

May 12, 2009

The regular meeting of the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia, was held on May 12, 2009, in Council Chambers, Municipal Building, at 7:30 PM, with Mayor Kathy Lawson presiding. Council Members present included: Mayor Kathy Lawson, Vice Mayor Kimble Reynolds, Gene Teague, Mark Stroud, Sr., and Danny Turner. Staff present included: Clarence Monday, City Manager, Brenda Prillaman, Eric Monday, Wayne Knox, Mike Rogers, and Bart Hampton.

Following the invocation by Vice Mayor Kimble Reynolds and Pledge to the American Flag, Mayor Lawson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

On a motion by Gene Teague, seconded by Kimble Reynolds, Council approved with a 5-0 vote, the minutes of the April 14, 2009 and April 21, 2009 meetings.

Mayor Lawson read a proclamation and presented it to Chief Mike Rogers and Bart Hampton acknowledging National Police Week for May 10-16, 2009,

On a motion by Gene Teague, seconded by Kimble Reynolds, Council agreed to set a public hearing for May 26, 2009 for the purpose of receiving/interviewing citizens interested in appointment for two 3-year positions beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2012 to the City's School Board. Council pointed out that any citizens interested in the school board positions should attend the Council meeting on May 26 and be prepared to stay for an interview that evening. City Attorney Monday pointed out that only those names mentioned at the May 26 public hearing may be considered for the school board positions.

Wayne Knox briefed Council on the 900 Rives Road site and the request for rezoning of a portion of the site. He pointed out the present zoning of this site, as M-2 Manufacturing, prohibits it from being utilized for residential use. The granting of a rezoning and special use permit would allow for the addition of housing units to fill a need for more affordable housing and this rezoning and special use would allow for the reuse of a previously underutilized property and may prove to be a catalyst for further development in this area of the city. The Planning Commission voted to recommend to City Council that the rezoning and special use permit request be granted with the following conditions: (1) a site plan and landscaping plan shall be submitted for approval by Community Development staff (2) any plans for signage shall be submitted for approval by Community Development staff (3) a

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storm management plan shall be submitted for approval by the Engineering staff (4) approval from the BZA for a variance to setback requirements, Telecommunications, Section V.T.1 of the Zoning Ordinance. Mayor Lawson opened the public hearing to rezone a portion of the former site of Martinsville Novelty, located at 900 Rives Road (known as 53(05)00/03, 03A on the Tax Map of the City of Martinsville) from M-2 Manufacturing to R-9 Residential and to grant a special use permit, with conditions to allow rehabilitation and retrofitting of this former manufacturing site in to 60 multi-family apartment units on a recommendation from the Planning Commission. There being no public comments, the Mayor closed the public hearing. On a motion by Gene Teague, seconded by Danny Turner, with the following 5-0 recorded vote: Mrs. Lawson, aye; Mr. Reynolds, aye; Mr. Stroud, aye; Mr. Teague, aye; and Mr. Turner, aye, Council approved the ordinance on first reading, to rezone the portion of 900 Rives Road as described above.

Mark Heath of the Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corporation reported to Council on the organization's current efforts to recruit new business and distributed copies of a marketing brochure on the recently vacated GSI facility. There was discussion on the Uptown strategy and the furniture heritage focus. Council Member Teague pointed out the need for the EDC to have a strategic plan in place for the next shell building once this one sells so there will not be a long span of time in getting a financing strategy and agreements in place for the next shell building. Council Member Reynolds asked Mr. Heath to elaborate on his agencies efforts in working with NCI. Council Member Turner pointed out the need for an incentive package to get people interested in Uptown.

Wayne Knox reported the City Planning Commission heard public comments on the Heritage Park project and most people are positive or optimistic. The Heritage Park will highlight one aspect of the EDC's tourism initiative, which emphasizes the area's furniture heritage, outdoor recreation, cultural and transportation heritage. After the City provides the initial excavation, groups such as garden clubs will handle the landscaping. The city's exact costs are not yet known, but will be minimal. On a motion by Kimble Reynolds, seconded by Gene Teague, with a 5-0 vote, Council adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the recognition of Martinsville-Henry County's furniture manufacturing heritage is a worthwhile activity of our community; and

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WHEREAS, the establishment of a heritage park in Uptown Martinsville celebrating this region's great history of being a leading participant in the furniture industry of the United States is a worthwhile goal; and

WHEREAS, an area on the South side of Church Street in Uptown Martinsville, directly across from Martins Plaza in the Board Street parking lot will be granted by easement to the City for the establishment of such a park, and

WHEREAS, this park may in the future celebrate the additional contributions this region has made to other sectors of the national industrial economy,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Martinsville, Virginia, assembled in regular session on Tuesday, May 12, 2009, that pursuant to Code of Virginia §§ 15.2-1806 and 15.2-1809, that this area be designated the "Martinsville – Henry County Industrial Heritage Park."

Clarence Monday briefed Council on the landfill methane recovery project noting that engineering work is proceeding. For engineering, construction, and funding purposes, staff recommends developing the project in two phases, with Phase I being the engineering/construction work for the gas collection and flaring system, and phase II being the engineering/construction related to utilization of the collected gas either as alternate fuel sources for a potential end user or for the production of power. Funding for Phase I was approved by Council at the April 28, 2009 meeting. As efforts are made to seek grant and/or funding for Phase II, it has been noted that separation of the project into distinct phases may enhance the City's ability to pursue such funding. On a motion by Gene Teague, seconded by Kimble Reynolds, with a 5-0 vote, Council adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION Supporting Phases I and II of the Landfill Methane Recovery Project

WHEREAS, the capture and recovery of methane gas emissions from landfills is a way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, the City of Martinsville supports actions that will have the effect of reducing emissions of greenhouse gases; and

WHEREAS, tests performed at the closed City of Martinsville Sanitary Landfill indicate methane gas availability in sufficient quantity to warrant development of a methane recovery project, and

WHEREAS, in addition to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, the utilization of landfill gas may result in the generation of carbon credits, renewable energy credits, and the production of energy; and

WHEREAS, the utilization and/or destruction of landfill gas extracted from the Martinsville Landfill is not required at this time since it is not mandated under any federal, state or local law, and thus any such action is voluntary; and

WHEREAS, for purposes of planning, engineering, construction, and funding, the methane recovery project at the Martinsville Landfill is being separated into two distinct project phases with phase I being the design and construction of the collection and flaring system, and phase II being the engineering and construction of infrastructure to utilize collected landfill gas as an alternative fuel source or for the production of power, and

WHEREAS, the City of Martinsville has committed to moving forward with financing of phase I through the issuance of general obligation bonds approved at City Council's April 28, 2009 meeting with plans to explore available funding options for phase II; now, therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia, in regular session assembled May 12, 2009, that it does hereby affirm and support the phased development of the Martinsville Landfill methane recovery project to pursue its capacity to participate in carbon/renewable energy credit markets as a source of revenue, and to develop possible options related to energy production.

On a motion by Gene Teague, seconded by Kimble Reynolds, Council approved, with a 5-0 vote, the following consent agenda:

BUDGET ADDITIONS FOR 05/12/2009

<u>ORG</u>	<u>OBJECT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>DEBIT</u>	<u>CREDIT</u>
<u>FY09</u>				
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>				
01100909	490801	Recovered Costs - Senior Citizens		1,629
01100908	480420	Donations - Senior Citizens		1,015
01714212	506016	Senior Citizens - Program Supplies	2,644	
		For the allocation of funds received from bingo, health fair and dances for program supplies.		
Total General Fund:			2,644	2,644
<u>FEDERAL PROGRAMS FUND</u>				

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20102926	420400	Pre-School Handicapped Programs		6,809
85004000	561151	PS Handicapped - Aide Salaries	5,000	
85004000	562100	PS Handicapped - FICA	310	
85004000	562150	PS Handicapped - MED FICA	73	
85004000	562210	PS Handicapped - Retirement	1,272	
85004000	566001	PS Handicapped - General Supplies	154	
		Allocation of funds for the Pre-School Handicapped Programs for FY09		
Total Federal Programs Fund:			6,809	6,809

Business from the floor: Public Information Officer Scott Coleman briefed Council on the Cutting Edge Award presented to MINET for the City of Martinsville's fiber optic network at the Business Appreciation Luncheon held today.

Comments by Council members: Stroud-reminded citizens of dedication ceremony to be held Thursday morning to highlight the recent improvements at the city reservoir. Turner-recognized Martinsville resident Glenwood Hankins who served during the D-day invasion of Normandy in 1944. Lawson—requested follow up report on the discount NLC drug cards; advised citizens that Vice Mayor Reynolds is to meet with Leon to finalize urban gardens; thanked city personnel for quick response in boarding up the Paradise Inn, specifically Roy Prillaman of the Sheriff's office and Ted Anderson, City Building Official—she commended them for their cooperative spirit in accomplishing this task; advised that Council to present student scholarships at next meeting; advised that Mustangs baseball starts May 27; advised museum will not be able to be used as a voting precinct after July, 2009—she asked that City Attorney Eric Monday work with the Voting Registrar on this project and take care of legal aspects.; Mayor Lawson asked that citizens give their opinions to Council on moving City elections to the November election which would be a charter change; pointed out the Town of Vienna, Virginia was highlighted in a recent article in Virginia Town & City magazine regarding reusable bags instead of envelopes to distribute agenda packets to their Council members and would like to investigate this for use here.

Comments by City Manager: The City Manager reminded the public of the May 13 budget worksession to start at 7:00 pm.

In accordance with Section 2.1-344 (A) of the Code of Virginia (1950, and as amended) and upon a motion by Kimble Reynolds, seconded by Gene Teague, with the following 5-0 recorded vote: Mrs. Lawson, aye; Mr. Reynolds, aye; Mr. Stroud,

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aye; Mr. Teague, aye; and Mr. Turner, aye, Council convened in Closed Session, for the purpose of discussing the following matter: (A) Appointments to Boards and Commissions as authorized by Subsection 1.

At the conclusion of Closed Session, each returning member of Council certified that (1) only public business matters exempt from open 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 said Session. On a motion by Gene Teague, seconded by Kimble Reynolds, with the following 5-0 recorded vote: Mrs. Lawson, aye; Mr. Reynolds, aye; Mr. Stroud, aye; Mr. Teague, aye; and Mr. Turner, aye, Council returned to Open Session.

On a motion by Gene Teague, seconded by Mark Stroud, with a 5-0 vote, Council agreed to appoint Kim Adkins, 1010 Sheraton Court, to the West Piedmont Planning District Commission for a 3-year term beginning 6/30/09 ending 6/30/2012.

On a motion by Kimble Reynolds, seconded by Danny Turner, with a 5-0 vote, Council agreed to appoint Beth Hodge, 813 Banks Road, to the Pittsylvania County Community Action Agency Board for an expired 3-year term ending 8/31/2011.

There being no further business, Mayor Lawson adjourned the meeting at 9:01 pm.

Clarence C. Monday
Clerk of Council

Kathy C. Lawson
Mayor