

May 9, 2017

The regular meeting of the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia was held on May 9, 2017 in Council Chambers, Municipal Building, at 7:30 PM with Mayor Gene Teague presiding. Council Members present included Gene Teague, Sharon Hodge, Chad Martin, Jennifer Bowles, and Kathy Lawson. Staff present included City Manager Leon Towarnicki, Assistant City Manager Wayne Knox, Clerk of Council Karen Roberts, Finance Director Linda Conover, Police Chief Sean Dunn, Deputy Police Chief Eddie Cassady, Human Resource Director Kathy Vernon, Lieutenant Rob Fincher, Fire Chief Ted Anderson, Deputy Fire Marshall Andy Powers, Code Compliance Inspector Mark Price, Inspection Permit Technician Tammy Davis, and Commissioner of Revenue Ruth Easley.

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

Consider approval of minutes from the April 24, 2017 Neighborhood Tour and Meeting and April 25, 2017 Council Meeting – Council Member Lawson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Council Member Hodge seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor.

Consider approval of FY18 Budget Ordinance on second reading – Mayor Teague said he would allow people to speak at the podium although this was not a public hearing. City Manager Towarnicki explained that the cigarette and meals tax would need to be included even though they were not in the original agenda. Towarnicki summarized the proposed budget. School Superintendent Dr. Zeb Talley was present and asked for \$100,000 in additional funds, explaining the proposed budget for the schools and how it will require reductions in various departments. Mayor Teague asked Talley to continue to look at cost savings and Council can reevaluate incremental capital needs as necessary. Council Member Bowles expressed her full support for the schools and education. Bowles asked if Council cannot award the full \$100,000 increase as requested, maybe they would consider approving \$50,000. Mayor Teague asked where the \$100,000 would be cut if not awarded. Talley explained that the cut would affect staffing. Council Member Bowles made a motion to provide the schools an additional \$100,000 from cash reserve, Vice Mayor Martin seconded the motion. Bowles and Martin voted aye, Teague, Lawson and Hodge voted nay so motion failed.

Council Member Lawson made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2017-1 to increase the meals tax; Council Member Hodge seconded the motion with the following 5-0 roll-call vote: Council Member Hodge, aye; Council Member Bowles, aye; Council Member Lawson, aye; Mayor Teague, aye; and Vice Mayor Martin, aye.

Council Member Hodge made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2017-2 to increase the cigarette tax; Council Member Bowles seconded the motion with the following 5-0 roll-call vote: Council Member Bowles, aye; Vice Mayor Martin, aye; Council Member Hodge, aye; Mayor Teague, aye; and Council Member Lawson, aye.

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Council Member Bowles made a motion to approve the FY18 Budget Ordinance 2017-U-B as presented; Council Member Lawson seconded the motion with the following 5-0 roll-call vote: Council Member Lawson, aye; Council Member Hodge, aye; Council Member Bowles, aye; Vice Mayor Martin; aye, and Mayor Teague, aye.

<p style="text-align: center;">City of Martinsville, Virginia</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ordinance No. 2017-1</p> <p>BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia, in Regular Session held on May 9, 2017, that Section 21-75 of the Code of the City of Martinsville, be, and hereby is, amended to read as follows:</p> <p>Sec. 21-75. Levy.</p> <p>There is hereby imposed and levied by the city on each person a tax at the rate of six and one-half (6 1/2) <i>seven (7)</i> percent on the amount paid for meals purchased <i>after midnight of August 31, 2017</i> from any food establishment, whether prepared in such food establishment or not, and whether consumed on the premises or not.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*****</p> <p>Attest:</p> <p>_____ Karen Roberts, Clerk of Council</p> <p>Date Adopted _____ Date Effective _____</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">City of Martinsville, Virginia</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ordinance No. 2017-2</p> <p>BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia, in Regular Session held on May 9, 2017, that Section 21-103 of the Code of the City of Martinsville, be, and hereby is, amended to read as follows:</p> <p>Sec. 21-103. Tax levied.</p> <p>There is hereby levied and imposed by the city upon each and every sale of cigarettes after midnight of August 31, 2003 <i>2017</i>, a tax equivalent to twenty cents (\$0.20) <i>thirty cents (\$0.30)</i> for each pack of cigarettes sold within the city. The amount of such tax shall be paid by the seller, if not previously paid, in the manner and at the time provided for in this article.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*****</p> <p>Attest:</p> <p>_____ Karen Roberts, Clerk of Council</p> <p>Date Adopted _____ Date Effective _____</p>
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CITY OF MARTINSVILLE, VIRGINIA
ORDINANCE No. 2017-U-B
The Budget for Fiscal 2017-2018

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia, in regular session assembled May 9, 2017, that the following sums of money be and hereby are appropriated – by specified Fund – for the City’s fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, from the following Fund sources of estimated revenue:

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF BUDGET ESTIMATES
2017-2018

Fund	Projected Revenues	Budgeted Expenditures	Changes in Fund Balance
General	\$ 30,017,250	\$ 30,017,250	-
Meals Tax	\$ 2,187,978	\$ 1,973,373	\$ 214,605
Capital Reserve	\$ 1,100,638	\$ 1,100,638	-
Refuse	\$ 2,468,625	\$ 2,934,362	\$ (465,737)
Telecommunications	\$ 1,772,761	\$ 1,724,736	\$ 48,025
Water	\$ 3,854,065	\$ 4,129,701	\$ (275,636)
Sewer	\$ 4,428,512	\$ 5,450,167	\$ (1,021,655)
Electric	\$ 20,491,707	\$ 21,366,005	\$ (874,298)
Cafeteria	\$ 1,532,483	\$ 1,532,483	-
Schools	\$ 22,262,669	\$ 22,643,403	\$ (380,734)
CDBG	\$ 12,380	\$ 800	\$ 11,580
Totals	\$ 90,129,068	\$ 92,872,918	\$ (2,743,850)

Tax Rates (unchanged):

Real Estate:	\$1.0621 per \$100 assessed value
Personal Property:	\$2.30 per \$100 assessed value
Machinery & Tools:	\$1.85 per \$100 assessed value

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Council that this Ordinance shall be effective on and after July 1, 2017.

Attest:

Karen Roberts, Clerk of Council

Date Adopted

Date Effective

Read and present a proclamation recognizing Treylan Beamer for his accomplishments related to the recent Elks Lodge National Hoop Shoot competition – Council Member Bowles read and presented the proclamation. Treylan Beamer’s mother said it was a great experience and she thanked the Elks Lodge for their support. Mr. Steagall of the Elks Lodge said the family represented Martinsville well and said Beamer is not only a good athlete, but also a good student.



Proclamation

**RECOGNIZING TREYLAN BEAMER FOR HIS
ACCOMPLISHMENTS REGARDING THE ELKS LODGE
NATIONAL HOOP SHOOT COMPETITION**

WHEREAS, Treylan Beamer is a student at Patrick Henry Elementary School in the City of Martinsville and recently competed in the Elks Lodge National Hoop Shoot free throw competition; and

WHEREAS, Treylan first won the local contest in the 8 to 9 year-old boys division on January 14th; and

WHEREAS, Treylan advanced to the district competition held in Bedford, VA on January 21st, winning again in his age group; and

WHEREAS, Treylan moved on to the state competition held on February 11th in Charlottesville, VA, again winning his age group ; and

WHEREAS, Treylan then advanced to the regional competition held in Frederick, MD, once again winning in his age group; and

WHEREAS, Treylan then proceeded to the national competition event at the end of April in Chicago, Illinois, where he finished in fourth place in his age bracket, a remarkable achievement considering over 40,000 players participated nationwide in the competition,

NOW, THEREFORE, on this 9th day of May, 2017, I, Gene Teague, Mayor, along with members of Martinsville City Council hereby recognize and commend Treylan Beamer for his extraordinary achievement in the Elks National Hoop Shoot competition and for representing our entire community in an outstanding manner.

M. Gene Teague, Mayor

Hear an update from West Piedmont Workforce Investment Board – Lisa Fultz updated Council on WIB including the Promise Grant and the Ride Solutions Grant, which is in place to encourage ride sharing and will be utilized to assist residents who would like to attend the Martinsville-Henry County job fair on June 14. Fultz also updated Council on the Financial Literacy Program, the Working Family Success Grant and on workforce training. She mentioned on-the-job training and incumbent training. Fultz asked that residents who think they may qualify for WIB services should contact the office. Fultz suggested that WIB could possibly collaborate the ride-share program with PART.

Read and present a proclamation recognizing May 7 – 13, 2017 as Public Service Recognition Week – Council Member Hodge read and presented the proclamation.



PROCLAMATION

**PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK
MAY 7 – 13, 2017**

In honor of the millions of public employees at the federal, state, county, and city levels:

WHEREAS, Americans are served every single day by public servants at the federal, state, county and city levels. These unsung heroes do the work that keeps our nation working; and

WHEREAS, Public employees take not only jobs, but oaths; and

WHEREAS, Many public servants, including military personnel, police officers, firefighters, border patrol officers, embassy employees, health care professionals and others, risk their lives each day in service to the people of the United States and around the world; and

WHEREAS, Public servants include teachers, doctors and scientists . . . train conductors and astronauts . . . nurses and safety inspectors . . . laborers, computer technicians and social workers . . . and countless other occupations. Day in and day out they provide the diverse services demanded by the American people of their government with efficiency and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Without these public servants at every level, continuity would be impossible in a democracy that regularly changes its leaders and elected officials;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Gene Teague, Mayor of the City of Martinsville do hereby acknowledge and proclaim May 7 – 13, 2017 as Public Service Recognition Week and I call upon all citizens to recognize the accomplishments and contributions of government employees at all levels — federal, state, county and city.

M. Gene Teague
Mayor

Consider presentation of a Proclamation recognizing May as Building Safety Month – Mayor Teague read the proclamation and Council presented it to staff in attendance. Fire Chief Ted Anderson thanked Council and recognized Mark Price, Andy Powers and Tammy Davis who were in attendance along with Kris Bridges who was not in attendance but represents Martinsville nationally.



Proclamation

Building Safety Month Proclamation – May 2017

WHEREAS, the City of Martinsville, Virginia is committed to recognizing our growth and strength depends on the safety and economic value of the homes, buildings and infrastructure that serve our citizens, both in everyday life and in times of natural disaster, and;

WHEREAS, our confidence in the structural integrity of these buildings that make up our community is achieved through the devotion of vigilant guardians—building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, engineers, builders, tradespeople, design professionals, laborers and others in the construction industry—who work year-round to ensure the safe construction of buildings, and;

WHEREAS, these guardians are dedicated members of the International Code Council, a U.S. based organization, that brings together local, state and federal officials that are experts in the built environment to create and implement the highest-quality codes to protect us in the buildings where we live, learn, work, worship, play, and;

WHEREAS, our nation benefits economically and technologically from using the International Codes® that are developed by a national, voluntary consensus codes and standards developing organization, our government is able to avoid the high cost and complexity of developing and maintaining these codes, which are the most widely adopted building safety and fire prevention codes in the nation; these modern building codes include safeguards to protect the public from natural disasters such as hurricanes, snowstorms, tornadoes, wildland fires, floods and earthquake; and;

WHEREAS, Building Safety Month is sponsored by the International Code Council to remind the public about the critical role of our communities' largely unknown guardians of public safety—our local code officials—who assure us of safe, efficient and livable buildings that are essential to keep America great, and;

WHEREAS, "Code Officials—Partners in Community Safety and Economic Growth" the theme for Building Safety Month 2017, encourages all Americans to raise awareness of the importance of building safe and resilient construction; fire prevention; disaster mitigation, and new technologies in the construction industry. Building Safety Month 2017 encourages appropriate steps everyone can take to ensure that the places where we live, learn, work, worship and play are safe, and recognizes that countless lives have been saved due to the implementation of safety codes by local and state agencies, and,

WHEREAS, each year, in observance of Building Safety Month, Americans are asked to consider the commitment to improve building safety and economic investment at home and in the community, and to acknowledge the essential service provided to all of us by local and state building departments, fire prevention bureaus and federal agencies in protecting lives and property.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gene Teague, Mayor of the City of Martinsville, Virginia, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2017 as Building Safety Month. Accordingly, I encourage our citizens to join with their communities in participation in Building Safety Month activities.

Gene Teague, Mayor

Consider presentation of a Proclamation regarding National Police Week 2017 and Peace Officers' Memorial Day – Council Member Lawson read the proclamation. Council Members presented the proclamation to Chief Dunn and officers in attendance. Dunn thanked Council for the recognition and invited Council Members to the Martinsville-Henry County joint Memorial Ceremony Wednesday May 17 at 11:00am in Council Chambers.



PROCLAMATION

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK 2017 & PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL DAY

WHEREAS, the Congress and President of the United States have designated May 15 as Peace Officers' Memorial Day, and the week in which it falls as National Police Week; and

WHEREAS, the men and women of the Police Department and the Sheriff's Department of the City of Martinsville are instrumental in creating peace of mind to all the citizenry through their many efforts to enhance public safety; and

WHEREAS, it is incumbent on all our citizens to recognize, know and understand the duties, responsibilities, hazards, dedication, and sacrifices of the men and women of the Police Department and the Sheriff's Department of the City of Martinsville, and it is also incumbent upon each law enforcement officer to serve the people by safeguarding life and property, by protecting against violence and disorder, and by protecting the innocent against deception and the weak against oppression; and

WHEREAS, the Police and Sheriff Departments of the City of Martinsville are professional organizations that remain abreast in the latest scientific applications of criminalistics;

WHEREAS, I call upon all citizens of the City of Martinsville to observe May 15th as Peace Officers' Memorial Day to honor those men and women who, through their dedicated service and courageous deeds, have lost their lives or been disabled in the performance of their duties. I especially want to recognize Martinsville Policeman George F. Carter, who lost his life in the performance of his duty on June 14, 1919 while he was attempting to apprehend gamblers. I would also like to recognize Martinsville Police Officer Jonathan Bowling who lost his life on January 26, 2005 while fighting in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Gene Teague, Mayor of Martinsville, call upon all citizens of the City of Martinsville and upon all patriotic, civic and educational organizations to observe the week of May 14 through May 20, 2017, as National Police Week with appropriate ceremonies in which all our people may join in recognizing the women and men, both past and present, who by their faithful and loyal service and devotion to their charge have rendered a dedicated service to our community and the citizens within it, and in performing these duties have established an enduring reputation for preserving the rights and security of all the citizens of Martinsville.

M. Gene Teague
Mayor

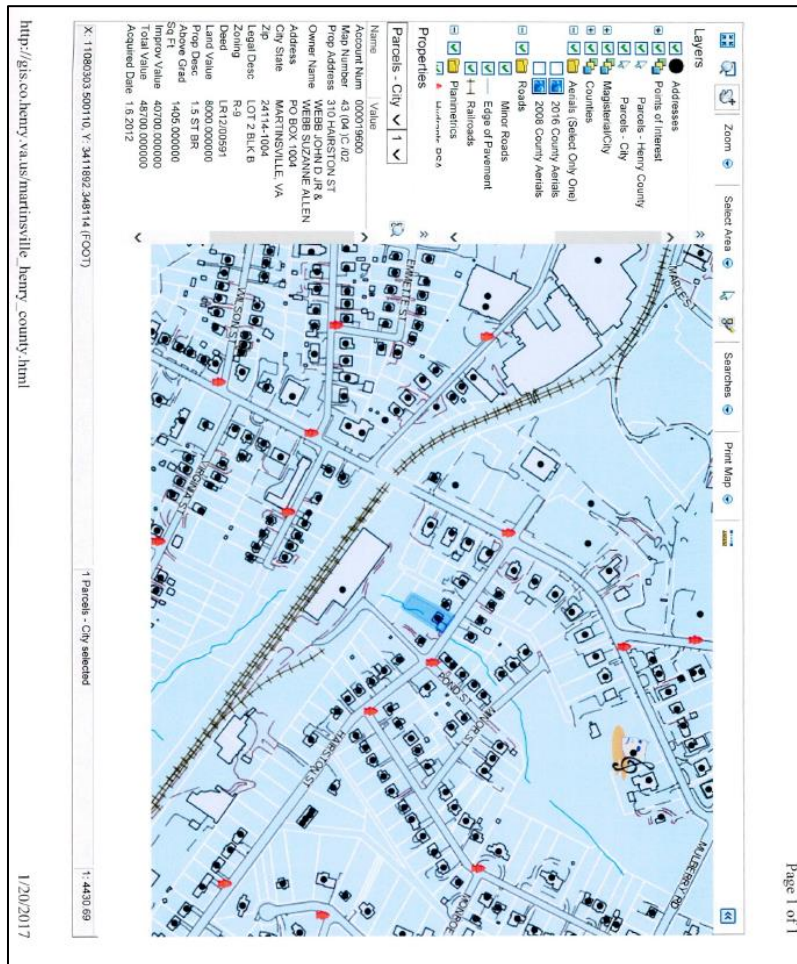
Hear an update from Martinsville Police Department staff regarding issues related to local opioid usage – Lt Fincher presented a PowerPoint and provided a brief description and what the drug classification for opioids includes. Drug and opioid overdose deaths continue to increase at an alarming rate and has become a nationwide epidemic. Chief Dunn shared local statistics of opioid drug abuse and said that heroin hit the area in August 2016 with several quick arrests. Dunn recognized members of the Drug-Free MHC program. It can take years to beat an opioid addiction. Dunn feels that Martinsville has a tough court system and Commonwealth Attorney to prosecute drug-related arrests and mentioned other departments and organizations that are partnering to build a drug task force. Dunn said that 118.5 pounds of prescription drugs were turned in during the Drug Take Back event at the Martinsville Fire Department. Dunn shared upcoming community events that will provide information and support. Greg Preston of the Community Recovery Program said the solution is not only awareness, but the community needs to focus on prevention and employment.

Consider sale of property located at 310 Hairston Street, Martinsville, Virginia – City Manager summarized the history behind the property and the issues with the sewer line collapse under the home. The home was shown several times but received only one bid, which was increased to \$15,000. Towarnicki recommended that Council accept the offer, although lower than the minimum originally discussed because over all, the sale will save the City

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money. Mayor Teague explained that City Council members serve as representatives of the Martinsville Redevelopment Housing Authority. For the purpose of the following agenda item, Council Member Hodge made a motion to recess as City Council and to convene as the Martinsville Redevelopment Housing Authority. Council Member Bowles seconded the motion with all members voting in favor. MRHA Chairman Gene Teague then opened discussion of the following item as the Martinsville Redevelopment Housing Authority. Housing Authority Member Lawson made a motion to sell the property as-is; Housing Authority Member Hodge seconded the motion with all members voting in favor.

Authority Member Hodge made a motion to adjourn as the Housing Authority and reconvene as City Council, Authority Member Bowles seconded the motion with all members voting in favor. The Martinsville Redevelopment Housing Authority then adjourned and Mayor Teague reconvened the Council meeting.



Consider approval of consent agenda – Council Member Lawson made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented; Council Member Hodge seconded the motion with all Members voting in favor.

BUDGET ADDITIONS FOR 05/09/17				
ORG	OBJECT	DESCRIPTION	DEBIT	CREDIT
FY17				
General Fund:				
01100909	490104	Advance/Recovered Costs		13,499
01438169	506007	Warehouse/Garage Complex - Rep & Maint Supplies	13,499	
		Insurance reimb due to lightning strike		
01100909	490137	Recovered Costs - Public Safety		3,347
01331108	501200	Sheriff/Corrections - Overtime	3,012	
01331108	502100	Sheriff/Corrections - Social Security	186	
01331108	502110	Sheriff/Corrections - Medicare	44	
01311085	501200	Police Department - Overtime	98	
01311085	502100	Police Department - Social Security	6	
01311085	502110	Police Department - Medicare	1	
		Off Duty Security reimbursements		
Total General Fund:			16,846	16,846
Water Fund:				
12100905	412209	Sale of Salvage Materials		7,751
12543313	506010	Water Maintenance - Materials & Supplies	7,751	
		Sale of old meters		
Total Water Fund:			7,751	7,751

Business from the Floor – Timothy Keffer, 218 Aaron Street expressed concerns about the properties on Aaron Street destroyed recently by fire, stating that residents in the area have respiratory and other health issues and feels that those fires are affecting the breathing quality of the neighborhood. He said they have looked at the first property that burned for four years and hopes that the second property will not take that long to clean up. Keffer also expressed concern about asbestos in the debris and the health concerns that could cause. He feels that the sale of the steel could help pay for the cleanup costs. City Manager Towarnicki said one reason the first building clean up has taken so long was that the case was tied up in court. There is a grant available that may help provide a phase 1 assessment of the site and how it can be cleaned up. Fire Chief Anderson explained that the most recent burned building should not take as long and a contractor has been contacted however, the investigation is still causing a delay on the clean up process. Anderson says the fire is out and the fire department has a way to monitor the air quality around the homes and inside the home to ensure resident safety. Teague asked the Towarnicki and Anderson keep Council updated.

Taryn Niblett of Chatham Heights expressed concern about the reading level of the local children and asked that Council consider bringing reading specialists back to the schools. Students need strong reading skills to be successful.

James Roundtree, 1221 Mulberry Road requested Council reconsider and award the funds requested for the school budget, expressing his concern for his grandchildren’s education.

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Ural Harris, 217 Stewart Street expressed concern over Council's budget decisions and says they keep pushing concerns forward to the next year. He hopes that next year, Council Members will have some good answers why the City is in such bad shape.

Comments by Members of City Council – Vice Mayor Martin shared that he had the opportunity to speak to Altrusa and attended Decision Day at the school. Mayor Teague thanked Council Members for attending several events on his behalf the past week. Council's thoughts and prayers are with City Attorney Monday in the passing of his mother.

Comments by City Manager – City Manager Towarnicki referenced the Council calendar and upcoming events. Towarnicki shared Memorial Day events on Second Street, Carver Gardens and at Roselawn Cemetery.

There being no further business, Council Member Hodge made a motion to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Council Member Bowles with all Council Members voting in favor. The meeting adjourned at 9:26pm.

Karen Roberts
Clerk of Council

Gene Teague
Mayor