

February 11, 2014

The regular meeting of the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia, was held on February 11, 2014, in Council Chambers, Municipal Building, at 7:30 PM, with Mayor Kim Adkins presiding. Council Members present included: Mayor Kim Adkins, Vice Mayor Gene Teague, Sharon Brooks Hodge, Mark Stroud and Danny Turner. Staff present included: Leon Towarnicki, City Manager, Brenda Prillaman, Eric Monday, Linda Conover, and Eddie Cassidy.

Following the invocation by Council Member Stroud and Pledge to the American Flag, the Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and recognized Scout Troop 61 members from First Presbyterian Church.

Recognition of Donald W. Merricks: Mayor Adkins and members of City Council made comments thanking former Delegate Don Merricks for his service and efforts to Martinsville and presented him with a Key to City. Several members of the public also made comments thanking Mr. Merricks for his service.

Conduct public hearing for special use permit: The Planning Commission recommended to City Council that the special use permit be granted on a request from Sharon Martin to operate a home child care, caring for up to twelve (12) children, as a home occupation. Mayor Adkins opened the public hearing. Sharon Martin of Independence Drive stated she has been in business over 20 years. Mayor Adkins closed the public hearing. On a motion by Gene Teague, seconded by Sharon Brooks Hodge, with the following 5-0 recorded vote: Adkins, aye; Teague, aye; Hodge, aye; Stroud, aye; and Turner, aye, Council approved the special use permit as recommended by the Planning Commission.

Conduct public hearing regarding grant funding for emergency generator: Mr. Towarnicki briefed Council on the City's intent to file an application for grant funding with USDA, Rural Development for assistance in the replacement of the emergency generator for the City's Shop/Warehouse Complex located at 300 Fishel Street and consider approval of a required resolution. After a review of recent mechanical problems with the emergency power generator at the City Shop/Warehouse complex, it has been determined that the best option for the City is to consider replacing the unit with a new larger, natural gas-powered unit. Total cost of the generator and related equipment for connection to the Shop/Warehouse complex is estimated to be \$55,000. The generator powers the entire Shop/Warehouse complex during outages and is essential to the ability to provide reliable emergency services for the citizens of Martinsville. There is an opportunity to apply for partial grant funding of the project through the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development and a public hearing is a required component of the application process. Any funding needed in addition to the grant will be covered by City Electric and/or the City's Capital budget. On a motion by Mark Stroud, seconded by Sharon Brooks Hodge, with a 5-0 vote, Council approved the following resolution authorizing city staff to proceed with the grant application process:

<b>RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF MARTINSVILLE VA</b>
<p>The Council of the City of Martinsville consisting of five members, in a duly called meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2014 at which a quorum was present, RESOLVED as follows:</p>
<p><b>BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT</b> in order to facilitate obtaining financial assistance from the United States of America, acting by and through the Rural Housing Service, an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture, (the Government) the development of replacement emergency generator purchases to serve the community, the governing body does hereby adopt and abide by the covenants contained in the agreements, documents, and forms required by the Government to be executed.</p>
<p><b>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,</b> that the City Manager of the City of Martinsville authorized to execute on behalf of the City of Martinsville the above-referenced agreements and to execute such other documents including, but not limited to, deeds, instruments and security instruments as may be required in obtaining the said financial assistance.</p>
<p><b>THIS RESOLUTION,</b> along with a copy of the above-referenced documents, is hereby entered into the permanent minutes of the meetings of this Council.</p>
<p>Attest: <i>Kathy S. Verma</i></p>
<p>City of Martinsville, VA By: <i>Leon Towarnicki</i></p>
<p>CERTIFICATION</p>
<p>I hereby certify that the above resolution was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Martinsville in a duly assembled meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2014. <i>Brenda Prillaman</i></p>



February 11, 2014

Approval of Authorizing Ordinance on first reading regarding bonds: Mrs. Conover briefed Council on the need for the Authorizing Ordinance, on first reading for the refunding of bonds with Carter Bank. Approval of the Authorizing Ordinance authorizes the issuance of up to \$2,630,000 principal amount of General Obligation Refunding Bonds. Second reading of the same Ordinance will occur on February 25, 2014. Three of the City's outstanding bond obligations, with interest rates somewhat higher than current markets, will be refinanced, saving over \$100,000 over the life of the loans. After speaking with the current holder of these particular loans, it was determined that they were willing to reduce the current rates being charged, producing savings to the City without extending the life of the loans. This ordinance authorizes staff to participate in the refunding process. On a motion by Mark Stroud, seconded by Sharon Brooks Hodge, with the following 5-0 recorded vote: Adkins, aye; Teague, aye; Hodge, aye; Stroud, aye; and Turner, aye, Council approved the ordinance as described on first reading.

Hear update on proposed Northside Neighborhood Revitalization Project: Wayne Knox briefed Council on the proposed Northside Neighborhood Revitalization Project. On September 6, 2013, the City was awarded a planning grant by the Department of Housing & Community Development in the amount of \$30,000. A public meeting has been conducted and three management team meetings. Neighborhood surveys and infrastructure assessments have also been conducted and now we are in a position to go forward with an application for a neighborhood comprehensive grant with a deadline date of March 26, 2014. Two City Council public hearings are required and on a motion by Gene Teague, seconded by Mark Stroud, with a 5-0 vote, Council set two public hearings for February 25, 2014 and March 11, 2014 Council meetings.

Hear overview of February 10, 2014 Northside Council Neighborhood Tour and Meeting: Mayor Adkins reported on the Council tour of February 10, 2014 noting neighborhoods visited and issues of citizen concern. Vice Mayor Teague noted he was not able to attend the Neighborhood Meeting as his job required him to be out of town.

Business from floor: Ural Harris-217 Stuart St.-concerns regarding electric funds and rates. It was noted that Council receives quarterly utility updates and it is not productive to discuss electric issues at every meeting.

Council comments: Turner-advised citizens to have arrangements in place in case the impending snow storm causes powers outages. Hodge-asked the city manager to brief citizens on storm preparations for the city. Stroud-noted that Friday is Valentine's Day.

City Manager comments: Mr. Towarnicki commented on the letter to the editor regarding road construction on Liberty Street where there was a water line break. He clarified that other contractors besides city employee crews do work in the street and it is not always the city. He also reported that that the annual audit will be presented at the February 25 meeting and the auditor will be available the afternoon of February 25 to meet with individual Council members.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

---

Brenda Prillaman  
Clerk of Council

---

Kim Adkins  
Mayor