

December 13, 2022 Council Meeting

The regular meeting of the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia was held on December 13, 2022 in the Municipal Building Council Chambers, beginning at 7:00 PM with Mayor Kathy Lawson presiding. Other Council Members present included Danny Turner, Chad Martin, and Jennifer Bowles. Council Member Tammy Pearson was not in attendance. Staff present included City Manager Leon Towarnicki, Assistant City Manager and City Attorney Eric Monday, Clerk of Council Karen Roberts, Community Development Director Mark McCaskill, Fire Chief Ted Anderson, Clerk of Court Ashby Pritchett and Clerk of Court staff, Finance Director Many McGhee, Public Information Officer Kendall Davis, and Police Chief Eddie Cassady.

Mayor Lawson called the meeting to order. Council Member Martin lead the pledge to the flag and 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 November 14, 2022 Southside Neighborhood Meeting and the November 15, 2022 Council meeting – Vice Mayor Bowles made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Council Member Turner seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor.

Consider recognizing Vice-Mayor Jennifer Bowles and Council Member Danny Turner for their service to the citizens of Martinsville – Public Information Officer Kendall Davis shared a presentation of pictures from Vice Mayor Bowles' and Council Member Turner's years on City Council. Mayor Lawson read the proclamation for Council Member Turner and Vice Mayor Bowles. Lawson presented them both with a key to the City. Council Member Martin stated that he's had some interesting interactions and shared memorable facts about Turner including Turner's support of local veterans and Turner's compassion for Martinsville and the residents. Martin said that it's been an interesting experience to see how much Vice Mayor Bowles has grown in the time she's served on Council, quoted "big things come in small packages". Bowles may be the smallest person in the room but she has the biggest heart. Martin stated that he feels confident that Bowles has a bright future in politics and she will do amazing things. Mayor Lawson, said it's been an honor and pleasure to serve on Council with both Turner and Bowles. Turner has single handedly brought more attention to the local veterans than anyone and he did this all from his heart. Bowles has brought a younger perspective to Council and she has served on various boards with honor and integrity. Lawson said Turner and Bowles will be sorely missed as members of Council. Former Mayor Teague approached the podium and stated that he appreciates the job that all Council Members do. Teague thanked Turner, addressing him as former Mayor. Teague has served with 20 of the 68 Council Members who have served Martinsville over the years; Turner promotes the City better than most anyone else has and by far one of the better members of Council to make Martinsville better, focusing especially on the local veterans. One of Bowles legacies is the way she approached her job with an energy and passion to learn. Teague also addressed Police Chief Eddie Cassady, Fire Chief Ted Anderson

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and Clerk of Court Ashby Pritchett for their years of service to the City. Ralph Lawson approached the podium and thanked both Bowles and Turner for helping put out the flags throughout the City and their support of the Exchange Club. Lawson recognized Fire Chief Anderson for the smoke alarm program and Police Chief Cassady for the crime stoppers program and thanked both for their service. Council Member Turner said he traveled with Bowles often and he has seen in Bowles the grace of her mother and the fire of her father. Vice Mayor Bowles said she doesn't think there was ever a Mayor and Vice Mayor duo that traveled so often together to do things for the City. Bowles recognized Turner again for the amazing job he's done for Martinsville and especially for the veterans.



PROCLAMATION

HONORING VICE-MAYOR JENNIFER BOWLES

WHEREAS, Jennifer Bowles has served as a member of the Martinsville City Council for eight years, from January, 2015 through December, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Jennifer Bowles also served the City as Vice-Mayor for two 2-year terms in 2015-2016 and again in 2021-2022; and

WHEREAS, during her terms on Council, Jennifer Bowles displayed outstanding dedication to the City of Martinsville and its citizens while performing her duties as a public servant; and

WHEREAS, it is highly appropriate that we thank Jennifer Bowles for her contributions and leadership during her tenure on Council that has helped make Martinsville an even better place to live, work, and raise a family;

NOW THEREFORE, on this 13th day of December, 2022, Martinsville City Council hereby proclaims their thanks and appreciation to Jennifer Bowles for her dedication and 8 years of service to the citizens of Martinsville as a member of Martinsville's City Council from 2015 through 2022.

Kathy Lawson
Mayor



PROCLAMATION

HONORING COUNCIL MEMBER DANNY TURNER

WHEREAS, Danny Turner has served as a member of Martinsville City Council for twelve and a half years, from July, 2008 through December, 2016, and from January, 2019 through December, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Danny Turner has also served the City as Mayor from January, 2015 through December, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Danny Turner has displayed outstanding dedication to the City of Martinsville and its citizens while performing his duties as a public servant; and

WHEREAS, it is highly appropriate that we thank Danny Turner for his contributions and leadership during his tenure on Council, which has helped make Martinsville an even better place to live, work, and raise a family;

NOW THEREFORE, on this 13th day of December, 2022, the Martinsville City Council hereby proclaims their thanks and appreciation to Danny Turner for his dedication and service to the citizens of Martinsville as a member of Martinsville's City Council.

Kathy Lawson
Mayor

Consider recognizing retiring Martinsville Circuit Court Clerk Ashby Pritchett, Martinsville Fire Chief Ted Anderson, and Martinsville Police Chief Eddie Cassady for their service to the citizens of Martinsville – Council Member Martin read the proclamation for Ashby Pritchett and presented him with a Key to the City. Mayor Lawson read the proclamation for Eddie Cassady and presented him with a Key to the City. Vice Mayor Bowles read the proclamation for Ted Anderson and presented him with a Key to the City. Pritchett said it's been a "devil of 37 years and a blessing" to serve the City. Pritchett says he's been through numerous Councils, City Managers and City Attorneys and they've all worked well together. God Bless all and he hopes that the City continues to prosper. Cassady said Vice Mayor Bowles' grandfather Pete Petty was his training officer and one of the most influential people in his career. He said it's about the employees, the staff and the citizens working together. Anderson said it's been an honor and a

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blessing to be a servant to the residents of Martinsville. He's had great guidance from former and current Council members. The friends he's made and the influencers who have guided him have led him to where he is today. Thank you to the community and the citizens for allowing him to serve. Anderson introduced the new Fire Chief chosen from several great candidates, welcome and congratulations Dan Howell. Howell thanked Martinsville for allowing him to begin his service with the fire department in 1996 and offered his continued commitment to serve the citizen of Martinsville.



PROCLAMATION

HONORING RETIRING CLERK OF THE MARTINSVILLE CIRCUIT COURT ASHBY PRITCHETT

WHEREAS, Ashby Pritchett first began his service to the City filling an unexpired term of former Circuit Court Clerk Jesse Clift in December, 1985; and

WHEREAS, Ashby Pritchett has since been subsequently re-elected to successive terms and has chosen to retire at the end of December, 2022, culminating a 37 year career of service to the City and the citizens of Martinsville; and

WHEREAS, during his years of service to the City, Ashby Pritchett has exemplified professionalism, courtesy to others, and genuine dedication to providing the best service possible to the citizens of Martinsville through his work in the Martinsville Circuit Court Clerk's Office;

NOW, THEREFORE, on this 13th day of December 2022, the Martinsville City Council hereby recognizes and commends Ashby Pritchett for his outstanding service to the City of Martinsville, and extends to him and his family our best wishes for a long and happy retirement.

Kathy Lawson, Mayor



PROCLAMATION

HONORING RETIRING FIRE CHIEF TED ANDERSON

WHEREAS, Ted Anderson was employed by the City of Martinsville in August, 1997 and progressed through the years to his current position of Fire Chief; and

WHEREAS, during his service to the City, Ted Anderson has exemplified professionalism, courtesy to others, and genuine dedication to providing the best service possible to the citizens of Martinsville through his work in the Martinsville Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, Ted Anderson has chosen to retire at the end of December, 2022, culminating a 25 year career of service to City;

NOW, THEREFORE, on this 13th day of December 2022, the Martinsville City Council hereby recognizes and commends Ted Anderson for his outstanding service to the City of Martinsville, and extends to him and his family our best wishes for a long and happy retirement.

Kathy Lawson, Mayor



PROCLAMATION

**HONORING RETIRING POLICE CHIEF
EDDIE CASSADY**

WHEREAS, Eddie Cassady was employed by the City of Martinsville in November, 1985 and progressed through the years to his current position of Police Chief; and

WHEREAS, during his service to the City, Eddie Cassady has exemplified professionalism, courtesy to others, and genuine dedication to providing the best service possible to the citizens of Martinsville through his work in the Martinsville Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Eddie Cassady has chosen to retire at the end of December, 2022, culminating a 37 year career of service to City;

NOW, THEREFORE, on this 13th day of December 2022, the Martinsville City Council hereby recognizes and commends Eddie Cassady for his outstanding service to the City of Martinsville, and extends to him and his family our best wishes for a long and happy retirement.

Kathy Lawson, Mayor

Hear a report from Robinson Farmer Cox Associates on the City's FY22 audit – Michael Lupton, representative for Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates shared details about the City's FY22 audit. They audited the financial records for the City of Martinsville for fiscal year 2022 in accordance with general auditing standards. It is their opinion that the financial statements are correct in accordance with the accounting principles which is the highest level of assurance they can offer in their profession. In accordance with government auditing standards, they issued a report on internal controls and he is pleased to report that they did not encounter any significant deficiencies. They performed an audit of City and School Board expenditures, including an audit of the ARPA funds and ESSR funds and found no non-compliant items. Lupton explained that overall, the audit looked good from a financial accounting perspective. Council Member Martin asked for public benefit, does the audit prove that Martinsville is fiscally stressed. Lupton explained that the APA uses the audited financial statements to determine the fiscal distressed calculations for local governments in the state. Martin said he is glad there is a third party that can verify that information.

Read and present a proclamation acknowledging the 50th anniversary of ANCHOR Commission – Vice Mayor Bowles read the proclamation which was presented to Ricky Walker, Executive Director of ANCHOR Commission. Walker thanked Council for their support over the past 50-years. Walker introduced Mike Kirby and Robin Campbell who are long term employees of ANCHOR and shared their responsibilities.



PROCLAMATION

RECOGNIZING THE 50-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF ANCHOR COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the ANCHOR Commission is celebrating its 50th anniversary during this year, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the board members and staff of this fine organization, during its 50-year existence, have followed the mission of the organization which is to provide a new chance for youth. While they remain close to home, ANCHOR provides comprehensive care and individualized treatment to assist youth and their families in achieving optimal health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, board members and staff are dedicated to providing programs as an alternative to secure detention. This service model is designed to assure public safety through programs offered while the participating juveniles are introduced to activities that increase their awareness of the effects of delinquent behavior on others and consequences for their actions as well as developing the desire to contribute positively to their community; and

WHEREAS, ANCHOR Commission is a collaborative partner that supports youth and families; and works to provide supervision and services to keep youth out of detention and with their families, while remaining in our community;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Kathy Lawson, Mayor of the City of Martinsville, Virginia, do hereby proclaim and declare **2022 as ANCHOR Commission's 50th Anniversary Year** and urge our citizens to join with me in recognizing the value and importance ANCHOR Commission's services bring to our community.

Kathy Lawson, Mayor

Hear an update on the Community Health Worker project – Kris Schrader explained the Community Health Worker position and introduced Diana Foley, Community Health Worker under Fire and EMS. Foley provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Health Worker project.



Community Health Worker / My Role

- ▶ Obtaining referrals from operations staff
- ▶ Home visits
- ▶ Establishing the needs of the patient
- ▶ Connecting patients with resources
- ▶ Follow up care
- ▶ Covid 19 education
- ▶ Vaccination clinics

Community Health Worker Team



What are we looking for?

- ▶ Poor living conditions
- ▶ Frequent callers of 911
- ▶ Utility assistance
- ▶ Home Health Care Needs
- ▶ Non-compliant with healthcare and medications
- ▶ Prescription Assistance
- ▶ Need of Primary Care Physician
- ▶ Drug/Alcohol Abuse
- ▶ Mental Illness

Client Success Stories



Supportive Roles



- ▶ Assist with EMS calls and Fires
- ▶ Help with training and EMS continuing education
- ▶ Serve on the WVEMS Protocol Workgroup
- ▶ Assist with Employee Mentoring
- ▶ Provide vaccination administration and education

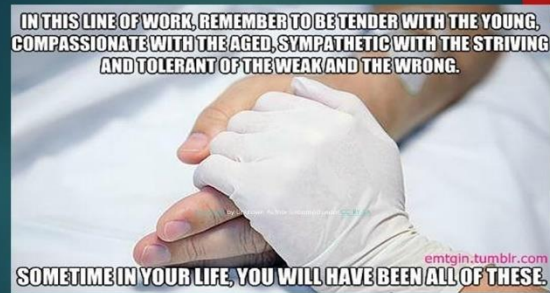
Education



- ▶ Virginia Officers Academy
 - Developing Leadership in the fire service
- ▶ 2022 Regional Award for Outstanding Pre-Hospital Provider
 - Awarded by Western Virginia EMS Council
 - Nomination for Governor's award at the state level
- ▶ Women In Fire
 - I joined the organization in February
 - Promotes women and diversity in the fire service/ how to overcome obstacles
 - Women In Fire Conference 2022, Orlando
 - Attended Classes for The Community Health Workers' role in the Fire Service
- ▶ State Certification of Community Health Worker
- ▶ Fire Officer 1 through Virginia Department of Fire Programs

Future Goals

- ▶ Obtain National Community Paramedic Certification
- ▶ Partnership with Sovah Martinsville (High risk discharges or Chronic Disease Management)
- ▶ Telehealth
- ▶ Growth



Questions?

Diana Foley
Community Health Worker | Firefighter/Paramedic
dfoley@ci.Martinsville.va.us
(757) 342-1381 Mobile

Consider adoption of a Resolution supporting the Virginia 250 Celebration – City Attorney Monday explained the need for the resolution which is required by any locality that may be applying to the commission for grants to assist in the observance of the 250th. Martinsville and Virginia have a lot to celebrate. If the resolution is not adopted in a locality, that locality's grant request will not be considered. The General Assembly has appropriated \$15million for the celebration in Virginia which is as much as the National Commission has appropriated and Monday expects that total to increase even more. Vice Mayor Bowles made the motion to adopt the resolution. Council Member Martin seconded the motion. Turner said one of the big events is the Crossing of the Dan 60 miles away. Martinsville would be a prime location for people traveling through the area reliving the revolution. Monday said the victory and independence was won in the South. All Council Members voted in favor.



RESOLUTION

RELATING TO THE SUPPORT OF THE VIRGINIA AMERICA 250 COMMISSION

RECITALS:

- A. The City Council of Martinsville is dedicated to the furtherance of economic development and tourism in Martinsville and Henry County.
- B. The Virginia America 250 Commission (VA250) was created in 2020 by the General Assembly for the purpose of preparing for and commemorating the 250th anniversary of Virginia's participation in American independence.
- C. VA250 has requested that each locality form a committee to aid in planning for the commemoration period.

WHEREAS, the City of Martinsville will form a local VA250 committee; and

WHEREAS, the committee will plan and coordinate programs occurring within the locality and communicate regularly with VA250; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to undertake this endeavor with VA250 to promote and commemorate this important historic milestone;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Martinsville:

- 1. The City Council hereby desires to support the Virginia America 250 Commission and their efforts to commemorate the 250th anniversary of Virginia's participation in American independence.
- 2. Jarred Marlowe, President of the Colonel George Waller Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, will form a committee to aid in the planning for the commemoration period.

ADOPTED this 13 day of December, 2022.

Attest:

Karen Roberts, *Clerk of Council*

Consider information related to the City proposed 2023 Legislative Agenda – City Attorney Monday said that it was decided during the meetings with the Mayor and Vice Mayor that this information should include the new Council Members. Mayor Lawson requested that proper funding of the Public Defender's office should be included.



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.

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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.

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Consider information related to the 2023 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) list – Community Development Manager Mark McCaskill said the final list is not needed until the end of January and the official email has not been sent out to the localities yet. Mayor

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Lawson stated that there is some tweaking to be done including the West End Pine Hall project which is still listed and in the works. Vice Mayor Bowles is excited that a couple of attendees at a previous neighborhood meeting are being approved for the Pine Hall project also.

Revitalization of Uptown Business District--City of Martinsville	Incentivize small businesses (exterior and interior makeover/elevator)	EDA	\$900,000	\$900,000
	Recommendations from Uptown Partnership include: a leasehold matching grant program up to \$5,000, increase façade amount and change percentage match to 75/25 from current 50/50			
Revitalization of Uptown Business District--City of Martinsville	Construct/ retrofit condos/apartments in Uptown	EDA	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000
	Recommendations from Uptown Partnership include:	DHCD	\$300,000	
	The corner of Church and Broad Streets are a good location for some moderately sized mixed use apartment buildings.	VHDA	\$500,000	
	In addition development of full alleyway activation plan to include other alleys in Uptown.	City	\$200,000	
Neighborhood Revitalization Project--West End/Pine Hall Road Neighborhood in Martinsville	Housing rehab; creation of community space	CDBG	\$1,200,000	\$1,800,000
		Local	\$600,000	
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District--City of Martinsville	Purchase blighted properties on Starling Avenue and adaptively reuse	HUD/NSP	\$700,000	\$1,000,000
		HTC	\$300,000	
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	\$200,000	\$3,000,000
		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	Purchase blighted properties, prepare site for development (Draper - West Church Street) - City of Martinsville	Brownfield	\$400,000	\$825,000
		EDA	\$325,000	
		City	\$100,000	
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District--City of Martinsville	Rives Road Site Development- full site development including A & E, site grading	EDA	\$1,400,000	\$1,400,000

Community Development Projects--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	\$800,000	\$850,000
		VHDA	\$50,000	
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	\$300,000	\$3,500,000
		Local	\$200,000	
		CDBG	\$1,000,000	
		Grants	\$2,000,000	
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 FAHI Museum are key to success.	NEA	\$100,000	\$300,000
		City	\$100,000	
		ARC	\$100,000	
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District--City of Martinsville	Enhance Fayette Area Business District facades/greenscape/ economic revitalization - Fayette Street from Moss Street to Memorial Blvd. Planning stipend for Citizens Design - CIRD	CDBG	\$1,000,000	\$2,045,000
		Local	\$1,000,000	
		CIRD	\$35,000	
		Match - Ink	\$10,000	
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	\$900,000	\$1,900,000
		EDA	\$500,000	
		City	\$500,000	
Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District--City of Martinsville	Work with partners to develop an amphitheater on Depot Street	NEA	\$50,000	\$100,000
		ARC	\$50,000	

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Community Development Project - CDBG - Martinsville Area & Central Business District--City of Martinsville	Acquire and redevelop properties along commercial corridor for reuse	ARC CDBG EDA	\$250,000 \$2,000,000 \$1,000,000	\$3,250,000
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.	IRF 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	IRF 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	IRF CDBG	\$500,000 \$500,000	\$1,000,000
MINet Fiber Optic Expansion--City of Martinsville	Citywide expansion of MINet Martinsville 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 - Hooker Field Upgrades-- City of Martinsville	Upgrades to the concession, seating, and restroom areas at Hooker Field - covered seating, ADA compliant restrooms expanded press box/concession/office space	ARC DRC 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	\$50,000 \$50,000 \$50,000	\$150,000
Wilson Park Upgrading--City of Martinsville	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 ARC Other	\$600,000 \$800,000 \$600,000	\$2,000,000
Community Parks Upgrading--City of Martinsville	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. 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
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 ARC Local	\$150,000 \$150,000 \$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 closely 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.			
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 ARC Other	\$100,000 \$100,000 \$100,000	\$300,000
	A good 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.			

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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 live, value and opportunity to increase the number of people who move to Martinsville from other regions. Additionally Uptown should be branded as a "Center for Entrepreneurship" that facilitates the attraction of new entrepreneurs, the support of existing business. The brand should bridge Uptown and the West End.	EDA	\$100,000	\$250,000
		ARC	\$50,000	
		Local	\$100,000	
Community Development Project - Amy Avenue City of Martinsville	Revitalization of Amy 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.	CDBG	\$500,000	\$1,000,000
		Other/Private	\$500,000	
Community Development Project - 100 Block W Church St.-- City of Martinsville	Redevelopment of 100 Block W. Church Street including parcels fronting W Market Street and Moss street into Workforce Housing.	ARC	\$400,000	\$1,200,000
		CDBG	\$400,000	
		OTHER	\$400,000	
Community Development Project - Vacant Buildings Inventory Uptown City of Martinsville	Develop and maintain a vacant buildings inventory for Uptown 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. A major goal of the buildings inventory will be to identify deficiencies including but not limited to broken windows, peeling paint etc.	CDBG	\$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 - Uptown Martinsville Design Study and Uptown entrance corridors - City of Martinsville	Develop a design study for Uptown Martinsville that may result in design guidelines, façade guidelines and other design guidance to be considered by City Council. In addition, the physical enhancement and beautification of entrance corridors into Uptown 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 - Fruit 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	
		VDOT	\$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	
		VDOT	\$1,000,000	
Community Development Project - Design Guidelines	Creation of design guidelines that could apply to Uptown 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.

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BUDGET ADDITIONS FOR 12/13/2022				
ORG	OBJECT	DESCRIPTION	DEBIT	CREDIT
FY23 General Fund				
01103938	462101	Contribution from Fund Balance		38,951
01211070	501100	Full Time Salaries	27,500	
01211070	502100	Social Security	1,705	
01211070	502110	Medicare/FICA	399	
01211070	502210	Retirement Payment	5,418	
01211070	502220	STD/LTD	145	
01211070	502300	Group Medical	3,396	
01211070	502400	State Life	369	
01211070	502700	Worker's Comp Ins.	19	
Total General Fund			38,951	38,951
FY23 Electric Fund				
14100905	414209	Sales of S/S Materials		20,451
14563338	506007	Substation Maintenance	15,701	
14563339	506007	Substation Maintenance	4,750	
		GovDeals - Sales of (2) transformers		
Total Electric Fund			20,451	20,451

Business from the Floor – Keith Owens, 1708 Meadowview Lane thanked Council Member Turner and Vice Mayor Bowles for their service and stated that there is no doubt the people are the most important thing in the City. Owens asked Bowles to never give up and he hopes to see her back on City Council in the future. The Martinsville-Henry County Warming Center is looking for overnight and intake volunteers and meal donations; they are currently serving an average of 37 people. There is a need in the City to help the underserved and homeless in the area. It's the right thing to do to help take care of the people of Martinsville. If there was a fulltime shelter, they could help residents find jobs and permanent housing. Blankets, pillows, hygiene products, towels, etc. can be donated at Forest Hills Presbyterian Church or reach out to Owens or Aerial Johnson and they'll pick those items up. Again, volunteers are desperately needed. Owens shared his contact number for anyone who does not have Facebook. Meals are accepted and appreciated. Leroy Hairston, 109 Terry Street shared that although Turner and Bowles terms are ending, their service to the community should not. The City has a lot of work to do and citizens need to band together to push the City forward. Hairston thanked Council Members for putting up with him and he hopes that they could forgive him for striking nerves, but he will stand his ground wherever he goes.

Mayor Lawson wanted to clarify that Closed session for boards and commissions will be held after the regular meeting.

Comments by City Council – Council Member Martin wished everyone a happy holiday and thanked Bowles and Turner for their service. Martin thanked Chief Cassidy, Chief Anderson and Clerk of Court Pritchett for their service also. Council Member Turner thanked everyone for allowing him to serve on Council 12-1/2 years and said that the experience has been humbling. He plans to continue working for the community and is currently working with an international company that may be moving to the area soon. Turner mentioned Lou Whitaker and he asked the City Manager if there was some way to honor him once the Mustangs ball park is completed. Turner reminded residents of Richard's Dinner, meals can be delivered as far as

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Patrick and Franklin Counties. Turner presented gifts to Council and staff. Vice Mayor Bowles share that Head of State will be hosting their Third Annual Faith in Future Toy Drive and Ride on December 17 from 1:00-5:00pm with a free toy giveaway; children must be present to receive the gift. There will also be food trucks on site for this event at 714 Memorial Boulevard. Bowles encouraged citizens to follow the Utilities page for updates on power outages. Tomorrow, FAHI is asking the community to join them for their Christmas open house from 3:00-5:00pm at 211 Fayette street. Bowles thanked the citizens and her family for giving her the opportunity to serve on City Council and recognized her sister who stepped up after Bowles' mother passed away. Bowles wants everyone to know that the person she is today, is because of her sister. Bowles thanked the residents for voting during the last election. Bowles gained a lot of fulfillment serving the citizens while on Council.

Bowles made a motion to authorize the City Manager to execute an addendum for Next P.L.A.N. Athletics for Mustangs Management for three additional years with a two-year extension at their request. The Martinsville Mustangs have done an amazing job with baseball in our community, they sold out their advertisement for the first time in quite some time. They sold out Hooker Field for the first time in decades, numbers don't lie. Bowles wants to see the dedication of Lou Whitaker and encourages our youth to follow in his footsteps. Quality of life matters in Martinsville. Martin seconded the motion. Turner questioned the motion and the contract. Bowles, Lawson and Martin voted in favor of the motion, Turner voted against for a 3-1 vote.

Vice Mayor Bowles made a motion to terminate City Attorney Monday's contract effective January 2, 2023. Bowles explained that this does not suggest any malfeasance on Monday's part. Monday has always been hard working, ethical, and understanding during her eight years on Council. Bowles reflected back on their most recent collaboration on the Martinsville Seven project, sharing that they had very honest and direct conversations about how they wanted to see our community progress and move forward. She is thankful that Monday worked with her and that together they were able to get that project complete. Since the new Council has indicated they would like to go in a new direction, this decision will clear the deck for a clean slate and allow Monday to start looking for new career opportunities. Council Member Martin seconded the motion. Mayor Lawson added that while at the VML in October, she had a question for the VML attorney. The attorney asked which City she represented and when she told him Martinsville, he responded "Oh you have Eric Monday, you have the best. Monday has served the City with honesty and integrity and has been outstanding to work with. Monday gave up his private practice to serve Martinsville City. He is in the top 1% of attorney's in the Commonwealth having been chosen as a Virginia Law Foundation Fellow which is a big honor. Lawson agrees with Bowles, they need to wipe the slate clean because everyone has heard the rumors. Monday will be a very valuable employee for someone and it will be with remorse when she casts her vote. Council Member Turner asked how long the City can go without an attorney.

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Monday explained that the new Council can appoint a replacement at the Organizational meeting January 3 and referenced the City charter which states that Council can appoint any City officer they want at that time. Turner asked if this motion would trigger the \$100,000 buy-out. Monday stated that he does not intend to take the severance. Martin said when he first began serving on Council, he voiced some of his frustrations about how some things were handled on Council. Monday pulled Martin aside and told him that some people do not like the truth and when you are a person who “shoots straight from the hip” then they do not know how to handle that. Martin appreciates Monday’s honesty and being straight forward. You don’t have to guess what’s on Monday’s mind because he tells you which is refreshing to work with someone like that. Martin appreciates Monday’s wise council and he considers Monday a friend. Martin stated that he hates politics because of things like this. We often think when we love someone that we have to hold that person close and not let them go; real love is opening that door and allowing people to move forward when they need to. All present Council Members voted in favor to terminate Monday’s contract. Mayor Lawson thanked Monday for his service. Vice Mayor Bowles said a citizen reached out to her and asked her to remind Council Members to improve the area for the people. Council Member Martin stated when Council Members attended a FOIA meeting where an attorney lead the class; after the class Monday introduced Martin to another attorney who told Martin that she hopes the Council realizes who they have with Eric Monday. To find out that other City Attorneys in other areas call on Monday with questions, shows respect and speaks volumes on the person Monday is. Mayor Lawson shared that the Winterfest and Uptown tree lighting were both successful and she wanted to thank the Public Works department for their help pulling off the festival. There will be a Strategic Planning session scheduled early 2023; David Dickerson has been contacted to be the facilitator again for that. Lawson thanked the current council for allowing her to serve as Mayor and wished everyone a blessed holiday.

Comments by City Manager – City Manager Towarnicki said there was discussion at the meeting prior to the Council election and there was concern about the policy related to conflict of interest and a City employee serving on Council. That policy was reviewed at Council’s request by Victor Cardwell of Law Firm Woods, Rogers, Vandeventer, Black. Cardwell specializes in Human Resource employment law. His response was lengthy but in summary, it was his belief that the City’s new policy is proper under Virginia law and one of the concluding remarks was “the desire to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest and impropriety is sufficient to justify the action” which in the City’s case, was to implement the new policy. There were several pages in between those comments referencing case law and Attorney General opinions, etc. that essentially supports the policy that was implemented by Martinsville City. There was nothing to indicate that the City’s implementation of the policy was improper or inappropriate. Towarnicki said they have signed a contract for the installation of charging stations in the parking lot Uptown across from the post office and he expects construction to begin on those in

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the spring. The next council meeting will be the organizational meeting on January 3, 2023 when the new council members will be sworn in, the Mayor and Vice Mayor will be selected and any other issues can be discussed. Towarnicki shared that Clerk of Court Pritchett, Fire Chief Anderson and Police Chief Eddie Cassady have a combined 99 years of service and are all outstanding individuals. Towarnicki said it's been most enjoyable to work with Council Member Turner and Vice Mayor Bowles and shared a story about the Japanese Embassy. Towarnicki agrees with Council's comments about City Attorney Monday; when he asks Monday a question he gets an answer; like it or not but he knows it is truth and, in his position, that's critical. Monday is a great person to work with and a great friend. Bowles said she remembered coming onto Council and asking Leon a million questions and she thanked him for always being responsive and patient and for respecting her from the start. Bowles thinks highly of Towarnicki and other communities think the world of him also.

City Attorney Monday stated that he and Council Member Turner have not always seen eye to eye, but he has an enormous respect for Turner's obvious love for the City and his dedicated service as a former Mayor including attending most every ribbon cutting, open house, etc. to help promote Martinsville. Turner's desire to see Martinsville do better is obvious. Monday spoke to Vice Mayor Bowles, stating that it's been a genuine pleasure to work with her and her love for the City comes through consistently. Monday is especially proud of what Bowles has done for the black community including her commitment to have every historic black cemetery in Martinsville recognized, making Martinsville the first community in the state to achieve that. Monday was honored to assist Bowles in a 70-year plus injustice with the Martinsville Seven project. It's been a pleasure to work with Mayor Lawson, Council Member Martin and other Council Members and staff over the past 20 years. Monday stated that over his 20 years with the City and having worked with 5 City Managers, City Manager Towarnicki is by far the best and most drama-free. Towarnicki is a good friend with unquestionable integrity, honestly and unflinching devotion to the betterment of the City. January 1, 2023 will be Monday's 20th year as City Attorney and it's been a genuine honor and pleasure serving the City of Martinsville and the residents. Mayor Lawson shared that she and Vice Mayor Bowles planted a cherry tree yesterday for the Tree City designation and Bee City designation. The area was also planted in clover for the bees.

Mayor Lawson advised Council would go into Closed Session at 8:45PM. In accordance with section 2.1-344 (A) Code of Virginia (1950, and as amended) and upon a motion by Martin and seconded by Bowles with the following 4-0 recorded vote: Mayor Lawson, aye; Council Member Martin, aye; Council Member Turner, aye; and Vice Mayor Bowles, aye. Council convened to Closed Session to discuss the following matters: (A) Appointments to boards and commissions, as authorized by Subsection 1.

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

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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 Vice Mayor Bowles; seconded by Council Member Turner, with the following 4-0 recorded vote in favor to return to Open Session: Council Member Turner, aye; Vice Mayor Bowles, aye; Mayor Lawson, aye; and Council Member Martin, aye.

Vice Mayor Bowles made a motion to reappoint Imogene Draper to the Arts and Cultural Committee for a 3-year term ending December 31, 2025; Council Member Turner seconded the motion with all present Council Members voting in favor.

Council Member Turner made a motion to reappoint Bernadette Moore to the Arts and Cultural Committee for a 3-year term ending December 31, 2025; Council Member Martin seconded the motion with all present Council Members voting in favor.

Vice Mayor Bowles made a motion to appoint Pamela Allen to the Patrick and Henry Community College Board for a 4-year unexpired term ending June 30, 2024; Council Member Turner seconded the motion with all present Council Members voting in favor.

Vice Mayor Bowles made a motion to reappoint Veraine Randolph to the Anchor Group Home Commission for a 4-year term ending December 31, 2026; Council Member Martin seconded the motion with all present Council Members voting in favor.

Council Member Martin made a motion to appoint Jennifer Bowles to the West Piedmont Planning District Board of Commissioners as the City's citizen appointee, effective January 3, 2023 for a 3-year unexpired term ending June 30, 2025; Council Member Turner seconded the motion with 3-0 vote: Martin, Turner and Lawson voting in favor. Jennifer Bowles abstained.

Vice Mayor Bowles made a motion to appoint Yluelhaldi Rose to the Blue Ridge Regional Library Governing board for a 4-year unexpired term ending June 30, 2025; Council Member Turner seconded the motion with all present Council Members voting in favor.

With no further business, Council Member Turner made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Vice Mayor Bowles. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm.

Karen Roberts, Clerk of Council

Kathy Lawson, Mayor