

November 8, 2010

Members of the City Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia were attendance at a joint meeting of the Martinsville City School Board and the Henry County School Board at the Virginia Museum of Natural History at 4:00pm on November 8, 2010 at the invitation of the City School Board. Council members present were: Mayor Kim Akins, Vice Mayor Kimble Reynolds, Council Member Gene Teague, and Council Member Mark Stroud. Council Member Danny Turner arrived at 5:00 pm. City Staff present: Assistant City Manager Leon Towarnicki, Brenda Prillaman, and Eric Monday.

Both school board chairpersons called their meeting to order. The purpose of this meeting was discussion of possible merger of city and county schools. Both school boards reviewed a presentation of a review of the 2004 study done and Supt. Jackson and Interim Supt. Heath gave updated information where applicable. Information was presented that the combined enrollment of both systems FY09 was 9,635 in comparison to the 11,450 combined enrollment figure when the June 2004 school merger study was done. Dr. Boshier, the facilitator, pointed out that the first step to get to is deciding to do a MOU and any parties without intent to do this should back out now. Legal aspects of a merger were reviewed by Douglas Guynn who urged both boards to talk to each other during the merger discussions if anything is to be done out of the ordinary such as incurring large debt. Boshier will pursue engaging the public during December with interviews and other means of public input and then boards decide their intent in January/February before budget discussions begin.

No formal action was taken.

There being no further business, the joint school board meeting adjourned at 5:45 PM and Council members disbursed after the meeting.

Leon Towarnicki
Deputy Clerk of Council

Kim Adkins
Mayor