

October 24, 2017

The regular meeting of the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia was held on October 24, 2017 in Council Chambers, Municipal Building, at 7:30 PM with Mayor Gene Teague presiding. Council Members present included Gene Teague, Chad Martin, Jennifer Bowles and Kathy Lawson. Sharon Hodge 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, Zoning Administrator Susan McCulloch, and Public Works Director Chris Morris.

Mayor Teague called the meeting to order and advised Council would go into Closed Session beginning at 7:00 PM. City Attorney Monday explained that Council Member Hodge was unable to attend the meeting however requested that she be allowed to participate by telephone. Council Member Bowles made a motion to allow Hodge to participate telephonically; Council Member Lawson seconded the motion with all present Council Members voting in favor. In accordance with section 2.1-344 (A) 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; Council Member Lawson, aye; Mayor Teague, aye and Vice Mayor Martin, 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. 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 5-0 recorded vote in favor to return to Open Session: Mayor Teague, aye; Vice Mayor Martin, aye; Council Member Bowles, aye; Council Member Hodge, aye; and Council Member Lawson, aye.

Council Member Lawson made a motion to appoint Barry Broadnax to the Pittsylvania County Community Action Agency Board for a 3-year term ending August 31, 2020, motion was seconded by Council Member Bowles. Vice Mayor Martin abstained from the vote since he is employed by the agency. Other four Council Members voted in favor.

Council Member Martin made a motion to appoint Johnathan Martin to the Planning Commission for an unexpired 4-year term ending June 30, 2020; Council Member Bowles seconded the motion with all members voting in favor.

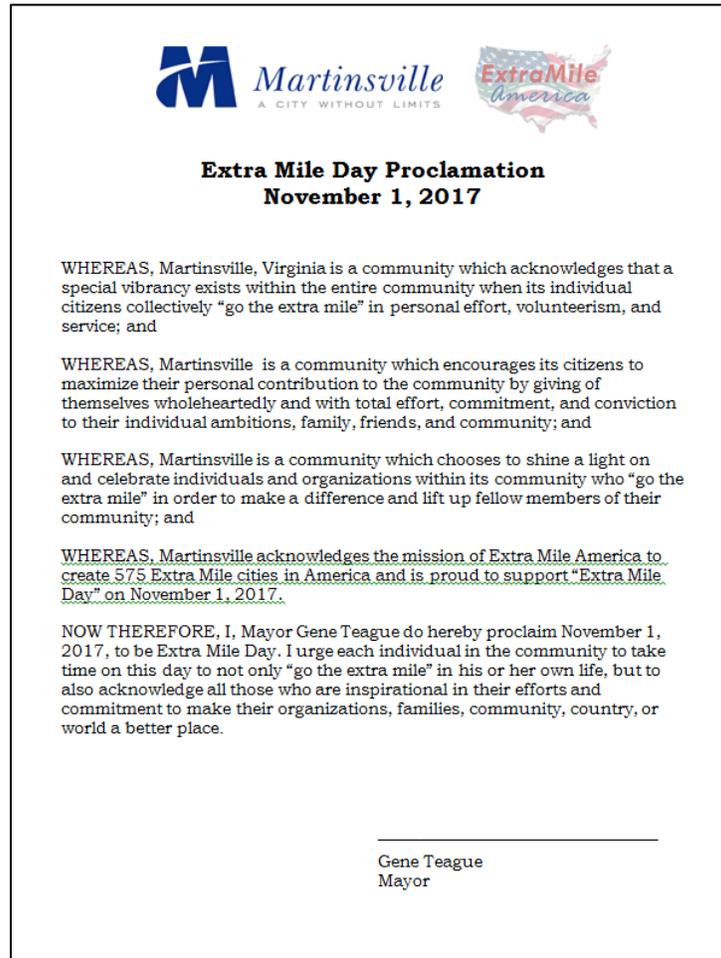
Following the invocation by Council Member Bowles and Pledge to the American Flag, Teague welcomed everyone to the meeting.

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Consider approval of minutes of the September 26, 2017 and October 10, 2017 Council Meeting – Council Member Lawson made a motion to approve minutes as presented; Council Member Bowles seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor.

Hear an overview of the October 23, 2017 West Side area neighborhood tour and meeting – Assistant City Manager summarized the neighborhood tour explained that Geter Street was visited first to look at the potential widening of the street. Council then traveled to Fayette Street, King Road and Roundabout Road where they discussed property maintenance concerns. The tour visited the Paradise Inn as well as the property across the road that is being considered for redevelopment. Council discussed litter and potential block grants. The tour ended at the Clearview Business Park. City Manager Towarnicki said that the neighborhood meeting was at Albert Harris and thanked those for attending during bad weather. Inspector Mark Price detailed property maintenance concerns at the Neighborhood meeting. There were several concerns regarding Third Street and parking issues which the police department will start to monitor more closely. Residents thanked staff for helping resolve issues that were brought up previously. Concerns about site issues and dumping issues will be followed up on. Mayor Teague encouraged residents to attend the neighborhood meetings. Towarnicki explained there are four meetings scheduled throughout the year which will resume in March and April 2018. Council Member Bowles confirmed that any citizen could attend any meeting regardless if their concerns are in that specific neighborhood.

Presentation of proclamation regarding Extra Mile Day 2017 – Council Member Bowles read the proclamation. City Manager Towarnicki explained that the approved Proclamation would be forwarded to the Extra Mile Foundation.



Conduct a public hearing jointly with the Martinsville Planning Commission on a request from the City of Martinsville – Martinsville Redevelopment and Housing Authority for a Special Use Permit to allow the use of a Vehicle Terminal at 1 Progress Drive at Clearview Business Park – Mayor Teague explained that this item of the agenda would be a joint public hearing with the Planning Commission. Susan McCulloch summarized the special use permit, request details and procedure for approval. Planning Commission Chairman Joe Martin opened the Planning Commission hearing and thanked Council for filling the Board’s vacancy promptly. Mayor Teague declared the public hearing open and welcomed Mark Heath to the podium. Heath recapped the project including the potential building design, real estate value and estimated taxes that will be payable to the City. Heath answered Council Member Hodge’s questions by verifying there would no odor, stating that no trucks loaded with trash would be left on site and the wash bay would be on the far end of the building from the road. Arthur Gibbons lives near the proposed site and asked if the messy shrub barrier could be replaced by privacy fence or shrubbery as well as a drainage concern. Heath confirmed that extra landscaping would be done with the residents in mind to provide a nice appearance at the site. Ural Harris stated that he did vote no on the proposal originally, after speaking to City residents who did not believe this is the best use for the land and after doing more research he will not vote for or against it. Mayor Teague closed the public hearing. The Planning

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Commission voted 4-0-1 to move forward with the Special Use Permit then per Chairman Martin, Planning Commission adjourned. Council Member Lawson made a motion to approve the special use permit; Council Member Hodge seconded the motion with all in favor. Motion carries 5-0.

10/4/2017 City of Martinsville, Virginia Property Report

Property Report - City of Martinsville



Current Data:
Property ID: 060002150 Tax Map Number: 14 (03)00 /03
Owner: MARTINSVILLE REDEVELOPMENT & HOUSING AUTHORITY
Address: 55 W CHURCH STREET City/State/Zip: MARTINSVILLE, VA
Deed/Page: LR00/00837 Legal Description: PARCEL 3 12.082 ACRES CLEARVIEW BUSINESS PARK
Acquired Date: NA Consideration: \$0.00
Year Built: Property Desc: NA Above Grade Sq Ft: 0
Acres: 12.082 Zoning: B-1
Land Value: \$206100.00 Building Value: \$0.00 Total Value: \$206100.00

Previous Data:
Owner: MARTINSVILLE CITY OF
Acquired Date: NA Deed/Page: NA Consideration: \$0.00

http://gis.co.henry.va.us/mappguide/mapviewer.aspx/property_report_city.php 1/2

Consider conveyance of property identified as Parcel 3 located at 1 Progress Drive in Clearview Business Park for development purposes - Lawson made a motion to reconvene as Martinsville Redevelopment Housing Authority, Hodge seconded the motion with all Council Members voting in favor. Authority Member Lawson made a motion to consider conveyance of the property at 1 Progress Drive for development purposes, Authority Member Bowles seconded the motion with the following roll call vote: Vice-Chairman Martin, aye; Authority Member Bowles, aye; Authority Member Hodge, aye; Chairman Teague, aye; and Authority Member Lawson, aye. Authority Member Lawson made a motion to reconvene as City Council; Authority Member Martin seconded the motion with the following roll call vote: Authority Member Hodge, aye; Authority Member Lawson, aye; Chairman Teague, aye; Authority Member Bowles, aye; and Vice-Chairman Martin, aye.

Hear information related to a request for curb and gutter and street widening on Geter Street – Public Works Director Chris Morris explained that when construction was done years ago there were some issues related to widening the street. A resident has requested curb and

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gutter so that project is being revisited, costing \$115,000 in addition to paving. The City is working with the resident on a compromise, which would reduce the construction cost down to \$20,000, and they plan to add this to the list of project for spring, 2018. The project would not affect any electrical lines, phone lines or fire hydrants. Mayor Teague expressed concerns that there may be other locations in worse need of street construction and asked if a study could be done on the amount of travel on those streets. Morris said this is the final step in the Cherry Street neighborhood project and that Geter Street was the only street in that area that was not redeveloped. City Manager Towarnicki summarized how the streets and areas are prioritized for projects and redevelopment. Council Members expressed interest in seeing the traffic counts when available. Council Member Hodge requested a listing of paving locations be added to the City website, Morris said those area priorities can change throughout the year.

Discussion of 2018 legislative agenda – City Attorney Monday explained that November would be the best time to adopt the attached version after elections and after changes to priorities are made. Council Members made several requests for changes and revisions. Monday said Council is welcome to communicate any additional changes to him prior to the next meeting.

 <p>The City of Martinsville appreciates the efforts its legislators undertake at both the state and federal level on behalf of its citizens. Listed below are the City's priorities requested of its legislative delegation in 2017.</p> <p><u>Virginia General Assembly</u></p> <p>Transportation</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. In the short term, upgrade those portions of Route 220 overlaying I-73 to interstate standards. Any construction or upgrades to the I-73 corridor should begin on those sections passing through Henry County.2. Continue to place priority on Route 58 improvements, particularly the section between Stuart and Hillsville, Virginia.3. Approve the concept of a transportation authority for southern Virginia, with a dedicated revenue stream for the construction of I-73 and other transportation priorities. <p>Education</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. City Council endorses the agenda proposed by the Martinsville City School System and also endorses the educational priorities adopted by Henry County, on behalf of its school system.2. Oppose the imposition of unaided education mandates and in the event of revenue cuts by the Commonwealth opposes targeted cuts by the Commonwealth, instead preferring local decision making authority on where to make any such cuts.3. Recognizing its potential to promote economic development within our community and region, continue support for the development and funding of the New College Institute; urge that any funding reductions to New College Institute, if considered, be minimized to the greatest extent possible; and support the affiliation of The New College Institute as a branch of a four-year public university.4. Request the Commonwealth to fully fund the expenditures imposed upon local school systems by implementing the Standards of Quality.5. Encourage the Commonwealth to continue or increase the current levels of financial support provided to Patrick Henry Community College.6. Encourage the Commonwealth to provide support for the concept of a medical school in Martinsville-Henry County.7. Request the Commonwealth to provide incentives for consolidation of school systems. <p>Economic Development</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Maintain current levels of funding for economic development incentives, including but not limited to the Governor's Opportunity Fund.2. Enhance the authority granted to localities to address and eliminate blighted properties, and the formation of interstate compacts to allow expedited recourse against out-of-state property owners.3. Continue current funding levels of the Virginia Museum of Natural History.4. Request enhanced state and federal financial assistance for localities which exceed the average state unemployment rate by 150% for a period of five consecutive years.5. Support continued tourism awareness initiatives in the Martinsville-Henry County region.6. Expand local authority to designate Enterprise Zones and establish incentives.7. Oppose efforts by Henry County PSA to reopen the Lower Smith River Wastewater Treatment Plant, absent a regional study concluding that such is in the best interests of Martinsville-Henry County taxpayers, customer base, economic needs and state environmental policy.8. Expand grants and resources available to fiscally stressed localities, and to business development entities in such localities, to aid in the encouragement or development of small and entrepreneurial businesses.	<p>Governance</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Request the appointment of a joint gubernatorial/legislative commission to examine the structure of local government in Virginia, the commission's mandate to include:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Examination of local government in the other 49 states for potential adaptation to Virginia.b. Enable cities to expand their revenue base.c. Elimination of the "zero-sum" revenue base structure, which creates friction between cities and counties.d. Elimination of redundant services and programs between contiguous cities and counties.2. Require full funding for HB 599 funds, in fulfillment of the Commonwealth's commitment to cities in return for their acquiescence in the annexation moratorium.3. Require that the Commonwealth fully fund its obligations to the Virginia Retirement System, and refrain from borrowing from VRS funds.4. Request the elimination of "local aid to the Commonwealth" in the state budget; local aid artificially inflates state revenues by shifting responsibility for cuts in vital services onto localities.5. Elimination of all unfunded mandates from the Commonwealth to localities.6. Oppose any elimination or alteration of local revenue streams, and specifically oppose any amendment to the current manner in which the Business Occupation and Licensing Tax and the Machinery and Tools Tax are levied, unless replacement revenue stream, not subject to biennial appropriation, is guaranteed by the Commonwealth.7. Request at a minimum, level funding for operational requirements of the Henry-Martinsville Department of Social Services.8. Request that the General Assembly leaves intact the fire programs fund and the rescue squad assistance funds and not use these funds as a way to balance the state budget.9. Request that the Commonwealth fully fund its obligations to constitutional officers.10. Oppose any attempt to curtail the doctrine of sovereign immunity for localities.11. Oppose any attempt to permit collective bargaining for state and local government employees.12. Oppose any amendment of the existing burden of proof or process in local tax appeals cases.13. Request authority to refund erroneously paid taxes at an interest rate which differs from that imposed on delinquencies, and to refund taxes erroneously paid through the fault of the taxpayer at no interest.14. Support VML's endorsement of a JLARC study of assigning a proportional share of lottery sales revenue to the localities generating such sales.15. Require the Commonwealth to fund 100% of the per-diem costs of housing state inmates in local jails.16. Support all state efforts to provide aid and support services to fiscally stressed localities, but oppose any attempts to interfere with localities' right to solve their own financial problems locally.17. Support the alteration of award criteria in the "REACH Virginia" and all other VHDA programs to a per-capita income-based model. <p>United States Congress</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Oppose any effort to impose additional taxation or regulation of electrical power generation by coal or natural gas.2. Urge the Federal Highway Commission to adopt the CTB's designated route for I-73, or alternatively to preserve the current record of decision in the event the CTB's route is rejected.3. In the short term, upgrade those portions of Route 220 overlaying I-73 to interstate standards.4. Request \$3.72M in funds for the redevelopment of brownfields extending from the former American Furniture and Sara Lee sites, along Aaron Street, to Rives Road.5. Request \$6.25M in funds for the elimination and redevelopment of blighted areas in the city.
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6. Request legislation to provide special federal incentives to businesses locating in regions which have experienced job losses in excess of 5% of the total workforce and/or declines in median incomes since the adoption of NAFTA, WTO or GATT. Target such areas for increased federal funding in education or workforce retraining.
7. Extend high speed broadband service throughout southern Virginia.
8. Request enhanced state and federal financial assistance for localities which exceed the average state unemployment rate by 150% for a period of five consecutive years.
9. Oppose the EPA's proposed expansion of the definition of "waters of the United States" in 40 CFR 230.3.

Staff Designations

City Council empowers the following staff members to speak on its behalf and in its best interests to the Virginia General Assembly and United States Congress, its members and committees:
City Attorney Eric Monday
City Manager Leon Towarnicki
Other department heads as appointed by the City Manager

Consider information related to the 2018 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) list – City Manager Towarnicki said this list is visited annually with the option of adding or changing products to accommodate changes in local needs or priorities. Assistant City Manager Wayne Knox explained that the report is not due until the end of March. However, the WPPDC had project deadlines at the end of 2017. Council Member Bowles asked that the top line of page A6 regarding the medial school be removed. Mayor Teague explained that additional review of the current CEDS list would be added to the next Council meeting.

Business from the Floor – Patrick H. Wright, 1201 Spruce Street wanted to know when the road construction would be completed. Public Works Director Morris said approximately 3 weeks for completion. Sophia Esdaile, 494 Stoney Mountain Road Axton shared an event being held by the Harvest Youth Board on November 22, 2017

Comments by members of City Council – Council Member Hodge thanked Council for accommodating her participation by phone. Council Member Lawson said MURA would host Halloween for families from 4:00-6:00pm. Lawson commends the Martinsville Bulletin for an article detailing safe alternatives for Halloween. Council Member Bowles attended the MLC Foundation Fundraiser, which has raised over \$100,000 for breast cancer awareness and free mammograms. Bowles reminded residents that November 7 is election day and encouraged everyone to vote. Thursday at St Paul High Street Baptist Church is Meet the Candidate night. Vice Mayor Martin shared that the Martinsville Community Care Collaborative at has

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partnered with Liberty Medical School and other agencies to host free health, dental, medical, and vision clinics along with haircuts and other needs to benefit the area for free.

Comments by City Manager – City Manager Towarnicki said the health fair is a comprehensive event including box lunches, dental, vision, health, etc and transportation services will be provided with stops at the Martinsville Senior Center, several churches, select apartment complexes and the library. There will be transportation routes in Henry County and a shuttle from Spencer Penn into Patrick County. Main Street will be blocked that day to accommodate this event. Next Council meeting is November 14 so there are three weeks before the next meeting. The City municipal building will be closed Friday November 10 for Veteran's day and there will be an event at EMI to present awards to our local Veteran of the Year.

City Attorney Monday confirmed that Halloween will be observed on October 31 and reminded residents that it is illegal to trick-or-treat over the age of 12 or after 9pm.

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 9:14pm.

Karen Roberts
Clerk of Council

Gene Teague
Mayor