

May 28, 2019 Council Meeting

The regular meeting of the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia was held on May 28, 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, Building Inspector Kris Bridges, Property Maintenance Inspector Mark Price and Deputy Police Chief Rob Fincher.

Mayor Lawson opened the meeting at 6:00pm, introducing City Attorney Eric Monday who provided a presentation related to the History of Martinsville and Henry County.

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

Consider approval of minutes of March 26, 2019 and April 9, 2019 Council Meetings – Council Member Bowles made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Vice Mayor Martin seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor.

Recognize City Employees who are eligible for Service Awards for the period April 1-June 30, 2019 – City Manager Towarnicki read the list, thanking those employees for their service and dedication to the City.

**SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS  
FOURTH QUARTER - FISCAL YEAR 18-19  
FOR THE PERIOD OF APRIL 1 – JUNE 30, 2019**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Years of Service</b>
JOEL MEEKS	ELECTRIC DEPT	5
JOSEPH WLODARCZYK	PUBLIC WORKS	5
JOAN JOYCE	TREASURER	10
TERRY MARTIN	ELECTRIC DEPT	10
JASON BIGGS	PUBLIC WORKS	15
JAMES LOVELL	POLICE DEPT	20
CYNTHIA DICKERSON	TREASURER	25
EDDIE FLOOD	PUBLIC WORKS	40

Consider presentation of a proclamation recognizing June 2 - 8, 2019 as “RELAY FOR LIFE DAYS” in Martinsville and Henry County – Mayor Lawson read the proclamation and presented it to Emma Gurley, American Cancer Society Community Development Manager for the Martinsville area. Gurley shared details about upcoming events.



## JOINT PROCLAMATION

OF THE

### HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MARTINSVILLE CITY COUNCIL

**WHEREAS**, the American Cancer Society Relay For Life movement is the world's largest peer-to-peer fundraising event to save lives from cancer. Relay For Life brings together 3.5 million participants worldwide to help attack cancer from every angle; and

**WHEREAS**, the Relay For Life of Martinsville & Henry County stands shoulder to shoulder with cancer patients and those supporting them to help beat our biggest rival and fight cancer on every front; and

**WHEREAS**, funds raised help the American Cancer Society attack cancer in dozens of ways, each of them critical to achieving a world without cancer – from developing breakthrough therapies to building supportive communities, from providing empowering resources to deploying activities to raise awareness;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED**, on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of May 2019 that the Henry County Board of Supervisors and Martinsville City Council establish June 2–8, 2019 as "RELAY FOR LIFE DAYS" in Martinsville & Henry County and encourage citizens to let their passion inspire them to join the Relay For Life movement by starting a fundraising team, making a donation, or volunteering with the Relay For Life event at Bassett High School on June 7.

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Jim Adams, Chairman  
Henry County Board of Supervisors

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Kathy Lawson, Mayor  
City of Martinsville

Consider setting a public hearing for Council's June 11, 2019 meeting for the purpose of receiving names of citizens interested in appointments for one unexpired 3-year term ending June 30, 2021, and one full 3-year term ending June 30, 2022, on the Martinsville City School Board – City Manager Towarnicki said the hearing would be held on June 11. Anyone who would like to be considered for either School Board vacancy would need to either attend the meeting, make their request known to a Council Member or contact someone in the City Manager's office to have their name read at the meeting. Council Member Bowles made a motion to set the public hearing for June 11. Council Member Turner seconded the motion with all Council voting in favor.

**SCHOOL BOARD**

**SCHOOL BOARD** – The School Board is declared a body corporate. In its corporate capacity, it is vested with all the powers and charged with all the duties, obligations, and responsibilities upon school boards by law. It may sue, be sued, contract, be contracted with, and in accordance with the provisions of this title, purchase, take, hold, lease, and convey school property both real and personal. The School Board has the following powers and duties: 1) to make rules for the governance of the schools within its jurisdiction; 2) to determine the curriculum, methods of teaching, methods of administration and governance, and the length of the school term; 3) to employ and dismiss teachers upon the recommendation of the superintendent; 4) to suspend or expel pupils when necessary; 5) to establish such schools as are necessary in the judgement of the Board to so constitute a complete and efficient system; 6) to control and manage funds made available to the Board for the purpose of conducting free public schools; 7) examine all claims for payment and authorize payment; and 8) to submit annually to City Council a budget request.

**TERMS:** The Board consists of five members serving **three-year** terms appointed by City Council. **School Board members can serve a maximum of three 3-year consecutive terms.**

Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month.

**CONTACT:** Dr. Zeb Talley, Superintendent, 403-5820, 746 Indian Trail, Martinsville, VA 24112

Name & Address	Initial Appointment	Term Expires	Full Term
Eric Hruza, 707 Mulberry Rd	6/30/16	6/30/19	1
Donna Dillard, 912 Forest Lake Dr. (reappt 6/27/17)	8/24/16	6/30/20	0
Tonya Jones, 752 Stultz Road	6/27/17	6/30/20	0
Sammy Redd, 303 Oakdale Street (appt 1/23/18)	1/23/18	6/30/21	
Joan Montgomery, 807 Corn Tassel Tr. (Resigned June, 2019)	6/16/15	6/30/21	2

Consider adoption of a joint Resolution with Henry County requesting the Commonwealth Transportation Board and Virginia Department of Transportation to consider action to relocate a potential route for Interstate 73 to the western side of U.S. Route 220 and to the western side of the City of Martinsville – City Manager Towarnicki explained that Henry County approved this resolution earlier today for a western route. Council Member Turner made a motion to adopt the joint resolution. Council Member Bowles seconded the motion, which was approved by all Council Members.



## JOINT RESOLUTION

OF THE

### HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MARTINSVILLE CITY COUNCIL

WHEREAS, Interstate 73 would be a primary growth engine for the Henry County and Martinsville economy, promoting employment, capital investment, travel, tourism, recreation and other economic development avenues; and

WHEREAS, the location of I-73 through Henry County is vital to our area's business and economic future, and has been a primary point of discussion for many years; and

WHEREAS, the Army Corps of Engineers has indicated it is highly unlikely that it would provide the needed permits for a route east of U.S. Route 220 and east of the City of Martinsville, based on the number of stream crossings and other environmental concerns; and

WHEREAS, a route west of the City of Martinsville, working in concert with the Virginia Department of Transportation's Martinsville Southern Connector initiative, could potentially be more likely for permitting and ultimately construction of Interstate 73 within Henry County:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT JOINTLY RESOLVED, on this 28th day of May 2019, that the Henry County Board of Supervisors and Martinsville City Council hereby request the Commonwealth Transportation Board and the Department of Transportation consider action to relocate a potential route for Interstate 73 to the western side of U.S. Route 220 and to the western side of the City of Martinsville.

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Jim Adams, Chairman  
Henry County Board of Supervisors

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Kathy Lawson, Mayor  
City of Martinsville

Hear information from Building Inspections regarding demolition of structures within the City – Kris Bridges, Building Inspector provided Council property maintenance and demolition updates, properties added and additional information related to 48 vacant lots for potential land bank opportunities.

Business from the Floor – No one approached the podium.

Comments by Members of City Council – Council Member Bowles hopes everyone had a wonderful Memorial Day. Bowles invited the public to the Food Truck Rodeo uptown on June 2 from 12:00noon-6:00pm on Broad Street. Council Member Woods attended the Memorial Day event at The People's Cemetery, stating that it was a moving experience and well presented. Council Member Turner discussed the event at The People's Cemetery and hopes to move that event to November 11; they feel that would be a more appropriate holiday to commemorate those buried there. June 6 is the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day; there are Martinsville residents killed on that day and he hopes that Council can join him in placing wreaths on veteran monuments. Vice Mayor Martin also attended The People's Day event and commended City Attorney Monday for his presentation. Mayor Lawson attended the Roselawn service with Council Member Turner and stated that it was very well presented. Joan Montgomery resigned her position on the school board; Lawson thanked Montgomery for her service to the schools and her time on the school board.

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Comments by City Manager – City Manager Towarnicki shared that the Martinsville Mustangs first home game will open the season this Friday. June 6 is also the Chamber’s Annual Luncheon and Leadership award; he asked that Council let him know if they plan to attend so that reservations can be made. Towarnicki thanked City Attorney Monday for speaking at The People’s Cemetery event as well as tonight’s presentation. Towarnicki acknowledged Larry Wayne Caudill who worked for the City 27 years. Caudill passed away last week and Towarnicki offered condolences to the family.

Comments by City Attorney – City Attorney Monday thanked Council for allowing him to make the presentations about Martinsville’s history. Monday said he is disappointed that the schools do not currently teach Virginia and local history like they did when he was in school. If you do not know where you are from, it is hard to know where you are going. The Grandin Theater in conjunction with New College Institute is offering all-day camps for high school students interested in film June 10-14 and June 17-21. He hopes more students will enroll so that the camps are not cancelled.

There being no further business, Council Member Bowles made a motion to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Council Member Turner with all Council Members voting in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

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Karen Roberts  
Clerk of Council

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Kathy Lawson  
Mayor