

ADDENDUM

MARTINSVILLE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

October 23, 2018

7:30 pm – REGULAR SESSION ADDENDUM

1. Consider adoption of a resolution approving and confirming a Declaration of Local Emergency.

Meeting Date: October 23, 2018

Item No: Addendum 1

Department: City Manager

Issue: Consider adoption of a resolution approving and confirming a Declaration of Local Emergency.

Summary: On Thursday, October 11, 2018, the remnants of Hurricane Michael passed through Martinsville resulting in unusually heavy rainfall and wind gusts within a brief window of time. As a result, numerous trees fell or were damaged causing extensive power outages, street blockages, and flooding. Clean up of mud, limbs, and other storm debris is ongoing. At the height of the storm on the afternoon of October 11th, an estimated 75% of the City was without power and some 25 to 30 trees were down. The Indian Trail electric substation was damaged and is still not operational. A number of homes experienced minor flooding as rainfall amounts over a short period of time exceeded the ability to drain, resulting in damaged carpeting, furniture, and other materials.

In response to the storm event and in accordance with the City's Emergency Operations Plan, a Declaration of Local Emergency is suggested which may allow access to resources to assist with costs associated with the storm event. According to §44-146.21 of the Code of Virginia, such declaration must be approved by the governing body.

The Declaration of Local Emergency is made retroactive to October 11th and is specific to the damages and costs related to infrastructure repairs and continuing cleanup of storm debris. The Declaration facilitates a request for public assistance through the Virginia Department of Emergency Management.

Attachment: Resolution

Recommendation: Motion to approve Resolution.

Council Members
Gene Teague, Mayor
Chad Martin, Vice-Mayor
Jennifer Bowles
Kathy Lawson
Jim Woods



City Manager
Leon E. Towarnicki
City Attorney
Eric H. Monday
Clerk of Council
Karen Roberts

RESOLUTION DECLARATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, on Thursday, October 11, 2018, the City of Martinsville experienced significant weather-related damages resulting from Hurricane Michael; and

WHEREAS, the storm event produced close to 7 inches of rainfall within a short period of time and along with substantial wind gusts in the 25 to 30 mph range, resulted in numerous downed trees with extensive damage to City electric infrastructure and street closures; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 75% of the City was without power for a brief period on the afternoon of October 11th with power eventually being restored to most customers by late Sunday, October 14th; and

WHEREAS, assessment of damages and cleanup efforts are expected to continue for several weeks for ongoing electric repairs and removal of storm damaged materials and debris by the City from public streets in addition to providing assistance to residents with removal and disposal of personal materials; and

WHEREAS, Section 44-146.21 of the Code of Virginia requires that such Declaration of Local Emergency be approved and confirmed by the local governing body;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia that a Declaration of Local Emergency is hereby approved and confirmed retroactive to October 11, 2018 and extending through such period as may be necessary for full restoration of infrastructure and cleanup of all storm-related debris. Furthermore, City staff are hereby authorized to work with the Virginia Department of Emergency Management and other agencies as may be appropriate regarding any assistance that might be available in this endeavor.

Adopted this 23rd day of October, 2018

Attest:

Karen Roberts
Clerk of Council