

January 8, 2019 Council Meeting

The regular meeting of the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia was held on January 8, 2019 in Council Chambers, Municipal Building, at 7:30 PM with Mayor Kathy Lawson presiding. Other Council Members present included Jennifer Bowles, Chad Martin, Jim Woods and Danny Turner. Staff present included City Manager Leon Towarnicki, City Attorney Eric Monday, Assistant City Manager Wayne Knox, Clerk of Council Karen Roberts, Finance Director Linda Conover, and Police Chief Eddie Cassady.


Mayor Lawson called the meeting to order. Following the Pledge to the American Flag and invocation by Council Member Woods, Lawson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Consider approval of the minutes from the October 9, 2018 Council meeting, the October 22, 2018 Neighborhood meeting and the October 23, 2018 Council meeting - Council Member Bowles made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Vice Mayor Martin seconded the motion with four Council Members voting in favor. Council Member Turner abstained since he was not in attendance for the 2018 meetings.

Conduct a public hearing regarding a Zoning Text Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance as approved and recommended by the Planning Commission – Wayne Knox of the Community Development department explained the amendment and the need for a public hearing before approval. Council Member Bowles asked if the Planning Commission had any concern. Knox said members questioned what a hookah bar was; Knox explained that a hookah bar is similar to a cigar bar but people share flavored water pipes. Council Member Turner shared concerns that some nearby businesses had not been contacted about the potential change in ordinance. Knox explained that a mailed letter notifies the public and business owners that could be affected adversely. The Chamber is also contacted to make them aware and to see if any other business could be affected. Turner mentioned that Mr. Haley, owner of the local game room had no idea of this proposal. Lawson opened the floor for public comments. No one approached the podium so the hearing was closed. Turner asked for clarification of what a hookah bar is and what requirements or inspections would be required. Knox confirmed that the owners may serve drinks or food but would not be permitted to sell alcohol. Council Members commented on surrounding areas like Greensboro, NC that had several hookah bars that appeared to be popular with residents. Bowles said she feels this will be a positive move with no apparent negative outcome. Vice Mayor Martin made a motion to approve the amendment on first reading. Council Member Woods seconded the motion with the following roll call: Council Member Bowles, aye; Mayor Lawson, aye; Council Member Turner, aye; Council Member Woods, aye; and Vice Mayor Martin, aye.

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<p style="text-align: center;">ORDINANCE 2019-Z-1 Zoning Text Amendment – Commercial Indoor Sports and Recreation and Commercial Indoor Entertainment</p> <p>BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia, in regular session held on January 8, 2019 that Chapters II, XII, XIII, XIV, XV, XVI, and XXIII of the Zoning Ordinance, be amended as follows:</p> <p>PROPOSED AMENDMENTS – ZONING ORDINANCE (Strikethrough indicates deletion; <i>italicized bold</i> indicates addition)</p> <p>II. Definitions</p> <p><i>Commercial Indoor Entertainment</i></p> <p><i>Predominantly entertainment uses conducted within an enclosed building. Typical uses include cigar bars, hookah lounges, motion picture theaters, and concert or music halls.</i></p> <p><i>Commercial Indoor Sports and Recreation</i></p> <p><i>Predominantly entertainment uses conducted within an enclosed building. Typical uses include bowling alleys, escape rooms, laser tag, bouncy rooms, and ice and roller skating rinks.</i></p> <p>XII. R-T Transitional Residential D. Uses Permitted By Special Use Permit 11. Commercial Indoor Entertainment 12. Commercial Indoor Sports & Recreation</p> <p>XIII. C-N Neighborhood Commercial C. Uses Permitted By Right 12. Commercial Indoor Entertainment 13. Commercial Indoor Sports & Recreation</p> <p>XIV. C-UB Uptown Business District C. Uses Permitted By Right 14. Commercial Indoor Entertainment 15. Commercial Indoor Sports & Recreation</p> <p>XV. C-C Corridor Commercial C. Uses Permitted By Right 14. Commercial Indoor Entertainment 15. Commercial Indoor Sports & Recreation</p> <p>XVI. ED-MA Economic Development Medical & Academic C. Uses Permitted By Right 14. Commercial Indoor Entertainment 15. Commercial Indoor Sports & Recreation</p>	<p>XXIII. Off-Street Parking and Loading Minimum Off-Street Parking Requirements (Table 23.1) Office and Personal Services <i>Commercial Indoor Entertainment 1 per 300 sf</i> <i>Commercial Indoor Sports and Recreation 1 per 300 sf</i></p> <p>Attest: *****</p> <p>Karen B. Roberts, Clerk of Council</p> <p>Date Adopted _____ Date Effective _____</p>
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Martinsville
A CITY WITHOUT LIMITS

November 28, 2018

Mayor Gene Teague
City of Martinsville
55 W Church Street
Martinsville, VA 24112

Dear Mayor Teague,

The Planning Commission, at a called meeting on November 27, 2018, conducted a duly advertised Public Hearing on a proposal to amend the Zoning Ordinance to add definitions for Commercial Indoor Entertainment and Commercial Indoor Sports and Recreation and permit those uses by right or special use permit, as well as parking requirements to accommodate the new uses.

At the Public Hearing it was noted these amendments are business friendly, offering a wider variety of commercial uses not already covered under retail or restaurant. There was no citizen response regarding these proposed amendments. City staff is recommending the amendments as a proactive approach to the continued development activity in and around the uptown area and community.

Following discussion of the matter, the Planning Commission voted unanimously (5-0), to forward the proposed amendments, as attached, to City Council with a favorable recommendation.

The Commission respectfully requests that Martinsville City Council consider the issue for the Zoning Text Amendment and set a public hearing. Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

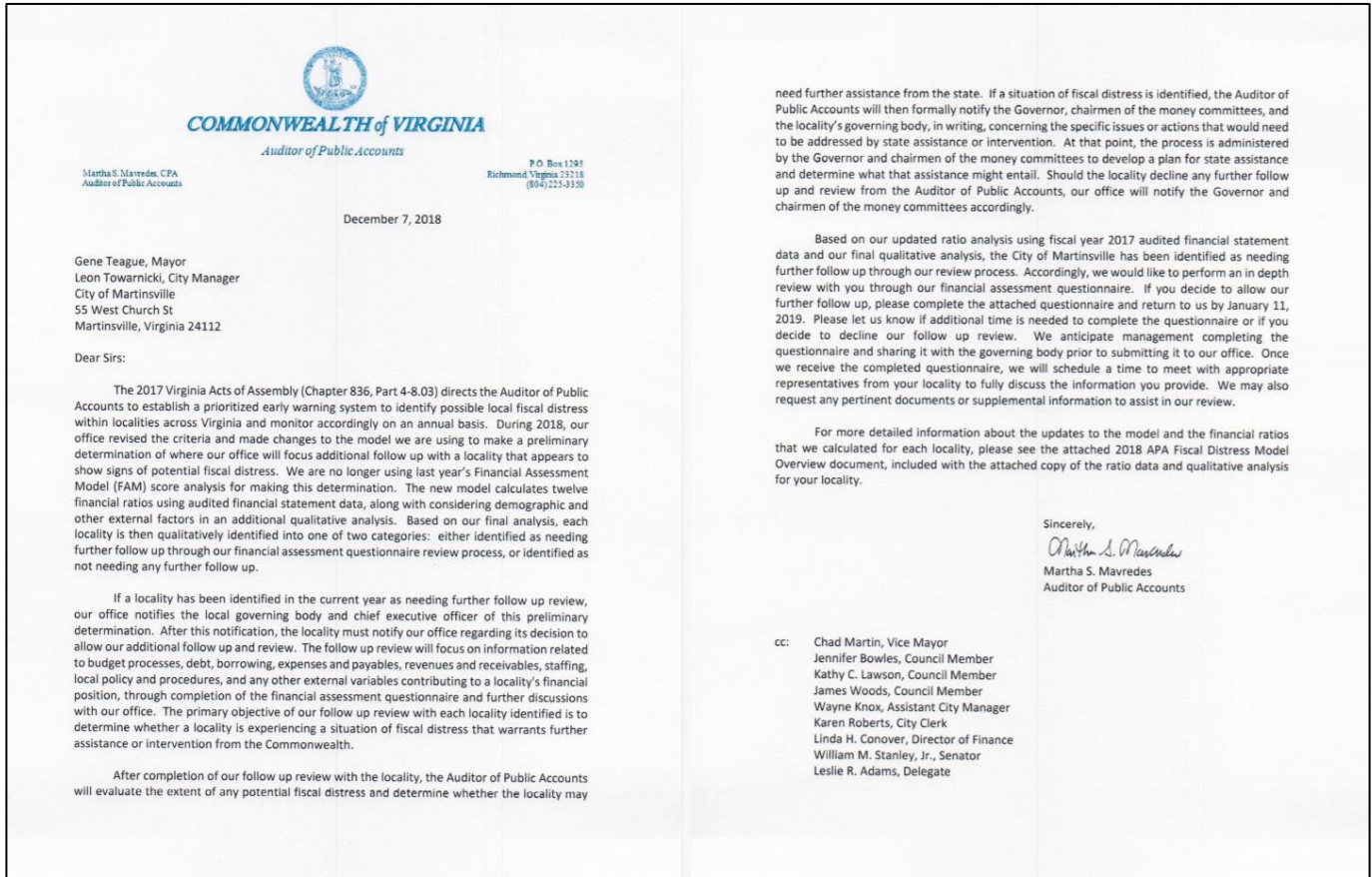
Joe Martin
Chair, City of Martinsville Planning Commission

55 W Church Street • Martinsville, VA 24112 • PO Box 1112 • Martinsville, VA 24114 • 276/403-5156

Hear information related to a fiscal distress monitoring process provided through the Office of the Virginia Auditor or Public Accounts – City Manager Towarnicki referenced a packet of information made available to Council Members regarding a fiscal distress monitoring process.

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Martinsville has been identified as needing further follow-up through this review process. Towarnicki went through some of the questions sharing the City's answers with an explanation to provide Council and residents a better understanding of what would be submitted. Council Member Turner questioned whether the AMP Ohio debt should show up in the questionnaire; Towarnicki explained that it would not be. Council Member Bowles asked to see where Martinsville ranked against other locations. Mayor Lawson emphasized that the process was to study the City's actions towards financial responsibility.



Hear an update on FY19 Telecommunications operations – Telecommunications Manager Mike Scaffidi shared a PowerPoint which provided information on current employees, revenue versus expenses, general points of interest, customer base, revenue increase, the value of service provided by telecommunications/MINet, and the expected future of the department. Scaffidi confirmed that home based businesses that hold a business license with the City qualify for service also. Due to the weather, the department is behind on providing new service. There are six businesses on hold in addition to a waiting list of interested customers.



January 1, 2019
Council Update

Michael Scaffidi
Director of Telecommunications

EMPLOYEES

- Mike Scaffidi Director
- Jared Pruett Network Services Specialist
- Randy Craig Telecom Support Supervisor
- Charles Anderson Telecom Technician
- Eric Boaz Telecom Technician
- Kathy Reed Accounts Manager

January 7, 2019 REVENUE VS EXPENSES

REVENUE BUDGET

- Total Budgeted Revenues \$1,931,728
 - Collected as of 1/01/2019 \$ 916,383
 - Does not Reflect all of Decembers Receipts
 - 47% of Revenues Recovered

EXPENDITURES BUDGET

- Total Budgeted Expenses \$1,887,668
- Total Budget Used 1/01/2019 \$1,111,702
- 57 % of Budget Used
 - Physical Plant Expansion
 - Up-front Maintenance and Support Charges

General Points of Interest

- Hurricane Michael Impact
 - Telecom Charges Absorbed
 - \$81,940
- Expected Gross FY Revenue \$2.1 Million
- New Phone System in Operation
 - Continue the Decommissioning Process of CS-1K
- Phone System Impact
 - Drop in Monthly Recurring Charges

CUSTOMER BASE January 1, 2019

- July 1, 2018
 - 151
- September 1, 2018
 - 155
- January 1, 2019
 - 167
- Six Companies In Construction Process
- Working With a Variety of Companies
 - Wet Climate Impact
 - Several Projects on Hold – Awaiting Drier Weather
 - Completing Redundant Optical Builds for new and Existing Companies

REVENUE INCREASE

- July 2017 Monthly Inv Billing
 - \$106,000
- December 2017 Monthly Inv Billing
 - \$125,000
- July 2018 Monthly Inv Billing
 - \$128,826 (Including Annual Billing)
- September 2018 Monthly Inv Billing
 - \$126,998
- January 2019 Monthly Inv Billing
 - \$134,146 (1.61 M per year excluding yearly invoicing)
 - Expected Monthly Invoicing by End of FY \$140,800

VALUE OF SERVICE PROVIDED BY TELECOMMUNICATIONS/MINET

- No Debt
- Tremendous Internal Telecom Cost Savings
- New Phone System (20 year life)
- Annual School System Support \$160K
- Balance or Residual Funds returned to City
- **Accepting High Volume of Telephone Calls During Outages - Continues to Work Well**
- Special Services to Customers
 - Network and Virus Protection through FW
- Continue to Expansion Outside of our Footprint
- Local Service Provider (Customer Service)

FUTURE

- **MARKETING**
 - Marketing Impact?
 - Awards and Recognition
 - Case Study
 - "City of Martinsville. Leverages Technology for Economic Development Initiative"
 - Posted on Avaya Website
 - Presented at the International AUG – Dallas, Texas January 2019
- **EXPANSION**
 - Variety of Residential Inquiries
 - Test-bed Equipment – January 14, 2019
- **RESOURCES NEEDED**
 - Construction Crew Evaluation
 - Backbone – Fiber Build - Cut Down on Expenses
 - Billing System – Tie Into MUNIS

Business from the Floor – Johnny Spencer, Jr of 1010 E Street expressed concern for the condition of the road, stating that there are large cracks with grass growing through it. Spencer stated that the road has not been paved since he has been living there over 60 years.

Comments by Members of City Council – Council Member Bowles received a message from a citizen expressing concern about a house on the corner of Mineral and Clay Street, there is nowhere to park at this location causing a traffic hazard and she asked that the Transportation Committee evaluate that location. A resident reached out to her regarding the 911 center and wrecks in the City and the amount of time it takes a wrecker service to respond to accidents. Police Chief Cassady explained that there is a wrecker rotation with a maximum 30-minute response before another service is contacted. The citizen is asked first if they have a preference of wrecker service. Bowles asked if the City could only use City wreckers. Cassady explained that the “next in line” list is one of the most difficult services to deal with to ensure fairness for all businesses. Council Member Turner welcomed Holly Kozelsky from the Martinsville Bulletin to the meeting. Vice Mayor Martin said he thought it was wonderful to have a film company in Martinsville and how exciting that our local firefighters would be included in a movie. The Martin Luther King planning council is planning their service on January 20. Mayor Lawson shared information about the Enterprise Zone Workshop to be held February 7; it is free to attend at the college. “If I were Mayor” contest essays are due to Virginia Municipal League by January 18 and recommended Council Members offer a monetary award again this year to a local student. Turner asked if Martinsville could make a point of submitting a Christmas ornament to VML again this year.

Comments by City Manager – Assistant City Manager Knox said there would be a couple more enterprise zone workshops and he encourages business owners to attend, stating that incentives offered through the program could be very beneficial to those businesses. There is not a date set for the next Citizen’s Academy but he hopes to do it again in the near future.

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There being no further business, Council Member Bowles made a motion to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Martin with all Council Members voting in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

Karen Roberts
Clerk of Council

Kathy Lawson
Mayor