

September 14, 2010

The regular meeting of the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia, was held on September 14, 2010, in Council Chambers, Municipal Building, at 7:30 PM, with Mayor Kim Adkins presiding. Council Members present included: Mayor Kim Adkins, Vice Mayor Kimble Reynolds, Jr., Gene Teague, Mark Stroud, Sr., and Danny Turner. Staff present included: Clarence Monday, City Manager, Brenda Prillaman, Eric Monday, Leon Towarnicki, Linda Conover, Eddie Cassady, Bobby Phillips, and Ruth Easley.

Following the invocation by Council Member Gene Turner and Pledge to the American Flag, the Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and recognized Joyce Staples and her class from Longwood visiting the Council meeting.

On a motion by Danny Turner, seconded by Gene Teague, with a 4-0 vote, (Mayor Adkins abstained) Council approved the minutes of the June 22, 2010 meeting. On a motion by Gene Teague, seconded by Kimble Reynolds, with a 5-0 vote, Council approved the minutes of the July 1, July 13, July 27, July 30 and the amended minutes August 9, 2010 meetings. August 9, 2010 minutes were amended by adding the following sentence regarding the Mustangs vote: "Mayor Adkins wanted it noted for the record she voted the motion down because she needed more time to evaluate the information presented. Recognizing there were time constraints, she asked Council to consider calling a special Council meeting prior to its next Council meeting on August 24".

Mayor Adkins presented a proclamation to Beth Hairston Hodge for Domestic Violence Month. The Mayor also presented a proclamation to Nancy Moore for World Habitat Day.

Mayor Adkins gave an overview of September 13, 2010 Council Neighborhood meeting and tour outlining sites visited on the tour and citizen concerns brought to Council's attention at the neighborhood meeting.

Sharon Brooks-Hodge, Tony Jones, and Phyllis Page presented information to Council regarding a proposed Westside Community Center. Points made included: city has no cultural resources on West End; need a place accessible to all for the whole community; need city's endorsement to help them seek funds from other sources; center would be operated by a public authority; asked permission to use city-owned property behind Albert Harris School which was previously a landfill; Jeff Parkhill, an architect from Hughes Associates Architects who did in-kind work for the group, reviewed proposed schematic building plans for the site at Albert Harris as well as the Uptown Baldwin block; this is an opportunity for the city and Harvest Foundation to be inclusive;

September 14, 2010

discussion of funding sources possibilities; discussion on representation on Uptown Management Team members which does include FAHI; discussion on high costs for renting out school facilities for events; all options need to be looked at for Baldwin Block as Council has worked very hard on Uptown revitalization; a significant part of decision on Baldwin Block will include public input. On a motion by Kimble Reynolds, seconded by Danny Turner, with a 5-0 vote, Council agreed to endorse the West Side Community Center as a catalyst for meeting the needs for youth and families throughout the community. Council asked that staff come up with an inclusion plan on the process for Baldwin Block to include West Side Community Center group. West Side Community Center representatives will be invited back to the first Council meeting in November for an update on their timeline. Tyler Millner of Axton made remarks regarding Harvest Foundation funding in regard to being inclusive of whole community.

Bobby Phillips, Safety Officer, presented information to Council for their review regarding the updated Emergency Operations Plan. At the September 28 meeting, Council will be asked to adopt the plan by resolution.

Clarence Monday summarized information regarding next steps for evaluation of a natural gas combined cycle power generation facility including use of a Citizen Advisory Committee. Points made included: AMP will bring another electric generation facility to the City for consideration; facility will be natural gas combined cycle and city can either execute a long-term power purchase agreement or pass; data on facility expected within the next month and should have 2-3 months to examine; will be 4 levels of review including: staff, Blue Ridge Power, GDS Associates, and Citizens Advisory Committee; past members of Power Advisory Committee were sent letters to see if interested in serving again; once information arrives from AMP, it will be given simultaneously to staff, Blue Ridge Power, GDS, and the committee with much of the information being business confidential; stressed this an important decision; AMP has and continues to fulfill its commitment to offer projects to protect its customers from volatile power market fluctuations. Council agreed that Council appointments to the Citizens Power Advisory Committee will be made at the September 28 meeting and asked that staff prepare a scope of work for the committee for Council consideration at the September 28 meeting.

Commissioner of Revenue, Ruth Easley, briefed Council on the request to adopt a resolution setting the allocation percentage for personal property tax relief for qualifying vehicles in the City for tax year 2010. On December 13, 2005, Council adopted an

September 14, 2010

ordinance that established a local program of personal property tax relief that requires city council to annually set the relief allocation percentage that is anticipated to fully use the Personal Property Tax Relief Act relief funds provided to the city by the state. The commissioner of the revenue has completed the annual assessment of motor vehicles that have a Martinsville tax situs for tax year 2010. By ordinance, qualifying vehicles assessed at \$1,000, or less, receive 100% relief. Qualifying vehicles with assessed values between \$1,001 and the first \$20,000 receive a calculated annual percentage of relief based on the number of qualifying vehicles and their associated assessments. The commissioner of the revenue estimates that a percentage rate of 58.9% will fully use all state PPTRA funds allocated to the city for Tax Year 2010. On a motion by Gene Teague, seconded by Kimble Reynolds, with the following 5-0 recorded vote, Adkins, aye; Reynolds, aye; Teague, aye; Stroud, aye; and Turner, aye, Council approved the following resolution:

RESOLUTION -SETTING THE ALLOCATION PERCENTAGE FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF IN THE CITY OF MARTINSVILLE FOR TAX YEAR 2009

WHEREAS, on December 13, 2005 by Ordinance 2005-8 the Martinsville City Council established a local program of tax relief that serves the best interests of its citizens regarding personal property tax on qualifying use vehicles, pursuant to modifications made by the General Assembly of Virginia to the Personal Property Tax Relief Act of 1998 (PPTRA); and

WHEREAS, the city's relief program requires the city council to adopt an annual percentage of local tax relief for personal use vehicles valued between \$1,001 and the first \$20,000 that will fully exhaust the PPTRA relief funds provided to the city by the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the commissioner of the revenue has completed the annual assessment of motor vehicles with Martinsville tax situs for Tax Year 2010; and

WHEREAS, the commissioner of the revenue estimates that a percentage of relief of 58.9% applied to the first \$20,000 of assessed values for qualifying vehicles valued over \$1,000 will fully use all available state PPTRA relief allocated for tax year 2010.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Martinsville City Council that 58.9% shall be the percentage of relief to be applied to the first \$20,000 in value of each qualifying vehicle with an assessed value more than \$1,000 pursuant to and in accordance with provisions of Sec. 21-10 of the Martinsville City Code.

Adopted this 14th day of September 2010.

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

BUDGET ADDITIONS FOR 09/14/10				
ORG	OBJECT	DESCRIPTION	DEBIT	CREDIT
FY11				
GENERAL FUND				
01100908	480411	Miscellaneous - Donations/Skate Park		35,505
01713211	508220	Park Maintenance - Physical Plant Expansion appropriate donated funds for Skate Park	35,505	
01100908	480410	Miscellaneous - Donations/Fire Dept		50
01321102	505500	Fire Dept. - Training Appropriate donation	50	
Total General Fund:			35,555	35,555

Business from the floor: Alexis Lee, 127 Sellers St., asked Council to please consider the West Side Community Center; Ural Harris, 217 Stuart St., pointed out no one from previous Power Committee should be allowed to serve and expressed his disagreement with the Commonwealth Crossing water/sewer agreement; Ladonna Hairston, Rose Lane, commended Council for taking step tonight to assist the West Side Community Center.

September 14, 2010

Comments from City Council: Turner—reported Martensville, Saskatchewan, Canada representatives will be visiting the area and he is trying to get a teleconference with their Council meeting there to invite them here; Reynolds—thanked Westside group for their flexibility and understanding working with Council; Stroud—encouraged citizen participation and noted he had a citizen thank him for Council approving the senior discount on the utility bill; Adkins—thanked Westside group for their leadership.

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 Danny Turner, with the following 5-0 recorded vote: Adkins, aye; Reynolds, aye; Teague, aye; Stroud, aye; and 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. (B) Discussion or consideration of the investment of public funds where competition or bargaining is involved, where, if made public initially, the financial interest of the governmental unit would be adversely affected as authorized by Subsection 6.

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 Kimble Reynolds, seconded by Gene Teague, with the following recorded 5-0 vote: Adkins, aye; Reynolds, aye; Teague, aye; Stroud, aye; and Turner, aye, Council returned to Open Session. The following action was taken on appointments to Boards and Commissions: On a motion by Gene Teague, seconded by Danny Turner, with a 5-0 vote, Council appointed Doug Sharpe, 206 Clearview Drive, to the Transportation Safety Commission for a four year term ending 12/31/13. No other action was taken.

There being no further business, Mayor Adkins adjourned the meeting at 10:25 PM.

Clarence C. Monday
Clerk of Council

Kim E. Adkins
Mayor