

November 7, 2011

Martinsville City Council Neighborhood Meeting for the Southside area was held on November 7, 2011, at Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church, 824 Starling Avenue, Martinsville, VA at 7:30 PM, with Mayor Kim Adkins presiding and Council members present including: Kimble Reynolds, Gene Teague, Mark Stroud, Sr., and Danny Turner. Staff present: Clarence Monday, Brenda Prillaman, Eric Monday, Coretha Gravely, Linda Conover, and Andy Powers.

After the invocation was given by Pastor Steve Greer, Mayor Adkins asked Andy Powers to present his property maintenance report, and she then opened the floor for public comment.

Citizen comments: Lonnie Carter, trash on Stephens St.; John Wallace, 503 Chalmers St., vehicles parking on sidewalks blocking pedestrians; Marvin Blankenship, Forest St., requested City abolish its portion of the EDC and have City Manager do economic development; Dale Handy, 1062 Graves St., requested Council address dilapidating issues in Southside. Council and staff commented on possibility of other block grant funding and the need to come up with a comprehensive strategy to improve these neighborhoods depending on how aggressive and proactive Council wants to be; suggested scheduling a neighborhood revitalization Council worksession to see what more can be done realizing that the "more" will cost money; Officer Coretha Gravely commented that people are going to have to be required to keep up their property and we have to set standards; John Wallace commented on grass being thrown into the street when yards are mowed; Martha Beam, Park St., commented on a house with 10-15 people living in it and issues with kids playing in the street and asked that city look into getting Amtrak here locally; Steve Greer, 901 Hazelwood, commented that the city needs to form an action committee similar to one in Roanoke regarding Williamson Road.

After hearing very brief comments from Council and there being no further business, Mayor Adkins adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm.

Clarence Monday
Clerk of Council

Kim E. Adkins
Mayor