

July 16, 2024

Executive Session:

A Closed meeting of the City of Martinsville, Virginia's council, was held on July 16, 2024, at 10:15 AM in Gardner Boardroom – NCI Building at 191 Fayette Street, Martinsville. Council Members participating included Kathy Lawson, Aaron Rawls, Tammy Pearson, and Mayor Jones. Lawrence Mitchell was absent. Staff present included City Manager Aretha Ferrell-Benavides, HR Director Travis Hodge, Organizational Development Consultant David Etheridge, and Assistant to City Manager Peyton Nibblett.

Mayor Jones called the meeting to order and advised Council would go into Closed Session beginning at 10:15 AM. In accordance with the Code of Virginia, Title 2.2 Chapter 37, Freedom of Information Act and upon a motion by Council Member Pearson and seconded by Council Member Lawson with the following 4-0 recorded vote: Council Member Pearson, aye; Mayor Jones, aye; Vice Mayor Rawls, aye; and Council Member Lawson, aye. Council convened in Closed Session to discuss the following matters: (A) [Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711.A.1](#): Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body, concerning the Workforce Assessment and Alignment Plan and City Attorney recruitment. (B) Virginia Code Section 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 Strategic Planning and Economic Development Incentives. There was no action taken out of the Closed session.

There being no further business, Mayor Jones moved to adjourn and Lawson seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4pm.

JULY 16, 2024 COUNCIL MEETING WORK SESSION:

A Work Session was held at 5:00 pm on July 16 2024, in Room 208, Conference Room, Municipal Building. Mayor Jones, Vice Mayor Rawls, Council Member Lawson, Council Member Pearson, Council Member Mitchell, City Manager Aretha Ferrell-Benavides, Deputy Clerk of Council Peyton Nibblett, Chief Operating Officer Edena Reese-Atmore, Chief Communications Officer Kendall Davis, Finance Director Mandy McGhee, MiNET Director Mike Scaffidi, Fire Department Chief Dan Howell, Emergency Services Chief John , Department of Water Director Mandy Muse, Uptown Partnerships Executive Director Spencer Kroger.

Discussion was held regarding briefings and quarterly updates.

Fire Department Chief Dan Howell presented a PowerPoint presentation and quarterly update on the Fire Department.

Uptown Partnerships Executive Director Spencer Kroger presented a Q1 and Q2 update on Uptown Partnerships.

Director of Water Department Mandy Muse presented a quarterly update on the Water Resources Department.

Keith Holland presented a CDBG Planning Grant Authorization Request for Five Points YMCA Project.

MiNet Director Mike Scaffide provided a quarterly update on Telecommunications.

REGULAR SESSION:

Present:

Mayor Jones

Vice Mayor Rawls

Councilmember Lawson

Councilmember Mithcell

Councilmemeber Pearson

Martinsville City Council held a July 16 Regular Session meeting Council Chambers at Martinsville City Municipal Building.

Call to Order

Mayor Jones called the meeting to order at 7pm.

Pledge to the American Flag by Council Member Lawson.

Invocation by Pastor Gaston Lee Battle.

Proclamations and Presentations

Human Resources Director Travis Hodge recognized workers at the Water Department for their certificates of appreciation.

Consent Agenda

Kayak approval consideration moved to next week's meeting, July 23, 2024.

CDBG grant for Planning and Safe Streets for All Safety Action Planning Grant:

- A. Lawson motioned for approval to apply for CDBG grant, seconded by Vice Mayor Rawls.
- B. Approved.

Safe Streets for All Safety Action Planning Grant:

- A. Councilor Lawson motioned for approval to apply for Safe Streets 4 all Safety Action Planning Grant, seconded by Councilor Pearson.

B. Approved.

Regular Agenda or New Business

City Manager Aretha Ferrell-Benavides and department heads reported on Operations and Upcoming Community Events as part of their Capital Projects and Improvement Plan.

Chief Communications Officer Kendall Davis delivered a speech on events and opportunities to get involved. Also mentioned the City's ongoing Up To Date podcast, National Night Out, and Food Truck Pull Up and Rodeo event. National Night Out at Hooker Field at Lou Whitaker Park on Tuesday, August 6th from 6 to 8 p.m. That will be a day for the community to see both the Henry County Sheriff's Office versus our very own Martinsville Police Department and Sheriff's Office going head-to-head in a kickball game. Food Truck Pull and Rodeo event will have over 30 food trucks that will be coming. There will be food trucks, dessert trucks, and specialty trucks that will be there. We have three musical acts that will be there as well. That will be on August 10th from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Chief Operations Officer Edena Reese-Atmore spoke on Capital Improvement Plan.

Business From the Floor

Earl Harri
217 Stewart St
Martinsville, VA 24055

Issues with county actions affecting city revenue sharing were highlighted.

Adjournment- Mayor Jones made the Motion to Adjourn at 8pm.