

May 26, 2009

The regular meeting of the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia, was held on May 26, 2009, in Council Chambers, Municipal Building, at 7:30 PM, with Mayor Kathy Lawson presiding. Council Members present included: Mayor Kathy Lawson, Gene Teague, Mark Stroud, Sr., and Danny Turner. Vice Mayor Kimble Reynolds was absent. Staff present included: Clarence Monday, City Manager, Brenda Prillaman, Eric Monday, Wayne Knox, Mike Rogers, Leon Towarnicki, Linda Conover, Kris Shrader, and Cindy Dickerson.

Following the invocation by Council Member Mark Stroud and Pledge to the American Flag, Mayor Lawson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

On a motion by Gene Teague, seconded by Mark Stroud, Council approved with a 4-0 vote, the minutes of the April 28, 2009 (with change to 4/28/09 minutes regarding motion #5 on Health Care Plan to read: Motion was made by Kimble Reynolds, seconded by Gene Teague, with a 4-1 vote, Mark Stroud abstaining, to front fund the Health Savings Account for all active employees, effective July 1, 2009 at the rate of \$720 for employees and \$1200 for employees with dependents available to be used immediately), May 5, 2009, and May 12, 2009 meetings.

Mayor Lawson called on Human Resources Director Iris Read to read the following list of names of city employees eligible for Service Awards April 1 through June 30, 2009 recognizing them for their years of service:

Jason Biggs—Public Works—5
Patrick Agee—Police Dept.—10
Robert Haynes—Police Dept.--10
James Lovell—Police Dept.—10
James Scott Collins—Public Works—10
Brenda Prillaman—City Mgrs. Office—15
Donald Thompson—Public Works—20
Yvonne Gravely—Housing—25
Eddie Flood—Public Works--30

Mayor Lawson read a proclamation and presented it to the family of Lewis Compton acknowledging his contributions to our community.

Mayor Lawson explained the student scholarships program. To engage the minds of our young people in municipal government, the Mayor created an essay program with the topic "If I Were Mayor." The purpose was to have the high school seniors write a 1000 word essay and the 7th and 8th graders write a 500 word essay. The winner from the 7th and 8th grades will receive a \$50 gift card. The scholarships for the high school are funded by the following: Mayor Kathy Lawson, Vice Mayor Kimble Reynolds, Council Members Mark Stroud and Gene Teague, and Council's Attorney Eric Monday, Constitutional officers Ruth Easley, Commissioner of the Revenue; Ashby Pritchett, Clerk of the Court; Steve Draper, Sheriff; Joan Ziglar,

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Commonwealth Attorney; and Cindy Dickerson, Treasurer plus City Manager Clarence Monday, HR Director Iris Read, and Police Chief Mike Rogers. The following students were recognized: Joy Freeman (7th grade), Joe Dietrich (8th grade), Brittany Walker (high school), LaRon Wansley (high school), and Kia Little (high school). Joy Freeman and Joe Dietrich each took the Mayor’s seat and read their essay titled “If I were Mayor” to those present at the Council meeting.

Clarence Monday summarized the proposed FY10 budget noting Council had directed him to find \$200,000 in budget adjustments. He presented the following changes identified to reduce use of fund balance for Council consideration:

CHANGES IDENTIFIED TO REDUCE USE OF FUND BALANCE					
Items that would be reduced and/or eliminated					
LINE ITEM:	ORIGINAL	CHANGE	AMENDED	DATE	COMMENT
GENERAL FUND:					
Personnel & Corresponding Benefits:					
01122028 501100+ - Communications - F/T (1 pos)	33,100	(33,100)	0		eliminate
01814243 501100+ - Planning/Zoning Admin Assoc. (reduce)	42,792	(9,692)	33,100		reduction
** this line already reduced by \$7,000 at previous meeting, accomodating transfer of personnel to vacancy.					
Payments to Outside Organizations (01816244):					
505651 - Blue Ridge Airport	19,000	(9,000)	10,000		reduction
505664 - VA Museum of Natural History	22,350	(9,000)	13,350		reduction
REFUSE FUND:					
09424301 503200 - Collection - Temporary Help	87,000	(10,000)	77,000		reduction
SEWER FUND:					
13550325 501100+ - Wastewater Plant - Adj Mechanic	63,100	(10,000)	53,100		reduction
VARIOUS FUNDS:					
505500 - Training Budgets of \$1,000 or more to be reduced by 25%:	152,151	(38,000)	114,151		reduction
TOTALS:	419,493	(118,792)	300,701		

The City Manager also publicly stated the rates that ran in the ad to advertise the public hearing. Mayor Lawson opened the public hearing to receive public comments regarding the proposed FY10 budget. No comments were received. Mayor Lawson closed the public hearing.

On a motion by Gene Teague, seconded by Mark Stroud, with the following 4-0 recorded vote: Mrs. Lawson, aye; Mr. Stroud, aye; Mr. Teague, aye; and Mr. Turner, aye, (Mr. Reynolds was absent), Council approved the \$118,792 budget adjustments as presented to be included in the FY10 amended budget.

On a motion by Gene Teague, seconded by Mark Stroud, with the following 3-1 recorded vote: Mrs. Lawson, aye; Mr. Stroud, aye; Mr. Teague, aye; Mr. Turner, nay; (Mr. Reynolds was absent), Council approved the budget ordinance for FY10 as amended. A second reading on the budget ordinance will be considered at the June 9, 2009 Council meeting.

Mayor Lawson opened the public hearing for the purpose of receiving citizens interested in appointment for two three-year positions beginning July 1, 2009 and

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ending June 30, 2012 to the City's School Board. Mayor Lawson pointed out that Robert Williams and Sandra Haley have expressed interest in being re-appointed to the school board. Carolyn McCraw, 1724 Meadowview Lane, spoke and asked that she be considered for the school board position. Mayor Lawson closed the public hearing and advised that interviews will be conducted at the end of the meeting.

After comments by Wayne Knox, on a motion by Gene Teague, seconded by Danny Turner, with a 4-0 vote, Council approved the following ordinance, on second reading, 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 into 60 multi-family apartment units:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING MAP CITY OF MARTINSVILLE

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia, in regular session assembled, that in order to assure compliance with Virginia Code Section 15.1-491 (g), it is stated that the public purpose for which this Ordinance is initiated is to fulfill the requirements of public necessity, convenience, general welfare and good zoning practice, that the Zoning Map of the City of Martinsville, Virginia, be-- and is hereby -- amended to the extent that 900 Rives Road, Parcels 53(05)00/03, 03A, and 53(02)00/19R on the Zoning Map of the City of Martinsville are hereby rezoned from M-2 Manufacturing to R-9 Residential. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by said Council, this ordinance shall be in force immediately upon adoption.

City Attorney Eric Monday briefed Council on a proposed resolution and amendment to an ordinance relating to residency requirements for City employees. City Manager Clarence Monday pointed out that staff recommends that the residency requirements for department heads be repealed in order to be in a position to hire the best person for the job. He reported information on surrounding localities noting that most cities similar in size do not require residency of department heads. After lengthy discussion by Council members, a motion was made by Danny Turner to approve the ordinance as presented with the amendment to strike language giving City Manager latitude in making exceptions. The motion died for lack of a second and Council agreed to table the residency issue.

On a motion by Gene Teague, seconded by Danny Turner, with a 4-0 vote, Council approved the modification of Section 125 Cafeteria Plan document to include a Health Savings Account to which employees may contribute to this Health Savings Account with pre-tax dollars.

On a motion by Danny Turner, seconded by Mark Stroud, with a 4-0 vote, Council approved the FY09 Budget Amendment to include advance payment of health insurance premiums and any applicable fees as this payment is due on June 1 for a

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total \$115,129.88 for the Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield health insurance plan for city employees and retirees that becomes effective July 1, 2009.

Leon Towarnicki briefed Council on the history of refuse collection services offered in the Uptown area pointing out that currently, trash pick up runs Monday through Friday for Uptown businesses and they are only charged for two days pick up. In order to enhance the appearance of the Uptown area and reduce the amount of time trash is visible to the public, it will require the cooperation of the businesses. After lengthy discussion, Council asked that Leon work out a plan with the specific businesses that are not complying.

Leon Towarnicki briefed Council on the PART (Piedmont Area Regional Transit), the City/County public transit project noting that after reviewing ridership data going back to the start of the operations of the City/County public transit project in January, 2009, the City/County staff, along with representatives from RADAR and West Piedmont Planning District Commission, have developed revisions to the service schedule in an effort to decrease route times as well as to provide service to more areas. Leon reported the revised route will go into effect June 1, 2009 and he expects ridership to increase with the Boys & Girls Club Teen Center using the public transportation. After discussion, Council directed Leon to provide them with detailed figures from other localities so a benchmark can be set as to what is an acceptable level of ridership with the costs.

Scott Coleman briefed Council on the NLC/Caremark prescription Benefit Program advising the City's application has been submitted to NLC/Caremark and marketing materials have been received. He reported plan is proceeding on schedule and the program launch process takes approximately 8 weeks. This program will be marketed through the city website and on MGTV as it will benefit all citizens.

On a motion by Gene Teague, seconded by Danny Turner, Council approved, with a 4-0 vote, the following consent agenda:

BUDGET ADDITIONS FOR 05/26/2009				
<u>ORG</u>	<u>OBJECT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>DEBIT</u>	<u>CREDIT</u>
<u>FY09</u>				
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>				
01101918	436418	State Grants - DCJS/TRIAD Grant - Police Dept		1,591
01311085	506080	Police Dept - Crime Prevention Program	1,591	
		Appropriate funds rec'd from State for local crime prevention program.		
Total General Fund:			1,591	1,591

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Business from the floor: Mayor Lawson welcomed representatives from NCI English Class and thanked them for attending the Council meeting.

Comments by Council members: Stroud—appreciation for proclamation for Lewis Compton family, hopes amended bus route will make a difference in ridership. Turner—congratulated MHS soccer team as well as 2009 MHS graduating class, reported a reception will be held to honor D-Day veterans. Lawson—reported she and Stroud attend Big M awards noting there were 21 MHS seniors with associate degrees, commended the excellent jazz concert, thanked Leon for including Boys & Girls Club in the revised bus routes.

Comments by City Manager: as a matter of information, the City Manager pointed out to Council that updated policies are now in place in the City's Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual regarding Americans with Disabilities Act and Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993; he also reminded citizens Mustangs games start tomorrow.

In accordance with Section 2.1-344 (A) of the Code of Virginia (1950, and as amended) and upon a motion by Gene Teague, seconded by Mark Stroud, with the following 4-0 recorded vote: Mrs. Lawson, aye; Mr. Stroud, 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 Danny Turner, seconded by Mark Stroud, with the following 4-0 recorded vote: Mrs. Lawson, aye; Mr. Stroud, aye; Mr. Teague, aye; and Mr. Turner, aye, Council returned to Open Session.

No action was taken in open session.

There being no further business, Mayor Lawson adjourned the meeting at 10:45 pm.

Clarence C. Monday
Clerk of Council

Kathy C. Lawson
Mayor