

September 22, 2015

The regular meeting of the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia was held on September 22, 2015 in Council Chambers, Municipal Building at 7:30pm, Closed Session beginning at 7:00pm with Mayor Danny Turner presiding. Council Members present: Mayor Danny Turner, Vice Mayor Jennifer Bowles, Council Member Gene Teague, Council Member Sharon Hodge and Council Member Mark Stroud. Staff members present included: City Manager Leon Towarnicki, City Attorney Eric Monday, Clerk of Council Karen Roberts, Superintendent of Water Resources Andy Lash, Fire Chief Kenneth Draper, Building Official Ted Anderson, Deputy Building Official Kris Bridges, Police Chief Sean Dunn, Finance Director Linda Conover, Budget Analyst Mary Prillaman, Utilities Director Dennis Bowles, and Assistant City Manager Wayne Knox.

Mayor Turner called the meeting to order and advised Council would go into Closed Session. In accordance with Section 2.1-344 (A) of the Code of Virginia (1950, and as amended) and upon motion by Council Member Hodge, seconded by Council Member Stroud with the following recorded 5-0 roll-call vote: Council Member Hodge, aye; Mayor Turner, aye; Council Member Stroud, aye; Council Member Teague, aye; Vice Mayor Bowles, aye. Council convened in Closed Session for the purpose of discussing the following matters: A) Appointments to boards and commissions as authorized by Subsection 1. B) Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose or of the 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, as authorized in Subsection 3. C) Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members, attorneys or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, or other specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel, as authorized by Subsection 7. At the conclusion of the Closed Session, each returning member of Council certified that (1) only public business matters exempt from opening 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 Session. On a motion by Council Member Hodge and seconded by Council Member Stroud with the following 5-0 roll-call recorded vote: Stroud, aye; Bowles, aye; Turner, aye; Teague, aye; Hodge, aye; Council returned to Open Session.

Invocation and Pledge to the American Flag – Vice Mayor Jennifer Bowles.

Approval of minutes from September 8, 2015 Council meeting - On a motion by Vice Mayor Bowles, seconded by Council Member Hodge, with a 5-0 vote, Council approved the minutes of the September 8, 2015 meeting.

Addendum to consider authorizing execution of a contract with Crowder Construction Company for replacement of partially collapsed section of City sewer interceptor line located between the Smith River and Walker Road in Henry County – City Manager Towarnicki

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reminded Council of the previous meeting discussions on the sewer repair. He stated that the project was bid with Crowder Construction being the lowest bidder after negotiations and modifications. Crowder Construction expects to start repairs mid-October to early November. The material for the wall will be available quicker than anticipated and they will push to have that complete before wetter spring conditions. Emergency bypass pumping will be in place and will be installed at the beginning of the project. Phase 2 would hopefully begin around summer, 2016 and would take approximately 18 months construction time depending on details of design. Phase 3 is the rehabilitation of the concrete pipe and is considered less critical of the three phases. Vice Mayor Bowles made a motion to authorize execution of the contract with Crowder Construction for the sewer repair, Council Member Stroud seconded the motion; all Council Members voted in favor.

Overview of September 21, 2015 Druid Hills/Uptown area Neighborhood tour and meeting – Mayor Turner gave an overview of the Druid Hills/Uptown tour concerns and actions taken.

Recognition of Kris Bridges, Deputy Building Official awarded the 2015 Virginia Building and Code Officials Association Award – Fire Chief Draper thanked Council for recognizing Kris Bridges. Ted Anderson gave a brief history of this very prestigious award and said Mr. Bridges was unaware that he had been nominated. Mr. Bridges has been with the City since 2001. Mr. Anderson listed Mr. Bridges' numerous accomplishments and certifications. Mayor Turner and Vice Mayor Bowles presented the award plaque.

Present a Proclamation honoring the Garden Club of Virginia, recognizing the Martinsville Garden Club, and proclaiming Thursday, October 15, 2015 as "Garden Club of Virginia Day" in Henry County and the City of Martinsville – City Manager Towarnicki described the October 13-15, 2015 event at New College where the local Garden Club will be hosting 47 other Garden Clubs. Ms. Helen Carter and Ms. Sue Rosser came forward to accept the proclamation. Vice Mayor Bowles read the proclamation and it was presented by the Vice Mayor and Mayor Turner. Ms. Rosser invited Council Members to the Garden Club event on October 15<sup>th</sup>. Council Member Stroud thanked the Garden Club for the work they did at the courthouse and other projects they continue to complete.



**PROCLAMATION**  
Establishing October 15, 2015 as  
**"Garden Club of Virginia Day"**  
in Henry County and Martinsville



**WHEREAS**, the Garden Club of Virginia, was founded in 1920 when eight local garden clubs came together to use their collective strength to celebrate the beauty of land, to conserve the gifts of nature and to challenge future generations to build on this heritage; and

**WHEREAS**, the Garden Club of Virginia is an active association of forty-seven garden clubs, whose members collectively form a group of more than 3,300 civic leaders from around the Commonwealth; and

**WHEREAS**, the Garden Club of Virginia values the conservation of our natural resources, the restoration of historic gardens and landscapes, and the education of its members and the general public; and

**WHEREAS**, the Martinsville Garden Club will host the Garden Club of Virginia's Board of Governors Meeting on October 13 -15, 2015 in Martinsville-Henry County, Virginia, bringing hundreds of people to our community; and

**WHEREAS**, observance of this occasion allows the opportunity for our community to extend the appreciation it feels for the valuable contributions made by the Garden Club of Virginia toward the beautification of all our communities of the Commonwealth:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED**, on this 22<sup>nd</sup> Day of September, 2015 that the Henry County Board of Supervisors and the Martinsville City Council establish Thursday, October 15, 2015 as "Garden Club of Virginia Day" in Henry County and Martinsville, and welcome members of the various clubs from around the Commonwealth to our community. Furthermore, the Board of Supervisors and City Council extend their highest praise and commendation to the membership of the Garden Club of Virginia for its service to our communities.

*H.G. Vaughn*  
H.G. Vaughn, Chairman  
Henry County Board of Supervisors

*Danny Turner*  
Danny Turner, Mayor  
Martinsville City Council



Consider adoption of a Resolution designating October as Virginia Artisan Month and October 2-11, 2015 as American Craft Week – Wayne Knox explained the resolution and read the proclamation. Vice Mayor Bowles made a motion to adopt the resolution, Council Member Hodge seconded – all Council Members voted in favor



**RESOLUTION**  
By Martinsville City Council  
For  
**ENDORSEMENT OF VIRGINIA ARTISAN MONTH &  
AMERICAN CRAFT WEEK PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, the culture of the Virginia artisan inspires appreciative audiences for its unique work and distinctive way of life; and,

**WHEREAS**, the production and use of handmade arts and artisan-agricultural goods invoke an intimate lifelong relationship of value and appreciation for the work of highly skilled individuals; and,

**WHEREAS**, Virginia's artisans link past, present and future as they reconcile "meaning" with "making" through traditional practices and innovations; and,

**WHEREAS**, the state of Virginia currently hosts 27 community-connected and developing artisan trails representing 39 counties and 12 cities across the Commonwealth that are strengthening our economy through a connective community Artisan Trail Network; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Virginia's artisan industry, comprises an estimated 4,500 businesses, to include but not limited to individual studios, farms, aquaculture, art venues, market venues and supporting cultural sites in both the private and nonprofit sector; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Smith River Artisan Trail in Martinsville-Henry County, is a part of the statewide Artisan Trail Network, and,

**WHEREAS**, artisans and agricultural artisans contribute significantly to strong local and creative economies; and,

**WHEREAS**, the creative economy is an effective avenue toward entrepreneurial opportunities and the diversification of local economies undergoing transition; and,

**WHEREAS**, artisan education research shows that the arts help to foster discipline, creativity, imagination, self-expression, and problem solving skills while also helping to develop a heightened appreciation of beauty and cross-cultural understanding; and,

**WHEREAS**, many artisan acquired skills are transferrable into Virginia's manufacturing and trade-based workforce; and,

**WHEREAS**, artisans and agricultural artisans are integrated into every aspect of life in Virginia, including strengthening the economy, enriching civic life, driving tourism, and exerting a profound positive influence on the education of our children;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** The Martinsville City Council hereby expresses its support for the designation of the month of October as Virginia Artisan Month and the week of October 2-11, 2015 as American Craft Week as requested by the Virginia Artisan Center.

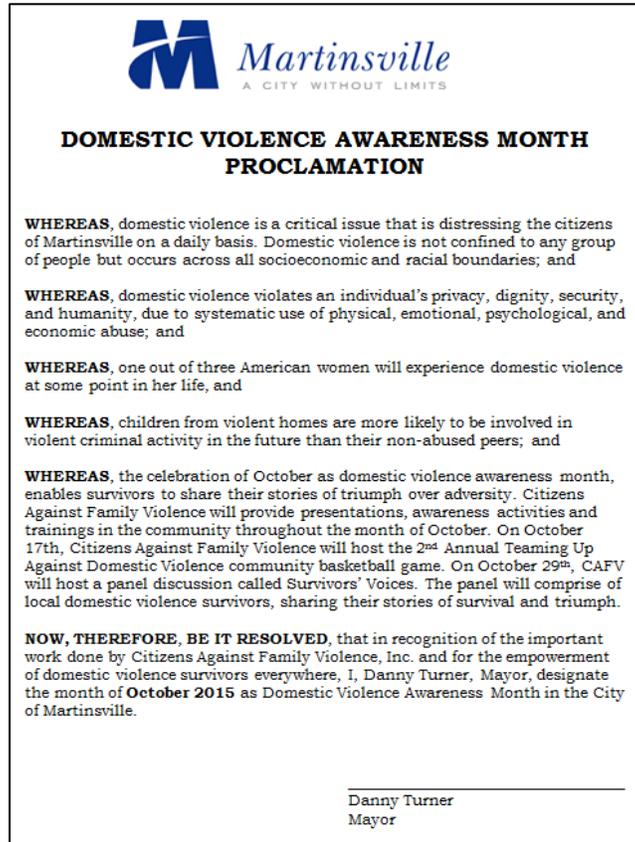
Adopted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 2015.

*Danny Turner*  
Danny Turner, Mayor

Attest:  
*Karen Roberts*  
Karen Roberts, Clerk of Council

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Presentation of Proclamation recognizing October, 2015 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month – Mayor Turner read the proclamation and presented it to Julia Scales. Ms. Scales thanked Council for their continued support and invited them to the events at the end of the month. Hodge asked if those events could be televised on the government channel. Towarnicki said he would check into that.



Hear update from 911 Center Director, J.R. Powell on the CodeRed Alert System – Tierra Dillard was present in Mr. Powell's place. Ms. Dillard explained the CodeRed notification system. The system will be used in case of emergencies such as missing adults or children, Public Works notifications of water or power outages, and community notifications. The 911 Center is offering training to City departments on system usage. Vice Mayor Bowles explained that there is a link on the City website where citizens could opt in. Ms. Dillard elaborated that you could register your cell phone, home phone or email online through that link. Council Member Teague commented that registering for the service was simple.

Hear a report prepared by Davenport and Company, LLC. regarding an analysis of the City's debt/debt capacity – Towarnicki said he had contacted Davenport because of several large projects that are in the works for the City. Ted Cole explained the findings of the debt study including goals and objectives, peer comparatives and credit rating overview, general fund operations and fund balance, existing debt profile, etc. (Discussion Materials information can be found in the minutes folder).

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Consider authorizing and execution of agreement on Water Meter replacement project and to seek financing options – City Manager Towarnicki introduced representatives from Johnson Controls and referred to the detailed presentation provided at the previous Council meeting. Towarnicki said he felt that all requested information had been provided and all Council’s questions were answered. He said the next step would be to approve the project and to investigate financing of the project which would be brought back to Council. Johnson Controls would handle the initial meter change out using specialized crews and would utilize local labor and trades personnel. Towarnicki stated that the performance contract on the lighting project within the building was a similar project that needed to be done and savings allowed them to utilize replacements of heating and air system; a project which has basically paid for itself. Council Member Hodge made a motion to authorize execution of the agreement with Johnson Controls, Council Member Stroud seconded the motion, all Council Members voted in favor.

Consider approval of consent agenda and re-appropriations – Linda Conover spoke about the consent agenda, the re-appropriations list and the Health Department re-appropriation. On a motion by Council Member Teague, seconded by Council Member Hodge, with a 5-0 vote, Council approved the following consent agenda and re-appropriations:

BUDGET ADDITIONS FOR 9/22/15				
ORG	OBJECT	DESCRIPTION	DEBIT	CREDIT
<b>FY16</b>				
<b>General Fund:</b>				
01100909	490104	Advance/Recovered Costs		3,608
01331108	501300	Sheriff/Corrections - Part-time & Temporary Wages	2,650	
01331108	502100	Sheriff/Corrections - Social Security	164	
01331108	502110	Sheriff/Corrections - Medicare	39	
01331108	506008	Sheriff/Corrections - Vehicle Equipment & Maint.	530	
01331110	506200	Sheriff/Annex - Prisoner Allowance	225	
		Reimbursement from Henry County for litter pickup-July & August		
<b>Total General Fund:</b>			<b>3,608</b>	<b>3,608</b>

RE-APPROPRIATIONS FY15 TO FY16						
DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS						
ORG CODE	OBJECT	DEPARTMENT	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	DEBIT	CREDIT	
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>						
01103938	462101		Contribution From Fund Balance		\$ 566,639	
01217078	506047	Sheriff - Courts	Project Life Saver	\$ 13,077		
01221082	506001	Commonwealth's Attorney	Office Supplies	\$ 7,846		
01221082	506105	Commonwealth's Attorney	State - Confiscated Assets	\$ 4,436		
01221082	506079	Commonwealth's Attorney	Federal - Confiscated Assets	\$ 6,402		
01221082	506118	Commonwealth's Attorney	Local - Confiscated Assets	\$ 129		
01123035	501300	Commissioner of Revenue	Part-time Wages	\$ 913		
01123035	502100	Commissioner of Revenue	Social Security	\$ 60		
01123035	502110	Commissioner of Revenue	Medicare	\$ 15		
01311085	501206	Police	Overtime - DMV Grant	\$ 25,950		
01311085	506008	Police	Vehicle Equip & Maint	\$ 4,897		
01311085	506078	Police	State - Confiscated Assets	\$ 12,849		
01311085	506079	Police	Federal - Confiscated Assets	\$ 88,365		
01311085	506082	Police	Byrne/Jag Grant Program	\$ 4,785		
01311085	506118	Police	Local - Confiscated Assets	\$ 400		
01311085	508165	Police	Construction - Animal Shelter	\$ 314		
01311085	506061	Police	Ammunition	\$ 1,200		
01313090	506100	Transportation Safety Cmt	Misc. Expenses	\$ 570		
01321102	506110	Fire	Fire Programs	\$ 71,587		
01321102	503171	Fire	Labor for Burn building	\$ 1,125		
01321102	506130	Fire	Maintenance for Burn Building	\$ 3,714		
01322105	506114	EMS	Four for Life	\$ 22,653		
01341135	506300	Inspections	Demolition	\$ 82,000		
01413145	503165	Street Maintenance	Prof. Service-Street Resurfacing	\$ 103,084		
01413151	508220	Thoroughfare Construction	Physical Plant Expansion	\$ 80,268		
01431162	506007	City Hall Operations	Repair & Maintenance	\$ 5,000		
01420152	508220	VDDOT Reserve	Physical Plant Expansion	\$ 25,000		
<b>REFUSE FUND</b>						
09103938	462101		Contribution From Fund Balance		\$ 69,000	
09425302	503140	Landfill	Prof. Service - Engineering	\$ 20,000		
09425302	508220	Landfill	Physical Plant Expansion	\$ 49,000		
<b>WATER FUND</b>						
12103938	462101		Contribution From Fund Balance		\$ 200,000	
12543313	508220	Water Maintenance	Physical Plant Expansion	\$ 200,000		
<b>ELECTRIC FUND</b>						
14103938	462101		Contribution From Fund Balance		\$ 399,250	
14561336	505112	Electric Generation	Purchased Power	\$ 319,000		
14561336	503140	Electric Generation	Prof. Service - Engineering	\$ 39,500		
14563338	506007	Electric Maintenance	Substation Maintenance	\$ 40,750		
<b>CAPITAL RESERVE FUND</b>						
16103938	462101		Contribution From Fund Balance		\$ 257,410	
16575365	508085	Vehicles	Sheriff - Jail	\$ 5,100		
16575365	508035	Computer Software/Hardware	Commissioner of Revenue	\$ 8,150		
16576366	508055	Computer Software/Hardware	Information Services	\$ 60,400		
16577367	508085	Physical Plant Expansion	Sheriff - Jail	\$ 23,460		
16577367	508670	Physical Plant Expansion	Garage/Warehouse Complex	\$ 74,000		
16577367	508140	Physical Plant Expansion	City Hall	\$ 81,800		
16577367	508141	Physical Plant Expansion	Senior Center	\$ 4,500		
<b>COBG FUND</b>						
47103938	462101		Contribution From Fund Balance		\$ 918,572	
47823521	506324	Uptown Revitalization	Facade Improvements-Construction	\$ 542		
47835525	505370	Northside Neighborhood	Administration	\$ 65,126		
47835525	505371	Northside Neighborhood	Acquisition	\$ 77,276		
47835525	505372	Northside Neighborhood	Clearance & Demolition	\$ 37,200		
47835525	505373	Northside Neighborhood	Owner Occupied Rehab	\$ 198,200		
47835525	505375	Northside Neighborhood	Owner Occupied Reconstruction	\$ 261,900		
47835525	505601	Northside Neighborhood	Homeownership Creation	\$ 104,600		
47835525	505602	Northside Neighborhood	Street Improvements	\$ 160,978		
47835525	505603	Northside Neighborhood	Flood Drainage Facilities	\$ 12,750		
<b>TOTAL CITY FUNDS:</b>					<b>\$ 2,410,871</b>	
<b>SCHOOL FUNDS</b>						
181003938	410510		Ops/Contrib from Fund Balance		\$ 58,616	
81621310	563000	HARVEST - ELEMENTARY	Purchased Services	\$ 6,000		
81621310	563142	HARVEST - ELEMENTARY	Professional Development	\$ 4,800		
81621310	565503	HARVEST - ELEMENTARY	Travel	\$ 21,000		
81621310	565800	HARVEST - ELEMENTARY	Miscellaneous Expense	\$ 1,570		
81621310	566000	HARVEST - ELEMENTARY	Materials & Supplies	\$ 1,200		
81621310	566013	HARVEST - ELEMENTARY	Instructional Materials	\$ 600		
81631310	563000	HARVEST - SECONDARY	Purchased Services	\$ 4,000		
81631310	563142	HARVEST - SECONDARY	Professional Development	\$ 3,200		
81631310	565503	HARVEST - SECONDARY	Travel	\$ 14,000		
81631310	565800	HARVEST - SECONDARY	Miscellaneous Expense	\$ 1,046		
81631310	566000	HARVEST - SECONDARY	Materials & Supplies	\$ 800		
81631310	566013	HARVEST - SECONDARY	Instructional Materials	\$ 400		
<b>TOTAL SCHOOL FUNDS:</b>					<b>\$ 58,616</b>	<b>\$ 58,616</b>
<b>TOTAL RE-APPROPRIATIONS FROM FY14 TO FY15</b>					<b>\$ 2,469,487</b>	

**Health Department Re-appropriation Request for FY16**

Due to the timing of budget requests, the Health Department submitted their FY16 funding request to the City prior to the General Assembly's passage of new legislation in March. The adopted legislation provided an additional \$110,000 in much-needed State-allocated general funds. However, in order to utilize these additional funds, they must be matched at the local level. The increased general funds have caused a match shortage of \$9,648 for the City of Martinsville's share of FY16 funding of the Health Department. At the end of FY15, they currently have left-over grant funds in the amount of \$9,648.66. With Council's consent, these left-over funds would be used to offset the additional local match shortage.

Business from the Floor – Minister Leonard R. Jones of 701 Starling Ave, Apt 102 – hopes all projects that Council are considering will not raise taxes. He will plan to attend upcoming meetings until the weather gets cold. He expressed concern related to the article in the Martinsville Bulletin regarding minority hiring using tax payer money. He requested that the parade for the Martinsville High School basketball team should be considered again and questioned the signs that were supposed to be posted around the city recognizing the team's championship. Mayor Turner stated that the signs were installed at the City limits.

Comments by members of City Council –

Council Member Stroud received a call from a friend who is looking at investing in properties in Martinsville City and said she was very complimentary of the progress that the City and the Council has made over the years.

Vice Mayor Bowles wanted to acknowledge that the parade for the Martinsville High School basketball team was cancelled because there were some officials who could not attend but that the signs were installed and that the team had received a police escort back into town.

Mayor Turner reminded everyone that there will be a tree dedication for Dr. ChaCha who lost his life in a car accident while doing mission work in Tanzania, Saturday September 26, 2015 at 9:00am. This is a public event for anyone who would like to pay their respects to his family. Turner said he also spoke to a new business owner who plans a ribbon cutting early October.

Comments by City Manager – City Manager Towarnicki reminded the public of the Martinsville-Henry County Outstanding Veteran Award applications being accepted until October 15, 2015. Applications can be obtained through the City website or by visiting the City Manager's office. Towarnicki recognized two long-term retired city employees who had recently passed away - Eddie Ashby was a retired Water Plant supervisor and Jimmy Hopkins was a retired Assistant Public Works Director.

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There being no further business, Council Member Teague made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:00pm, Vice Mayor Bowles seconded the motion, all Council Members voted in favor.

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Karen Roberts  
Clerk of Council

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Danny Turner  
Mayor