

May 13, 2010

A budget worksession of the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia, was held on May 13, 2010, 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, Donna Odell, Linda Conover, Leon Towarnicki, Mike Rogers, and Kenneth Draper.

Bob Dowd of West Piedmont Planning District Commission asked Council for level funding and explained how contributions to WPPDC from other localities will be cut in relation to the City's amount. A motion by Gene Teague, seconded by Kimble Reynolds, with a 5-0 vote, Council agreed to restore the \$403 to level fund the West Piedmont Planning District Commission.

Jim Johnson, Chairman, of the Martinsville School Board, and School Superintendent Dr. Scott Kizner made comments regarding the city school budget. There was discussion as to capital needs of \$218,000, what the expected year-end surplus amount would be, whether furlough days for school employees are being considered as they are for city government employees, ways school programs could be combined with the city functions and estimated dollar amount, and decrease in employee education tuition expenses. Council asked that a committee be put together and meet before the next budget worksession on Monday night to target savings for combining city and schools department functions. Dr. Kizner asked that Council consider allowing the schools to use up to \$225,000 of their surplus fund balance at 6/30/10. On a motion by Mark Stroud, seconded by Gene Teague, with a 5-0 vote, Council approved the amount recommended in the City Manager's budget for the schools (\$5,826,394) for FY11. This amount is \$612,857 less than the schools received in the current fiscal year.

City Manager Clarence Monday reviewed information that had been gathered from agencies as to pay increases. There was discussion on equity of funding of city and county to the Economic Development Corporation. A motion was made by Danny Turner to cut the amount for Southside Business Technology to zero. The motion died for lack of a second. A motion was made by Danny Turner to cut the EDC budget to per capita fairness figure. The motion died for lack of a second. Kathy Lawson made a motion, seconded by Mark Stroud to cut \$100,000 from the EDC and restore employee furlough days as city employees are sacrificing a lot. The motion was withdrawn after Gene Teague cautioned that Council needs to be very careful in cutting EDC funding as it will affect their funding from the county and the Harvest Foundation. He pointed out that discussion is needed before cutting funds to look at equitable funding. Council directed the City Manager to set up a discussion with the EDC Board to discuss the EDC funding issue.

Mark Stroud made a motion to increase Piedmont Arts funding to \$23,750. The motion died for lack of a second. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Clarence C. Monday, Clerk of Council

Kathy C. Lawson, Mayor