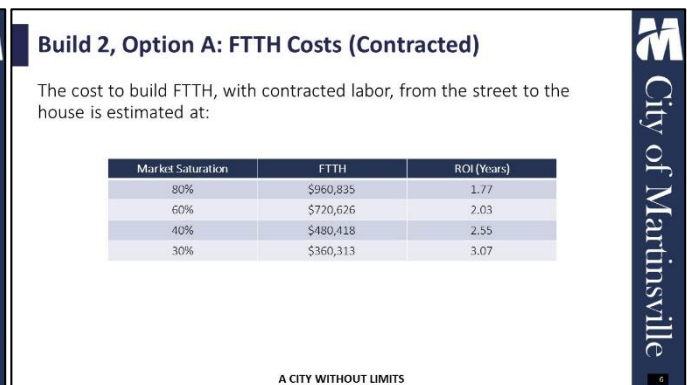
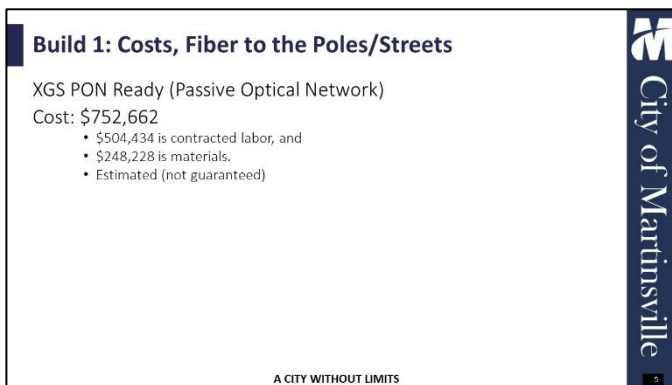
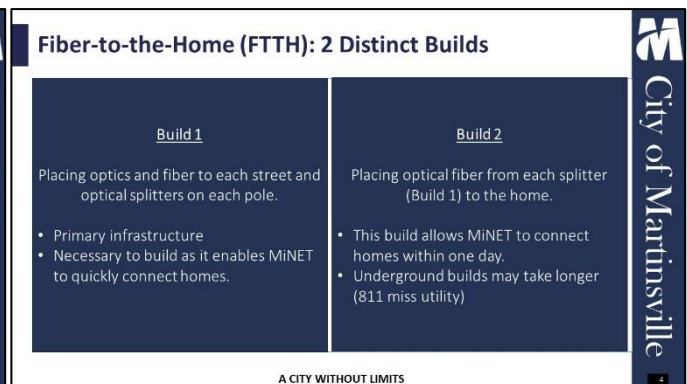
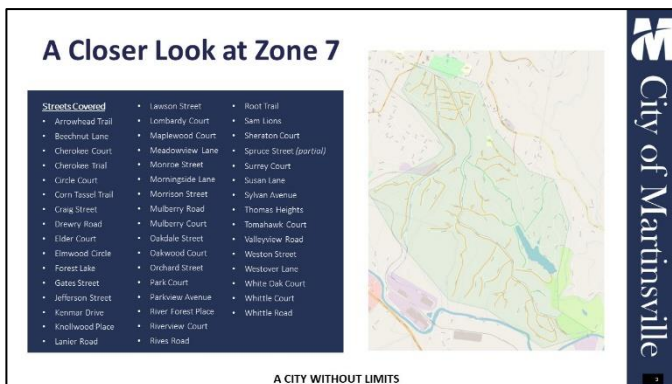
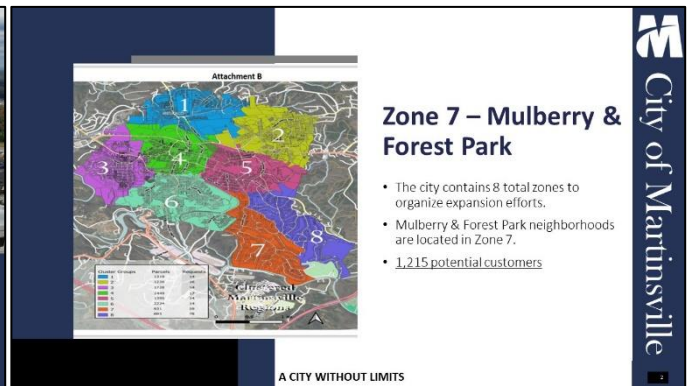
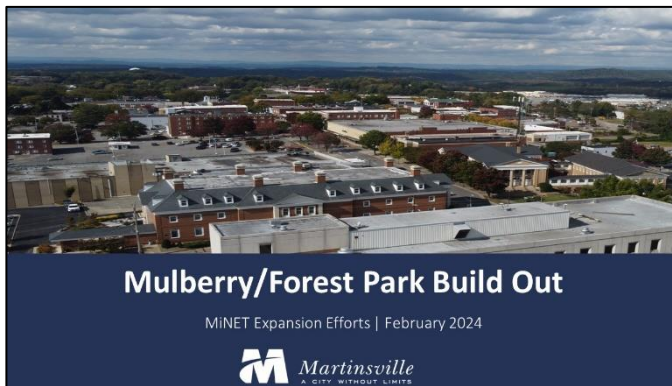


February 13, 2024 Council Meeting

A Work Session and Briefing to discuss Consent Agenda Items was held at 5:00 pm on February 13, 2024, in Room 208, Conference Room, Municipal Building. Mayor Jones, Vice Mayor Rawls, Council Member Lawson, Council Member Pearson, Council Member Mitchell, Chief Operating Officer Edena Reese-Atmore, Clerk of Council Karen Roberts, Finance Director Mandy McGhee, Assistant Finance Director Crystal Ferguson, Community Development Director Keith Holland, Public Information Officer Kendall Davis, Emergency Manager John Turner, MiNET Director Mike Scaffidi, Public Works Director Greg Maggard, Police Chief Rob Fincher

Telecommunications/MiNET Director Mike Scaffidi presented plans on broadband expansion.



Build 2, Option B: FTTH Costs (In-House)

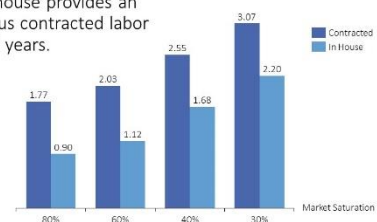
The cost to build FTTH, with in-house labor, from the street to the house is estimated at:

Market Saturation	FTTH	ROI (Years)
80%	\$120,000	.90
60%	\$90,000	1.16
40%	\$45,000	1.68
30%	\$30,000	2.20

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ROI (Years): Contracted vs. In-House Labor

Estimates indicate a greater ROI if labor is provided in-house. For example, at 40% market saturation, in-house provides an ROI in 1.68 years, versus contracted labor which would take 2.55 years.



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Annual Income Generated

80%	60%	40%	30%
\$968,112	\$726,084	\$484,056	\$363,042

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Timeline: Project and for Customers

Project Construction

Estimated completion: 4 months

- Some equipment in stock
- Additional equipment will be ordered

For Customers

After fiber street installation: 1-2 days
Complicated installation: 2-4 weeks

- Underground installation requires additional timing
- Dependent on timing of requests and size of department

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Project Cost Range

We can forecast a cost range for the project using the estimates from earlier.

Build 1	Build 2, In-House	Build 2, Contract	Cost Range
Fiber to the Pole \$752,662	FTTH 30% = \$30,000 80% = \$120,000	FTTH 30% = \$360,313 80% = \$960,835	Lowest – \$782,662 (30% saturation with in-house labor) Highest – \$1,713,497 (80% saturation with contracted labor)

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Project Expectations

- Comprehensive marketing strategy
- Utilizing MiNET staff with minimal external assistance (contracted labor)
- Achieve 60% market saturation in Zone 7
- Reach a ROI in 2 years (existing contracts)

Construction Costs	Expected Income
\$1,160,000	\$726,084 (annually)

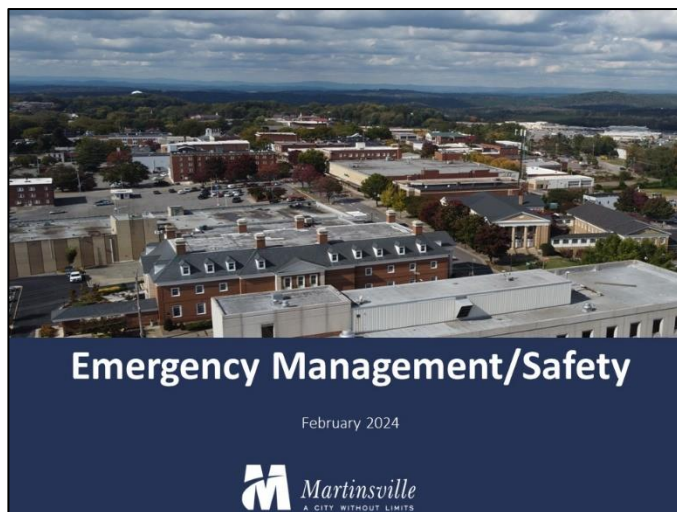
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Comprehensive Goals

- Complete infrastructure project
- Increase installation efficiency with every new customer
- Generating growth and income for the city
- Provide excellent customers with high service reviews
- New opportunities for the city



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Emergency Management

- Grant Projects-Local, State, and Federal
- Local, State, and Federal Disasters
- Recovery and Reimbursements
- Communications

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Grant Projects

- Safety Camera Project-approximately \$48,000 (1.5 years)
 - Locations are along the parade route and critical infrastructure
 - Allows situational awareness in most any event
 - Completed in January
- Middle School Generator-approximately \$640,000 (2 years)
 - Designated emergency shelter
 - Has been a topic of conversation for about 10 years
 - Generator should power the entire facility
- Local Emergency Grant-\$7,500 annually (Recurring annually)
 - Current project is for crowd and traffic safety
 - Jersey walls and barriers
- Local Flood Control Project-approximately \$2,000,000 (5 years)
 - Has taken almost 20 years of repetitive loss to prove beneficial
 - Current application was submitted in 2018 and funding was awarded for Phase 1 in late 2021
 - Phase 1 is nearing completion

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Local Disasters

- Local disasters occur more often than we realize
- They can be wind events, flooding, winter storms, etc.
- These events quickly overwhelm local capacity
- Some events may require additional funding
- Most of these events do not meet state or federal thresholds
- The most recent local event was the widespread flooding in May 2018
- Resulted in approximately \$400,000 in losses
 - Roadways, water, sewer, electric, overtime

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State and Federal Disasters (FEMA, VDEM)

- Covid-19 Response
 - Required tremendous and coordinated responses from several agencies
 - Provided resources to several agencies for over two years
 - Mass vaccination efforts were coordinated throughout the city and county
 - FEMA reimbursed 100% of allowable costs
- Hurricane Michael
 - Resulted in several damage sites totaling \$650,000
 - Quickly overwhelmed the local capacity for recovery
 - Electric was deeply impacted by downed lines and facilities
 - Public Works had an enormous debris operation
 - MiNET and Traffic Signals suffered large outages

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Recovery and Reimbursement

- May 2018 Flood
 - Recovered approximately \$300,000
- Covid-19 Response
 - FEMA reimbursed 100%
 - \$146,573 for ambulance response
 - \$17,703.26 for vaccination sites
- Hurricane Michael
 - Recovered \$543,000 (83.5%)
- Mitigation projects were also completed along with each hurricane damage site

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Communications

- Most of the current City radio infrastructure is greater than 20 years old
- The loss of "in-town" sites greatly reduced capability and redundancy
- Options were to build new sites or explore lease options
- New sites were expensive and still required maintenance
- Lease options provided new infrastructure and new equipment without maintenance
- New system will allow greater interoperability between departments including schools
- Better redundancy with microwave transmission and fiber backup
- New system should be online by Summer 2024

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Safety Office



OSHA, Safety Training, and Insurance



CDL Training



Wastewater Chemicals



Tier 2/LEPC

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OSHA Compliance and Training

- Safety classes are held weekly for various departments
- Provide employees with basic knowledge and expectations
- Workers Compensation claims indicate that the program is mostly successful with consistent downward trends in claims
- Reduced claims results in a lower Workers Compensation insurance rate
 - Rate for 2024 – 0.79
 - Rate for 2023 – 0.81
 - Rate for 2022 – 0.94
 - Rate for 2021 – 1.03
- Track all workplace related injuries and compile an annual report
- Track all hours worked by employees under the City Manager

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CDL Training

- FMCA required training prior to CDL licensing in February 2022
- This was a hidden change that almost no one knew about
- Class rates were \$1500-\$4500 per student
- We were able to develop a class "in-house" for all categories of licensing
- Current costs are approximately \$225 per student
- Partner with the county and now have a local DMV approved range
- Current pass rate is 100% and 40 students have completed the course
- Classes occur approximately every four months and take about two weeks

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Wastewater Chemical Project

- Effort to reduce the excess chemicals at the facility that have accumulated over the years
- Approximately 2 year project
- Will reduce the chemical storage from approximately 200 down to 7-10
- Waiting on DEQ compliance for approval to move forward

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Tier 2 / LEPC • Tier 2 reports are due in late February • All local facilities, City and County, are required to report their respective amounts of EHS materials to the LEPC representative • A master list is compiled and is available for dissemination to emergency agencies • Local Emergency Planning Commission maintains the report • LEPC reviews the chemical list and discusses strategies and tactics during its annual meeting A CITY WITHOUT LIMITS	Questions?  A CITY WITHOUT LIMITS
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City Council had a Closed Session beginning at 6:00 PM. In accordance with the Code of Virginia, Title 2.2 Chapter 37, Freedom of Information Act to discuss the following: (A) 2.2-3711.A.3: Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose or disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body and (B) 2.2-3711.A.5: Discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community concerning 51 Lester Street. 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 Council Member Lawson; seconded by Council Member Pearson with the following 5-0 recorded vote in favor to return to Open Session: Rawls, aye; Lawson, aye; Jones, aye; Mitchell, aye; and Pearson, aye. Per Mayor Jones, no action was taken out of closed session.

Call to Order – Mayor Jones welcomed everyone to the meeting, pointing out that agendas could be found on the wall in the back of the room and on the City's website.

Pledge to the American Flag: by Council Member Tammy Pearson

Invocation – Bishop Wesley Childress, Sr of True Bread Worship Center

Regular agenda or new business - Presentation of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (FY2023) – Michael Lupton, Partner at Robinson, Farmer, Cox, and Associates clarified the need and procedure for the annual audit and presented the results of the audit and rendered the unmodified, clean opinion on the financial statements. There were no deficiencies in the controlled environment and no findings of noncompliance. Vice Mayor Rawls pointed out that revenue exceeded expenditures and that FY2023 was the best performing year that Martinsville has on record.

Consideration of Amendments to Nuisance Code Ordinance – Community Development Director Keith Holland presented a PowerPoint detailing the need to update the ordinance and

February 13, 2024 Council Meeting

the changes requested. Council Member Mitchell requested a redline version of the ordinance.

Vice Mayor Rawls and Mitchell both questioned the change of 50feet to 150ft. Rawls questioned the enforcement of wooded lots where overgrowth encroaches on adjacent property. Mayor Jones likes the changes, but they want to see action and Council expects the ordinance be enforced fairly and across the board. Holland says they have staff in place now to be able to enforce that. Council Member Pearson questioned if the department would be proactive or if the investigations will be call-based only. Holland explained that he plans to work with Police and Public Works and establish monthly meetings to share the problem locations. Council expects Inspections to be proactive. Pearson recommends a change to that verbiage. Holland says the new tracking system is working well but they have not received as many reports as expected, but he expects that to work better with public knowledge. Mitchell would like the public to be informed prior to enforcement. Holland said that the department will also identify ways to help residents through social services, faith-based programs, etc. to assist in maintaining property compliance in an equitable, ethical manner. Pearson asked that information on the expanded ordinance be added to the website and included in billings.



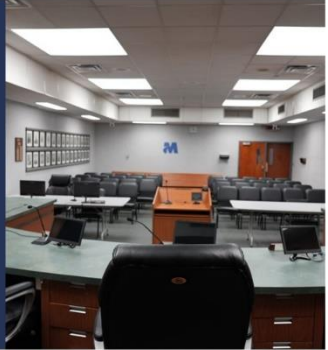
Nuisance Abatement Provisions

Recommended Changes to Ordinance



Purpose and Legal Framework

- Enhance efforts to reduce blight and nuisance code violations.
- Improve and define the management of excessive vegetation growth.
- Authority established by the Code of Virginia and the City Charter to abate public nuisances.
- Sections 13-37 and 15.5-21 through 15.5-22 of the City Code amended for uniformity.



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2

Strategic Approach

- City Council directs the Community Development Department to target blight and nuisance prevention.
- Lower costs for the City by managing high grass, weeds, and promoting low-maintenance vegetation.
- Public health and safety are prioritized by addressing overgrown lots.



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Detailed Amendments – Vegetation and Lot Maintenance

- Vegetation height limit reduced from 18" to 10".
- Enforcement area extended from 50 ft to 150 ft from the street.
- Mandatory cutting of vegetation at least twice per year within specified periods.



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Detailed Amendments – Enforcement and Variance	Detailed Amendments – Public Health and Monitoring
- Public Works Director's role transitioned to the Community Development Director for granting variances and enforcement. - After three notices of violation per year, the City will reseed with slow-growth vegetation. - Exemption for naturally wooded lots from the ordinance.  A CITY WITHOUT LIMITS	- Limit of 40 automobile tires set to define a public nuisance. - Community Development to develop a tracking system for violations, follow-ups, and to assess the ordinance's effectiveness in blight reduction.  A CITY WITHOUT LIMITS

Holland provided an update on the Aaron Mills Senior Housing Project and requested Council consider setting a public hearing for February 27, 2024. Holland explained the need to re-establishing the Martinsville Land Bank Authority and a public hearing would be required prior to that action. Council Member Lawson made the motion to set the public hearing; Vice Mayor Rawls seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor.

Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget Calendar – Chief Operating Officer Edena Reese-Atmore detailed the budget process calendar and provided a copy/schedule to Council Members. Mayor Jones requested the document be added to the website to provide transparency to the public.

Communications from Visitors / Business from the Floor – Ural Harris, 217 Stuart Street stated that back in December, no one on Council would second the motion to raise the electric rates. In January, Council increased the rates and made the approval in the consent agenda to hide the action from the public. Harris stated that Rawls and Jones are taking the City down the wrong road. By putting the increase under the consent agenda and not bringing it out to the public, was wrong and downright sneaky. The citizens won't stand for this for long. Michael Green, 402 Oakdale Street suggests that the City should clearly define weeds and include trees in the nuisance ordinance and how they may impede electric lines, neighboring properties, and public rights-of-way. Mayor Jones recommends that Green and Holland look into this concern prior to the ordinance approval.

Kendall Davis shared details on the February 24 Culture and Soul Expo to celebrate Black History Month; the event is open to the public by registering on Eventbrite and the link can be found on the City's website. There are five restaurants secured to provide food and there will be music at the NCI building 11:00am-1:00pm

Comments by Members of City Council – Mitchell reminds everyone that Valentine's Day is tomorrow. Lawson expressed sympathy to former City Manager Leon Towarnicki for his mother's passing. Rawls encourages residents to participate in the Work sessions that begin at 5:00 pm prior to the regular session, including staff updates and presentations. Jones explained the consent agenda is to expedite the work session topics. If there is any topic that a

February 13, 2024 Council Meeting

Council Member has a concern about, that topic can be pulled from the consent agenda and discussed and voted on separately.

Communications - Chief Operating Officer Edena Reese-Atmore wished Council Members a Happy Valentine's Day and offered apologies for City Manager Aretha Ferrell-Benavides who was unable to attend tonight's meeting due to a family emergency.

Adjournment – Council Member Lawson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 pm

Karen Roberts, Clerk of Council

LC Jones, Mayor