

August 22, 2017

The regular meeting of the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia was held on August 22, 2017 in Council Chambers, Municipal Building, at 7:30 PM with Vice Mayor Chad Martin presiding. Council Members present included Chad Martin, Jennifer Bowles, and Kathy Lawson. Sharon Hodge joined the meeting by conference phone. Gene Teague was not in attendance. Staff present included City Manager Leon Towarnicki, Assistant City Manager Wayne Knox, City Attorney Eric Monday, Clerk of Council Karen Roberts, Finance Director Linda Conover, Commissioner of Revenue Ruth Easley, Zoning Administrator Susan McCulloch, and Deputy Police Chief Rob Fincher.

Vice Mayor Martin called the meeting to order and advised Council would go into Closed Session beginning at 7:00 PM. Council Member Hodge was out of town due to a contractual employment obligation but requested to join the meeting by phone. City Attorney Monday referenced Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3708.1 which would allow Council Member Hodge to participate in the meeting electronically by conference call. Council Member Lawson made a motion to allow Hodge to participate electronically; Council Member Bowles seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Council Member Bowles, aye; Vice Mayor Martin, aye; and Council Member Bowles, aye. In accordance with Section 2.1-344 (A) of the Code of Virginia (1950, and as amended) and upon a motion by Council Member Lawson, seconded by Council Member Bowles, with the following 4-0 recorded vote: Council Member Bowles, aye; Vice Mayor Martin, aye; Council Member Lawson, aye; and Council Member Hodge, aye, Council convened in Closed Session to discuss the following matters: (A) appointments to boards and commissions as authorized by Subsection 1 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. Upon return to regular session, City Attorney explained the policy concerning Hodge's remote participation in the meeting with all present Council Members voting in favor to allow Council Member Hodge to participate by phone. 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 Lawson, seconded by Council Member Bowles, with the following 4-0 recorded vote in favor to return to Open Session: Vice Mayor Martin, aye; Council Member Bowles, aye; Council Member Hodge, aye; and Council Member Lawson, aye.

Following the invocation by Council Member Bowles and Pledge to the American Flag, Vice Mayor Martin welcomed everyone to the meeting.

A motion was made by Council Member Lawson to appoint Morton Lester to the Board of Appeals for an unexpired 5-year term ending May 11, 2018, to appoint Mark Price to the

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Board of Appeals for an unexpired 5-year ending May 11, 2019, to appoint Stephen Doby to the Board of Appeals for an unexpired 5-year term ending May 11, 2020, to appoint Charles Bradshaw to the Board of Appeals for an unexpired 5-year term ending May 11, 2021 and to appoint James McGarry to the Board of Appeals for a 5-year term ending May 11, 2022. This motion was seconded by Council Member Bowles with all Council Members voting in favor.

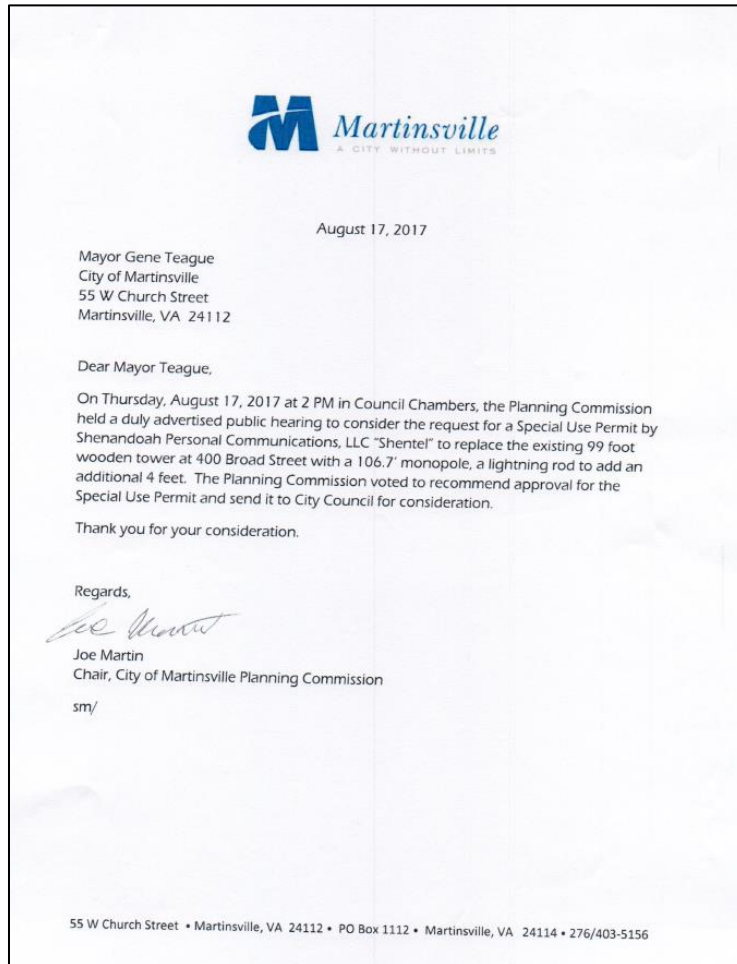
Council Member Lawson made a motion to recommend to Circuit Court the appointment of Joseph Ogle to the Board of Zoning Appeals for an unexpired 5-year term ending September 12, 2020 and the appointment of James Barnett to the Board of Zoning Appeals for an unexpired 5-year term ending October 28, 2020. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Martin with all Council Members voting in favor.

Council Member Bowles made a motion to appoint Michael Law to the Transportation Safety Commission for an unexpired 4-year term ending December 31, 2017. Council Member Hodge seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor.

Vice Mayor Martin made a motion to appoint Carol Kendrick to the West Piedmont Disability Services Board for a 3-year term ending February 26, 2020. Council Member Lawson seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor.

Consider setting a public hearing on a request from Shenandoah Personal Communications, LLC for a special use permit to replace a wooden telecommunications tower with a monopole at 400 Broad Street – City Manager Towarnicki and Zoning Administrator Susan McCulloch detailed the Shentel request for replacing the wooden tower which was voted on and approved by the Board of Zoning Appeals before being brought to Council. Council Member Lawson made a motion to set the public hearing for September 12, 2017; Council Member Bowles seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor.

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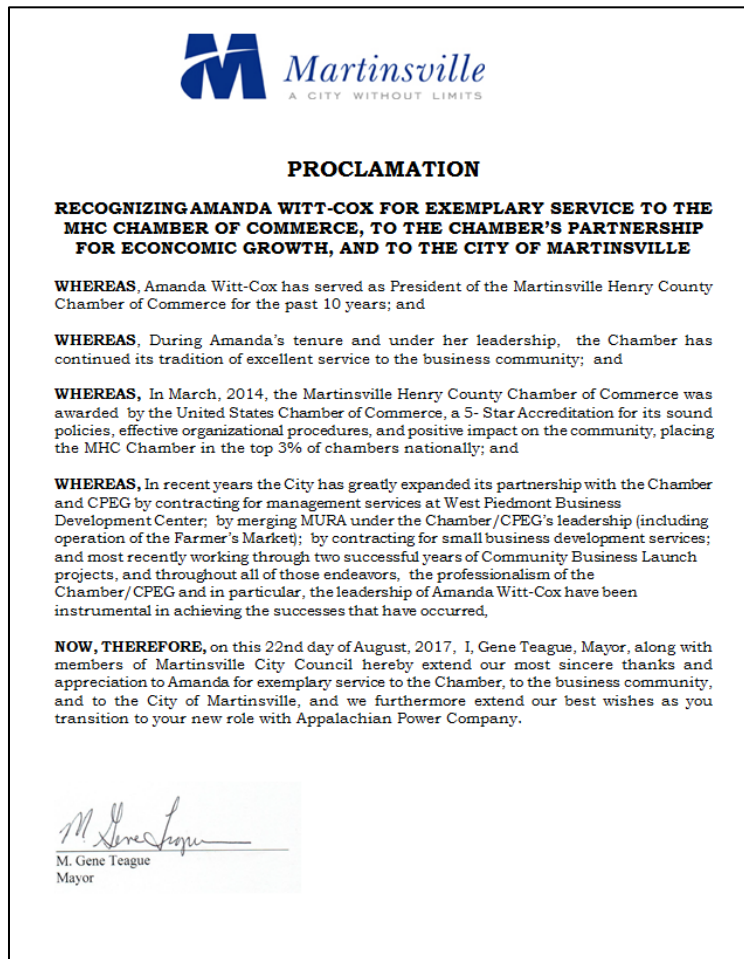
Consider approval of minutes of the July 25, 2017 Council Meeting and the August 8, 2017 Council Meeting - Council Member Bowles made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Council Member Lawson seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor.

Recognize City Employees who are eligible for Service Awards – July 1 through September 30, 2017 – City Manager Towarnicki recognized employees of the City for their years of service.

Name		Department	Years of Service
KAREN	WALKER	CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE	10
DOUG	GRAHAM	POLICE DEPT	10
GARY	SETLIFF	WATER RESOURCES	10
RICHARD	RATCLIFFE	POLICE DEPT	15
KENNETH	TURNER	WASTEWATER PLANT	15
WELDON	REYNOLDS	ENGINEERING	20
TED	ANDERSON	FIRE/EMS	20
MARK	CLARK	WASTEWATER PLANT	20
LISA	HOLIDAY	FINANCE	30
LANE	SHIVELY	GARAGE	30
RICHARD	YOUNG	GARAGE	30
WAYNE	DAVIS	PUBLIC WORKS	30

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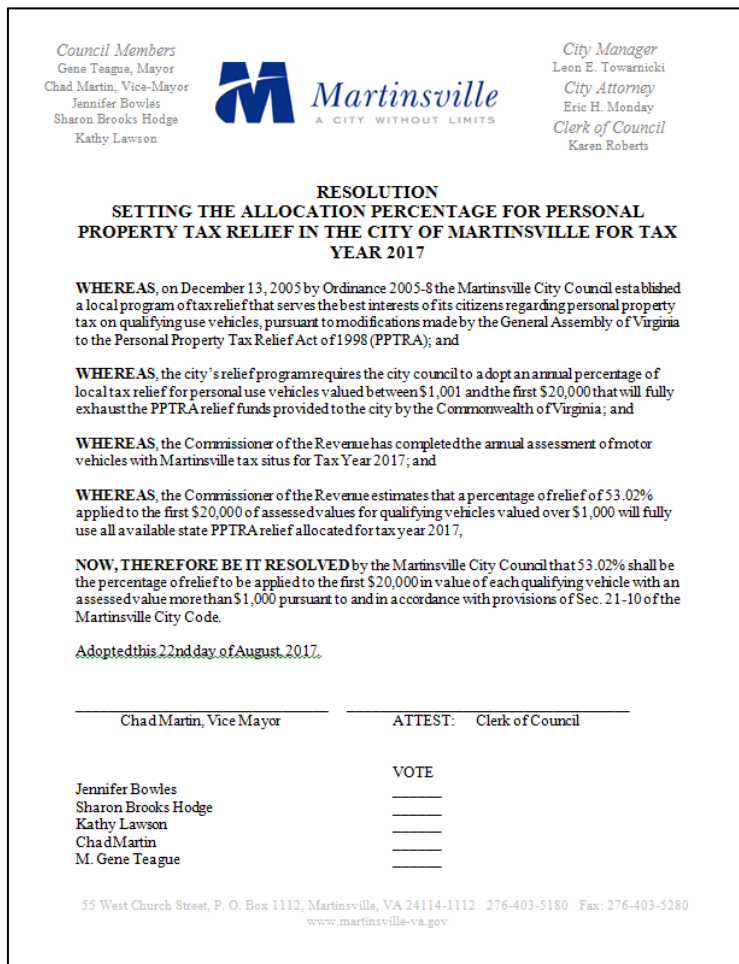
Recognize Martinsville Henry County Chamber of Commerce President Amanda Witt-Cox – Vice Mayor Martin read the proclamation and Council Members presented Amanda Witt-Cox with the proclamation and a Key to the City. Witt-Cox thanked Council for the recognition and said she has enjoyed the work she has done with the Chamber and the people she has worked with. She thanked Council for giving the Chamber the opportunity to prove itself and said Lisa Fultz would be a vital addition to CPEG and the Chamber. Witt-Cox thanked City Manager Towarnicki for his help. Council Member Hodge said Witt-Cox had accomplished a variety of things during her time with the Chamber but especially with the small business strategy. Council Member Lawson reminisced about Witt-Cox’s first trade show and thanked her for her years and commitment to the Chamber and the City. Council Member Bowles thanked her for being a wonderful leader and roll model and for what she has done with the Farmers Market and SNAP program. Vice Mayor Martin said Witt-Cox went above and beyond in her position with the Chamber and said the business owners uptown agree. Vice Mayor Martin invited Lisa Fultz, the new Chamber Director to the podium. Fultz said she looks forward to a smooth transition and working with Council.



Consider adoption of a resolution setting the allocation percentage for personal property tax relief for qualifying vehicles in the City of Martinsville for tax year 2017 –

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Commissioner of Revenue Ruth Easley highlighted the PPTRA relief funds that need to be approved annually by Council and noted that 53.02% is the calculated allocation percentage. Council Member Lawson made a motion to approve the resolution; Council Member Hodge seconded the motion with the following roll call: Council Member Bowles, aye; Council Member Hodge, aye; Council Member Lawson, aye; and Vice Mayor Martin, aye.



Consider setting a public hearing for Council's September 12, 2017 meeting for the purpose of receiving names of citizens interested in an appointment to one unexpired term on the Martinsville City School Board, ending June 30, 2018 – City Manager Towarnicki explained there is a vacancy on the school board and the public hearing is a requirement to go forward in filling that position. Candidates interested in filling the vacancy will need to be in attendance at the public hearing or have their name mentioned to be considered for the vacancy. Council Member Bowles made a motion to set the public hearing for September 12, 2017. Council Member Lawson seconded the motion with all Council Members voted in favor.

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

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BUDGET ADDITIONS FOR 08/22/17				
ORG	OBJECT	DESCRIPTION	DEBIT	CREDIT
FY17				
General Fund:				
01100909	490801	Recovered Costs - Senior Services		883
01714212	501300	Senior Citizens - Part-time Wages	554	
01714212	502100	Senior Citizens - Social Security	34	
01714212	502110	Senior Citizens - Medicare	8	
01714212	506049	Senior Citizens - Vehicle Fuels	287	
		Transportation Grant - June		
01102926	405555	Federal Categorical - Brownfields Grant - EPA		28,916
01812247	503136	Brownfields - Professional Services - Consultant	28,916	
		Project reimbursement		
Total General Fund:			29,799	29,799
FY18				
School Operating Fund:				
18103919	489904	Private Grants/Donations/Contributions/Gifts		10,000
80002220	566056	Health Services - Non-Capital Equipment	10,000	
		Grant from UVA - E-backpack Award		
Total School Operating Fund:			10,000	10,000

Business from the Floor – No one approached the podium.

Comments by members of City Council – Council Member Lawson thanked Council Member Hodge for participating in the meeting remotely and wished Mayor Teague a quick recovery. Council Member Hodge said that although she is traveling for work, she had a good conversation with the Mayor of Jackson, Mississippi about working together as needed. Hodge has meetings with NASA and with contactors Lockheed, Martin and Foley and will be sharing information when she returns that could benefit local small businesses. Council Member Bowles encourages residents to apply for Boards and Commission vacancies. Vice Mayor Martin wished Mayor Teague a speedy recovery.

Comments by City Manager – City Manager Towarnicki thanked the Martinsville Bulletin for their article that helped to gain interest and increased applications for Board and Commission vacancies. Information on all Board and Commissions is available on the City website. Council Member Lawson asked that the descriptions be edited to include whether the applicant is required to be a City resident or not. Towarnicki shared details regarding follow up on Mr. Kirby’s previous concern about curb and gutter on Geter Street as detailed by the Public Works Manager Chris Morris stating that no project was guaranteed curb and gutter on Geter Street. Once the City met requirements on the DHCD grant, they looked at Geter Street again and whether it qualified for curb and gutter. Unfortunately, the street is too narrow and there were issues with obtaining a right-of-way from some of the property owners. There were also problems with moving utility poles to allow widening of the street. Towarnicki referenced Mr. Peverall’s concerns from a previous Council meeting about the City’s property maintenance program, explaining the procedure of detecting and follow-up of violations. In

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regards to Mr. Peverall's comments about the burned properties and security, Towarnicki said the City is in constant communication with the property owners and working on a Brownsfield Grant to assist in that clean up. City Attorney Monday addressed a comment made by Mr. Peverall at Council's previous meeting regarding delinquent taxes owed on the property on Moss Street and noted the property is tied up in an estate.

There being no further business, Council Member Bowles made a motion to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Council Member Lawson with all Council Members voting in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:14pm.

Karen Roberts
Clerk of Council

Chad Martin
Vice Mayor