parking availability. Towarnicki explained where the funds for this purchase would come from. Council Member Turner made a motion to approve acquisition of the property and authorize the City Manager to execute appropriate documents necessary for the transaction. Vice Mayor Bowles seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor.

Consider approval of a sewer construction contract related to the Jones Creek sewer project – City Attorney Monday explained that since this decision would involve grant funds and Council Member Martin is employed with the Department Environmental Quality, Martin would be unable to participate in the discussion or vote on the project. City Manager Towarnicki explained the need for sewer construction and detailed a similar project completed previously in the City. There are areas where the pipe is leaking and other areas that need repair. The initial project assessment was in the \$3.7million range and the City received a \$3M EDA grant to cover most of that. However, after issues with the railroad which caused delays and supply chain issues, inflation, and COVID, when bids came in October 14 construction costs had increased to over \$5.2million. It is the City's intent to apply for grant funding from the DEQ to cover the shortfall however, the grant would not be awarded until February or March 2023. The City would cover the shortfall by using water and sewer funds so that the contract can be executed before any additional price increases. The project bid has exceeded the EDA grant and what the City anticipated. Staff recommends awarding the contract. Council Member Turner asked if the Henry County PSA would be obligated to pay for part of the repairs and asked where the City's lawsuit stands against the PSA. Towarnicki said that Henry County could potentially be partly responsible since they use the lines. Monday said there is an active lawsuit against Henry County, however that case was put on hold during the time the City was negotiating with the County for reversion and was reactivated when the County reneged on their agreement. Turner asked why the City doesn't charge the county each month. Monday said if the County is not going to pay, then they won't pay regardless if they are sent a monthly bill. Monday

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recommended that it be discussed at a future council meeting and that the City could potentially have a claim against the county for part of those repairs. Towarnicki said there are actually two other interceptors that could need repair soon including Doe Run and the Industrial Park and they are looking at VRA financing for those. The total to repair all locations could be in the \$10-\$15 million range. The other two locations would be almost entirely City use. The Smith River Interceptor was \$18million and luckily, the City has been able to obtain financing to get through the repairs. The motion was made by Council Member Turner to approve the contract related to the Jones Creek project, Vice Mayor Bowles seconded the motion with 4 Council Members voting in favor; Council Member Martin abstaining.

Consider information related to the City proposed 2023 Legislative Agenda – City Attorney Monday encouraged Council to share any updates that they would like including Pearson's request that the state further amend both the time period and the percentages based on property values for being able to sell properties; Monday said he would not get his hopes up too high since this was discussed two sessions ago. Monday explained that the historical markers requested by Vice Mayor Bowles would not really be a legislative agenda topic but the City can pursue those. Mayor Lawson requested proper funding of the Public Defender's office be added. Council Member Martin asked if there could be anything done in relation to the City's overabundance of cats. Monday explained that Council has the authority to regulate cats and could impose a leash law, collar and license requirements. Bowles questioned derelict properties and the verbiage. Monday stated he will have information on that bill at the December meeting. Turner recommended that the new elected Council Members be involved in Legislative Agenda decisions.



The City of Martinsville appreciates the efforts its legislators undertake at both the state and federal level on behalf of its citizens. Listed below are the City's priorities requested of its legislative delegation in 2022.

Virginia General Assembly

Transportation

1. In the short term, upgrade those portions of Route 220 overlaying I-73 to interstate standards. Any construction or upgrades to the I-73 corridor should begin on those sections passing through Henry County.
2. Continue to place priority on Route 58 improvements, particularly the section between Stuart and Hillsville, Virginia.
3. Increase VDOT funding for road construction and repaving.

Education

1. City Council endorses the concept asserted by Sen. Bill Stanley that the Virginia Constitution and United States Supreme Court precedent requires statewide parity in state funding for school construction, maintenance and operations.
2. City Council endorses the agenda proposed by the Martinsville City School System and also endorses the educational priorities adopted by Henry County, on behalf of its school system.
3. Oppose the imposition of unaided education mandates and in the event of revenue cuts by the Commonwealth opposes targeted cuts by the Commonwealth, instead preferring local decision making authority on where to make any such cuts.
4. Recognizing its potential to promote economic development within our community and region, continue support for the development and funding of the New College Institute in its current location in Uptown Martinsville; urge that any funding reductions to New College Institute, if considered, be minimized to the greatest extent possible; and support all partnership initiatives by The New College Institute with other institutions of higher learning.
5. Request the Commonwealth to fully fund the expenditures imposed upon local school systems by implementing the Standards of Quality.
6. Encourage the Commonwealth to continue or increase the current levels of financial support provided to Patrick & Henry Community College.
7. Request the Commonwealth to provide incentives for consolidation of school systems.
8. Continue to support funding for school resource officers and ensure that decisions regarding usage of resource officers in schools remain as a local choice/option.

Economic Development

1. Maintain current levels of funding for economic development incentives, including but not limited to the Governor's Opportunity Fund.
2. Enhance the authority granted to localities to address and eliminate blighted properties, and the formation of interstate compacts to allow expedited recourse against out-of-state property owners.
3. Increase funding levels for the Virginia Museum of Natural History.

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4. Request enhanced state and federal financial assistance for localities which exceed the average state unemployment rate by 150% for a period of five consecutive years.
5. Support continued tourism awareness initiatives in the Martinsville-Henry County region.
6. Expand local authority to designate Enterprise Zones and establish incentives.
7. Oppose efforts by Henry County PSA to reopen the Lower Smith River Wastewater Treatment Plant, absent a regional study concluding that such is in the best interests of Martinsville-Henry County taxpayers, customer base, economic needs and state environmental policy.
8. Expand grants and resources available to fiscally stressed localities, and to business development entities in such localities, to aid in the encouragement or development of small and entrepreneurial businesses.
9. Support the Virginia Grocery Investment Fund, as a public-private initiative to improve nutrition and access to quality food, and enhance economic development by encouraging the development of grocery stores in neighborhoods where none exist.

Governance

1. Adopt the recommendations of the Virginia Commission on Local Government in its 2018 Annexation Moratorium Study, and urge the General Assembly to enact those recommendations in the 2022 Session.
2. Amend Code of Virginia 51.1-155.2 to allow Constitutional Offices, abolished by reversion of any city to town status, to take early VRS retirement, free of penalty.
3. Urge the General Assembly to conform the state tax code to the 2018 changes in the Federal income tax code.
4. Require full funding for HB 599 funds, in fulfillment of the Commonwealth's commitment to cities in return for their acquiescence in the annexation moratorium.
5. Require that the Commonwealth fully fund its obligations to the Virginia Retirement System, and refrain from borrowing from VRS funds.
6. Request the elimination of "local aid to the Commonwealth" in the state budget; local aid artificially inflates state revenues by shifting responsibility for cuts in vital services onto localities.
7. Elimination of all unfunded mandates from the Commonwealth to localities.
8. Oppose any elimination or alteration of local revenue streams, and specifically oppose any amendment to the current manner in which the Business Occupation and Licensing Tax and the Machinery and Tools Tax are levied, unless a replacement revenue stream, not subject to biennial appropriation, is guaranteed by the Commonwealth.
9. Preserve intact local authority to regulate zoning, land use, and regulation of the installation of wireless communication equipment.
10. Request at a minimum, level funding for operational requirements of the Henry-Martinsville Department of Social Services.
11. Request that the General Assembly leaves intact the fire programs fund and the rescue squad assistance funds and not use these funds as a way to balance the state budget.
12. Request that the Commonwealth fully fund its obligations to constitutional officers.
13. Oppose any attempt to curtail the doctrine of sovereign immunity for localities.
14. Oppose any attempt to permit collective bargaining for state and local government employees.
15. Oppose any amendment of the existing burden of proof or process in local tax appeals cases.
16. Request authority to refund erroneously paid taxes at an interest rate which differs from that imposed on delinquencies, and to refund taxes erroneously paid through the fault of the taxpayer at no interest.
17. Support VML's endorsement of a JLARC study of assigning a proportional share of lottery sales revenue to the localities generating such sales.

2

18. Require the Commonwealth to fund 100% of the per-diem costs of housing state inmates in local jails.
19. Support all state efforts to provide aid and support services to fiscally stressed localities, but oppose any attempts to interfere with localities' right to solve their own financial problems locally.
20. Support the alteration of award criteria in the "REACH Virginia" and all other VHDA programs to a per-capita income-based model.
21. Request that any legislation adopted by the General Assembly concerning the decriminalization of marijuana include local authority to regulate commercial distribution and use.

United States Congress

1. Request the addition of the urban center of micropolitan statistical areas to the eligibility list of "Entitlement Cities."
2. Oppose any effort to impose additional taxation or regulation of electrical power generation by coal or natural gas.
3. Urge the Federal Highway Commission to adopt the CTB's designated route for I-73, or alternatively to preserve the current record of decision in the event the CTB's route is rejected.
4. In the short term, upgrade those portions of Route 220 overlaying I-73 to interstate standards.
5. Request \$3.75M in funds for the redevelopment of brownfields located within the City.
6. Request \$6.25M in funds for the elimination and redevelopment of blighted areas in the City.
7. Request legislation to provide special federal incentives to businesses locating in regions which have experienced job losses in excess of 5% of the total workforce and/or declines in median incomes since the adoption of NAFTA, WTO or GATT. Target such areas for increased federal funding in education or workforce retraining.
8. Extend high speed broadband service throughout southern Virginia.
9. Request enhanced state and federal financial assistance for localities which exceed the average state unemployment rate by 150% for a period of five consecutive years.
10. Oppose the elimination or reduction of the federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit.

Staff Designations

City Council empowers the following staff members to speak on its behalf and in its best interests to the Virginia General Assembly and United States Congress, its members and committees:
 City Attorney Eric Monday
 City Manager Leon Towarnicki
 Other department heads as appointed by the City Manager

In addition, Council designates Two Capitols Consulting as its lobbyist.

3

Consider information related to the 2023 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) list – Community Development Director Mark McCaskill said they had not heard from West Piedmont Planning so he was unsure of the deadline for the final list but it's typically early

November 15, 2022 Council Meeting to mid-January. He can make notes of any changes Council would like and encouraged them to email him with their requests. The CEDS list will be on the next Council meeting agenda and possibly again in January. Council Member Martin asked why the delay on the parks and using ARPA funds. Mayor Lawson explained there is a grant for the parks. McCaskill confirmed that there is a separate USDA grant and a consultant would be hired to do a vision process of the parks throughout the communities. Lawson asked Towarnicki to send the previous year's CEDS and Legislative Agenda to new Council Members Jones and Rawls. This information is on the City's website; anyone can provide input including City residents.

Revitalization of Uptown Business District-City of Martinsville	Incentivize small businesses (exterior and interior make-over/renovator) Recommendations from Uptown Partnership include: a leasehold matching grant program up to \$5,000, increase facade amount and change percentage match to 75/25 from current 50/50	EDA	\$800,000	\$800,000
Revitalization of Uptown Business District-City of Martinsville	Construct retail condos/apartments in Uptown Recommendations from Uptown Partnership include: The corner of Church and Broad Streets are a good location for some moderately sized mixed use apartment buildings. In addition development of full alleyway activation plan to include other alleys in Uptown.	EDA DHCD VHDA City	\$1,000,000 \$300,000 \$600,000 \$200,000	\$2,000,000
Neighborhood Revitalization Project West End/Fire Hall Road Neighborhood in Martinsville	Housing rehab, creation of community space	CBDO Local	\$1,200,000 \$600,000	\$1,800,000
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District-City of Martinsville	Purchase blighted properties on Sterling Avenue and adaptively reuse	HUD/NSP HTC	\$700,000 \$300,000	\$1,000,000
Southside Community Park Upgrading-City of Martinsville	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. New bathrooms at Southside Community Park.	DCR EDA ARC VTC Other	\$200,000 \$600,000 \$150,000 \$750,000 \$1,300,000	\$3,000,000
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District-City of Martinsville	Purchase blighted properties, prepare site for development (Draper - West Church Street) - City of Martinsville	Brownfield EDA City	\$400,000 \$320,000 \$180,000	\$820,000

Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District-City of Martinsville	Rivers Road Site Development- full site development including A & E, site grading	EDA	\$1,400,000	\$1,400,000
Community Development Project- City of Martinsville	Further develop lots at Clearview Business Park to prepare for companies- Parcels 2 & 4	EDA	\$750,000	\$750,000
Community Development Project - City of Martinsville	Recruit manufacturers of Clean Energy Components to Martinsville Area and Enterprise Zone	EDA	\$100,000	\$100,000
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District-City of Martinsville	Upgrade, widen, and landscape Beaver Street from Fayette Street to Memorial Blvd - City of Martinsville	MAP-21 VHDA	\$800,000 \$50,000	\$850,000
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District-City of Martinsville	Prepare City-owned site at corner of Fayette & Beaver Streets for residential, educational or commercial development - Martinsville Area and Central Business District	EDA Local CDBG Grants	\$380,000 \$200,000 \$1,800,000 \$2,000,000	\$3,380,000
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District-City of Martinsville	Write arts & cultural plan for Arts & Cultural District Additional elements could include, public art, an Uptown sculpture trail, and additional funding for the creation of new murals and the maintenance of existing murals. Close collaboration with Piedmont Arts and the FAH! Museum are key to success.	NEA City ARC	\$100,000 \$100,000 \$100,000	\$300,000
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District-City of Martinsville	Enhance Fayette Area Business District backside/greenhouse/ economic revitalization - Fayette Street from Moss Street to Memorial Blvd. Planning stipend for C&A&S Design - CRD	CDBG Local CRD Match - Ink	\$1,300,000 \$1,000,000 \$35,000 \$10,000	\$2,645,000

Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District-City of Martinsville	Purchase blighted properties - prepare site for redevelopment (202 Cleveland Avenue) - City of Martinsville	Brownfield EDA City	\$800,000 \$500,000 \$500,000	\$1,800,000
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District-City of Martinsville	Work with partners to develop an amphitheater on Depot Street	NEA ARC	\$50,000 \$50,000	\$100,000
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District-City of Martinsville	Acquire and redevelop properties along commercial corridor for reuse	ARC CDBG EDA	\$200,000 \$2,000,000 \$1,000,000	\$3,200,000
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District-City of Martinsville	Develop new (or redevelop existing) location in Uptown Martinsville or adjacent areas to serve as community music venue.	RF ARC HTC	\$600,000 \$200,000 \$300,000	\$1,100,000
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District-City of Martinsville	Commonwealth Corridor Enhancement & Pedestrian linkages to Uptown & Fayette Street	VDOT CDBG	\$1,000,000 \$500,000	\$1,500,000
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District-City of Martinsville	Purchase of West Church Street and/or Fayette Street property, complete feasibility study, adaptive reuse	RF CDBG	\$500,000 \$500,000	\$1,000,000
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District-City of Martinsville	Purchase of Main Street property, complete feasibility study, adaptive reuse	RF CDBG	\$500,000 \$500,000	\$1,000,000

Mini Filtration Optic Expansion- City of Martinsville	Citywide expansion of Mini Filtration fiber optic and wireless system to reach businesses and homes. Add additional resources to customer service and marketing.	EDA Other Local	\$2,000,000 \$11,000,000 \$7,500,000	\$20,500,000
Community Development Project - Housler Field Upgrades- City of Martinsville	Upgrades to the concession, seating, and restroom areas at Housler Field - covered seating, ADA-compliant restrooms, expanded press box/concession office space	ARC DRG OTHER	\$200,000 \$500,000 \$1,000,000	\$1,700,000
Virginia Museum of Natural History- City of Martinsville	Construct Outdoor Education Pavilion in rear of VMNH, to include exhibits interpreting eastern North American forest ecology	EDA DCR Local	\$500,000 \$50,000 \$50,000	\$100,000
Wilson Park Upgrading- City of Martinsville	Connection of outdoor education pavilion in rear of VMNH with a bridge, crossing over Oldstate Avenue, along with a 1,000 foot canopy loop into the grand old trees in the park.	EDA ARC Other	\$600,000 \$500,000 \$600,000	\$2,000,000
Community Parks Upgrading- City of Martinsville	Upgrade nine (9) existing parks (Ballman, Beaver Creek, Jackson Street, Vine End, J. Russel Mason, Chatham Heights, Oak & Canal 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. Baldwin Park has the potential to convert existing tennis courts into basketball courts. Also, increased resources for basketball court maintenance at parks with basketball courts. Additionally, create additional "pocket parks" throughout the City.	DCR ARC EDA Local	\$300,000 \$300,000 \$400,000 \$900,000	\$1,900,000

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Community Development Project - Small Business Development Strategic Plan - City of Martinsville	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 complementing the roles of existing partners and organizations.	EDA	\$150,000	\$450,000
	The resulting strategic plan could focus on Single Site Retail Service Incubator model that accommodates booths, counters and pop-up space. A clearly related concept is the "Incubator without walls" that focuses on a "boot camp" style of intense days of entrepreneurial training with a mini grant at the end. A third concept is an "Entrepreneurship Village" that would involve several small structures placed along Fayette Street across from New College Institute.	ARC	\$150,000	
		Local	\$150,000	
Community Development Project - Small Business Scale-up Grant Program - City of Martinsville	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
	A grant target market for the grant program would be for Minority Entrepreneurship Development. This could take the form of small "jump start" grants and a low-interest loan program for minority business development.	ARC	\$100,000	
		Other	\$100,000	
Community Development Project - Move to Martinsville - City of Martinsville	Partnering with the "Move to Martinsville" group to place strategic marketing pieces in other geographic markets to communicate the quality of life, value and opportunity to increase the number of people who move to Martinsville from other regions.	EDA	\$100,000	\$250,000
	Additionally Updown should be branded as a "Center for Entrepreneurship" that facilitates the attraction of new entrepreneurs, the support of existing business. The brand should bridge Updown and the West End.	ARC	\$50,000	
		Local	\$100,000	
Community Development Project - Any Avenue City of Martinsville	Revitalization of Any Avenue in the City of Martinsville to include owner occupied rehabilitation, new single family housing and new multi-family housing. In addition curb and gutter improvements should be included.	COBG	\$500,000	\$1,000,000
		Other/Private	\$500,000	
Community Development Project - 190 Block W Church St - City of Martinsville	Redevelopment of 100 Block W Church Street including parcels bordering W Market Street and Moss street into Work force housing.	ARC	\$400,000	\$1,200,000
		COBG	\$400,000	
		OTHER	\$400,000	
Community Development Project - Vacant Buildings Inventory Update City of Martinsville	Develop and maintain a vacant buildings inventory for Updown 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 higher and best use of Updown properties. A major goal of the buildings inventory will be to identify deficiencies including but not limited to broken windows, peeling paint etc.	COBG	\$75,000	\$100,000
		Other	\$25,000	
Community Development Project - Entrance Corridor Beautification and Revitalization - City of Martinsville	Signage, landscaping and other physical improvements to the major entrance corridors to the City of Martinsville. These entrance corridors are typically found in the "Entrance Corridor Overlay" located on the City of Martinsville's Zoning Map.	EDA	\$50,000	\$150,000
		ARC	\$50,000	
		Other	\$50,000	
Community Development Project - Updown Martinsville Design Study and Updown entrance corridor - City of Martinsville	Develop a design study for Updown Martinsville that may result in design guidelines, signage guidelines and other design guidance to be considered by City Council. In addition, the physical enhancement and beautification of entrance corridors into Updown Martinsville may be pursued. Neighborhood entrance signs throughout the City would be a complementary addition to this program.	EDA	\$75,000	\$200,000
		ARC	\$75,000	
		Other	\$50,000	
Community Development Project - First Park at West End Park City of Martinsville	Develop a community orchard, garden and/or similar facility at West End Park in the City of Martinsville. The purpose of this enhancement to the park would be to allow resident/citizen access to locally grown fruits and vegetables.	EDA	\$20,000	\$60,000
		ARC	\$20,000	
		Other	\$20,000	

Public Works Project - Curb and Gutter - Citywide	Assess the entire City and add curb and gutter where practicable and feasible in areas currently lacking curb and gutter.	EDA	\$1,000,000	\$3,000,000
		ARC	\$1,000,000	
		VOGT	\$1,000,000	
Public Works Project - Stormwater Projects Citywide City of Martinsville	Needed stormwater projects Citywide.	EDA	\$1,000,000	\$3,000,000
		ARC	\$1,000,000	
		VOGT	\$1,000,000	
Community Development Project - Design Guidelines	Creation of design guidelines that could apply to Updown and Historic Districts to improve the quality of development and redevelopment.	EDA	\$30,000	\$90,000
		ARC	\$30,000	
		Local	\$30,000	
Community Development Project - Update the incentive package City of Martinsville	Update the incentive package for enterprise zones, tourism zone, arts and cultural district and other zones in order to incentivize entrepreneurship, technology and business development.	EDA	\$100,000	\$200,000
		Local	\$100,000	

Consider approval of the consent agenda – Vice Mayor Bowles made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Council Member Martin seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor.

BUDGET ADDITIONS FOR 11/15/2022				
ORG	OBJECT	DESCRIPTION	DEBIT	CREDIT
FY23 - School Fund				
18101917	402282	Other State Funds		60,142
41001100	561120	Instructional S&W	51,850	
41001100	562100	Social Security	3,215	
41001100	562150	Medicare FICA	752	
41001100	562220	VRS	4,325	
		State share of Early Reading Specialist Position at MCPS		
		Total School Fund	60,142	60,142
*FY2023 State Share of Early Reading Specialist Initiative / Newly Eligible Schools / Patrick Henry Elementary School; Superintents Memo #133-22, Dated 6/24/2022				
FY23 - Capital - School Construction				
16101917	416601	Capital- Categorical State- School Construction	72,370	
16579369	508217	School Project - School Construction Grant		72,370
		School Construction Grant Program Entitlement*		
		Total Capital - School Construction Grant	\$ 72,370	72,370
* FY2023 School Construction Grant Program Entitlement; allocation for Martinsville City Public Schools is \$1,519,768, will be received in (21) installments during FY23.				

Business from the Floor – Aaron Rawls, 318 Brown Street said that it would be “neat to explore” adding a charter change to the Legislative Agenda so that any attempt to change the

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structure of the City government, such as reversion would require a referendum. Rawls has sent a request asking Council Members to not allocate any new contracts or money until new Council Members are seated, however he pointed out that two contracts were approved tonight including the BB&T building which he has grave concerns about. He wants to ensure whatever is approved for Uptown leaves Uptown in a better spot for the future. Rawls recommends that the City talk to Uptown business owners and encourages the media to speak to those residents who have moved here recently, ask who has moved them here and for what purpose. He requests that all local media get involved. While he supports Uptown Partnership, he explained that we are at odds for what we are trying to achieve. If Martinsville Uptown is going to be the epicenter for substance abuse recovery, homelessness, and drug abuse yet we are trying to build a vibrant commercial business district, then both will fail.

Comments by City Council – Council Member Turner wished residents a happy Thanksgiving. Council Member Pearson also wished residents a happy Thanksgiving and encouraged everyone to attend the Christmas parade on November 19. Residents can visit Martinsville.com to see other events going on in the City; Pearson stated that there are many holiday events for residents to enjoy. Council Member Martin wished residents a happy Thanksgiving and encourages them to attend local events. Vice Mayor Bowles wished residents a happy Thanksgiving also and congratulated new Council Members LC Jones and Aaron Rawls. Bowles asked resident to pray for those affected by the recent student shootings at UVA. Mayor Lawson shared that yesterday was the start of the campaign where residents can go by the EDC office to get free vouchers for dining in Uptown restaurants. Lawson recognized Nubby Coleman for being inducted into the Realtor Hall of Fame. Lawson shared that the Winterfest event is Saturday December 3 uptown followed by the tree lighting at the City Municipal building. Lawson attended the Community Foundations meeting a few weeks ago and at her table they had envelopes with three grant requests; her table chose the Southern Area Agency on Aging fuel oil assistance program. Lawson made a motion to donate \$1,000 to SAAA earmarked for fuel oil assistance for the senior citizens in Martinsville using the City's general funds. Council Member Turner seconded the motion. Martin asked if ARPA funds could be used for this also. Four Council Members voted in favor, however Vice Mayor Bowles had stepped out of the room prior to the vote. Lawson shared that the Police Department has a box in the Municipal Building lobby for drug drop off any day of the week. Most drug stores have drug boxes also. Lawson asked residents to be thankful, stating that this is the season where we should appreciate others.

Comments by City Manager – Towarnicki said with the CARES money coming in, the City made several substantial donations to organizations that help with water/sewer bills and other needs. The City jumps in anytime something like this comes down the pipeline. Towarnicki said the program works through the Utility Billing department who identify those residents who are in need and are delinquent on paying their bills. The Five Points project just closed on the

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fourth house with serious interest in the fifth house. There is ongoing conversation about the next phase of this project. The Municipal Building will be closed half-day Wednesday, then all day Thursday and Friday for the Thanksgiving holiday. Garbage pickup will be on regular schedule except Thursday which will be picked up on Friday.

Council reconvened to closed session at 9:00pm.

At the conclusion of Closed Session, each returning member of Council certified that (1) only public business matters exempt from open meeting requirements were discussed in said Closed Session; and (2) only those business matters identified in the motion convening the Closed Session were heard, discussed, or considered during the meeting. A motion was made by Turner; seconded by Bowles with the following 5-0 recorded vote in favor to return to Open Session: Council Member Turner, aye; Council Member Pearson, aye; Vice Mayor Bowles, aye; Mayor Lawson, aye; and Council Member Martin, aye. Regarding item (A) Personnel discussions, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Bowles and seconded by Council Member Martin to make certain modifications to the City Attorney's employment contract. It was noted most of the modifications were simply "clean-up" of outdated information, but also revisions regarding severance compensation. The motion passed on a 4-1 vote with Lawson, Bowles, Martin and Turner voting in favor and Pearson casting the dissenting vote. A motion was then made by Council Member Pearson and seconded by Council Member Martin to make modifications to the City Manager's employment contract specifically related to severance pay provisions to bring the contract more in line with that of the School Superintendent. The motion passed on a 4-1 vote with Lawson, Bowles, Pearson and Martin voting in favor and Turner casting the dissenting vote. No action was taken on item (B) Investment of public funds.

With no further business, Vice Mayor Bowles made a motion to adjourn at 9:40pm.

Karen Roberts, Clerk of Council

Kathy Lawson, Mayor