

January 3, 2017

An organizational meeting of the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia, was held on January 3, 2017, in Council Chambers, Municipal Building, beginning at 9:00 A. M., with Ashby Pritchett, Circuit Court Clerk, presiding. Council Members present included: Gene Teague, Jennifer Bowles, Sharon Brooks Hodge, Chad Martin and Kathy Lawson.

Rev. James Hagwood delivered the invocation.

Circuit Court Clerk Pritchett issued the oath of office to newly-elected Council Member Kathy Lawson and Council Member Chad Martin and re-elected Council Member Sharon Hodge.

Mr. Pritchett called for nominations for Mayor. Council Member Lawson nominated Council Member Teague, Council Member Hodge nominated Council Member Bowles. Lawson made a motion to close nominations, Hodge seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor.

With a 3-2 vote with Council Members Teague, Lawson and Martin voting Council Member Teague for Mayor and Council Members Hodge and Bowles voting Bowles as Mayor, Mr. Pritchett declared Council Member Gene Teague as the new Mayor of the City of Martinsville with the 3-2 vote and issued the oath of office.

Mr. Pritchett then turned the meeting over to Mayor Teague who asked for nominations for Vice Mayor. Council Member Hodge nominated Council Member Bowles, Council Member Lawson nominated Council Member Martin. Lawson made a motion to close nominations, Hodge seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor.

With a 3-2 vote with Council Members Teague, Lawson and Martin voting Council Member Martin for Vice Mayor and Council Members Hodge and Bowles voting Bowles as Vice Mayor, Mayor Teague declared Council Member Chad Martin as the new Vice Mayor of the City of Martinsville with the 3-2 vote. Mr. Pritchett issued the oath of office.

Mayor Teague requested that Vice Mayor Martin take the seat to the Mayor's right then proceeded to arrange seating for remaining three Council Members.

Mayor Teague welcomed Senator Stanley to the podium for a brief statement. Stanley congratulated and welcomed new and returning Council Members. Stanley recognized former Mayor Danny Turner and presented him a flag flown over the capital in his honor. Turner congratulated new Council Members and thanked Senator Stanley.

Council Member Hodge made a motion to approve the current meeting schedule of second and fourth Tuesday evenings at 7:30 P.M. with closed session held at 7pm on day of meetings. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bowles with all Council Members voting in favor.

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Brief comments were made by Council Members thanking Martinsville City residents as well as their family and friends for their support. Members congratulated the new and returning Council Members as well as the newly elected Mayor and Vice Mayor.

Mayor Teague advised Council would go into Closed Session beginning at 9:26am. In accordance with Section 2.1-344 (A) of the Code of Virginia (1950, and as amended) and upon a motion by Council Member Hodge, seconded by Council Member Bowles, with the following 5-0 recorded vote: Martin, aye; Lawson, aye; Hodge, aye; Teague, aye; and Bowles, aye. Council convened in Closed Session to discuss the following matters: (A) Discussion of the award of a public contract involving the expenditure of public funds, including interview of bidders or offerors, and discussion of the terms or scope of such contract, where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, as authorized by Subsection 29. and (B) Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members, attorneys or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, or other specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel, as authorized by Subsection 7. 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 the Session. A motion was made by Council Member Bowles, seconded by Council Member Hodge, with the following 5-0 recorded vote in favor to return to Open Session: Teague, aye; Bowles, aye; Martin, aye; Lawson, aye; and Hodge, aye.

There being no further business to come before Council during their organizational meeting, Mayor Teague adjourned the meeting at 10:15am.

Karen Roberts
Clerk of Council

M. Gene Teague
Mayor