

AGENDA--CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF MARTINSVILLE, VIRGINIA

Council Chambers – Municipal Building
5:30pm Closed Session 7:00pm Regular Session
Tuesday February 28, 2023

5:30 pm - Closed Session

Items to be considered in Closed Session, in accordance with the Code of Virginia, Title 2.2, Chapter 37—Freedom of Information Act, Section 2.2-3711(A)—Closed Meetings, the following:

- A. Appointments to boards and commissions, as authorized by Subsection 1.
- B. Interviews of prospective candidates for employment, as authorized by Subsection 1.
- C. Discussion or consideration of the investment of public funds where competition or bargaining is involved, where, if made public initially, the financial interest of the governmental unit would be adversely affected, as authorized by Sub section 6

7:00 pm - Regular Session

Pledge to the American Flag and Invocation by Council Member Martin.

1. Approve minutes from the February 14, 2023 Council Meeting. (5 mins)
2. Consider recognizing Council Member Chad Martin for his service to the citizens of Martinsville. (5 mins)
3. Hear an overview of the February 27, 2023 Southside neighborhood tour and meeting. (10 mins)
4. Hear an update from United Way of Henry County & Martinsville regarding the housing eviction prevention program. (15 mins)
5. Hear information related to the establishment of a new board titled “Community Advisory Board”. (15 mins)
6. Consider options for filling a vacant Council seat. (10 mins)
7. Consider approval of the consent agenda. (5 mins)

8. Business from the Floor -

The public comment portion of the Council meeting provides citizens the opportunity to discuss matters relevant to the operation of the City, which are not listed on the printed agenda.

Citizens who wish to participate in a meeting’s public comment period may do so by emailing their comments to Karen Roberts, Clerk of Council, at kroberts@ci.martinsville.va.us, calling in their comments to 276-403-5182, faxing comments to 276-403-5280, or mailing comments to City of Martinsville, attn.: Karen Roberts, P.O. Drawer 1112, Martinsville, VA 24114. *Comments must be received by 12:00noon Monday February 27, 2023.* Citizens may also request to speak at the Council meeting in the same manner.

Comments, or a request to speak, must be received by noon the day before a Council meeting for consideration by Council at the meeting. Any person submitting comments or requesting to speak must identify themselves by name and address, including zip code, limit their remarks to 3 minutes or less (as read aloud), address a topic of City business, and refrain from making any personal references or accusations of a factually false and/or malicious nature. Priority for comments is given to City residents, taxpayers, and business owners. Speakers may not yield time. Groups of speakers on the same topic must designate a single representative. Comments violating these rules may not be presented at the Council meeting. Any speaker violating these rules may be removed from the podium or from the Council chamber.

This policy does not apply to public hearings, at which any citizen of Martinsville may appear and speak on the subject of the public hearing.

9. Comments by members of City Council. (5 mins)
10. Comments by City Manager. (5 mins)



City Council Agenda Summary

Meeting Date: February 28, 2023

Item No: 1.

Department: Clerk of Council

Issue: Consider approval of minutes

Summary: None

Attachments: February 14, 2023 Council Meeting minutes

Recommendations: Motion to approve minutes as presented.



City Council Agenda Summary

Date: February 28, 2023

Item No: 2.

Department: City Council

Issue: Consider recognizing Council Member Chad Martin for his service to the citizens of Martinsville.

Summary: Council Member Martin has taken a new job and consequently will be relocating out of the area in the near future. The February 28th Council meeting will be Council Member Martin's last meeting.

Attachments: Proclamation

Recommendations: The Mayor will read and present the proclamation.



PROCLAMATION

HONORING COUNCIL MEMBER CHAD MARTIN

WHEREAS, Chad Martin has served as a member of Martinsville City Council for over seven years, from January, 2017 through February, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Chad Martin has also served the City as Vice-Mayor from January, 2017 through December, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Chad Martin has displayed outstanding dedication to the City of Martinsville and its citizens while performing his duties as a public servant; and

WHEREAS, it is highly appropriate that we thank Chad Martin for his contributions and leadership during his tenure on Council, which has helped make Martinsville an even better place to live, work, and raise a family;

NOW THEREFORE, on this 28th day of February, 2023, the Martinsville City Council hereby proclaims their thanks and appreciation to Chad Martin for his dedication and service to the citizens of Martinsville as a member of Martinsville's City Council.

LC Jones
Mayor



City Council Agenda Summary

Date: February 28, 2023

Item No: 3.

Department: City Council

Issue: Hear an overview of the February 27, 2023 Southside neighborhood tour and meeting.

Summary: A recap of the Southside neighborhood tour and neighborhood community meeting held at Wesley Memorial Methodist Church, 824 Starling Avenue, will be given.

Attachments: None

Recommendations: This item is being presented for public information purposes – no action needed by Council.



City Council Agenda Summary

Date: February 28, 2023

Item No: 4.

Department: City Manager

Issue: Hear an update from United Way of Henry County & Martinsville regarding the housing eviction prevention program.

Summary: Last August, United Way of Henry County & Martinsville Executive Director Phil Wenkstern presented information to Council on a recently completed Needs Assessment for Eviction Prevention in Henry County & Martinsville, and discussed a program being implemented by UW to address the issue.

Following the presentation, Council voted to approve funding in the amount of \$60,000 a year for 2 years to come from the \$500K ARPA earmark for housing needs, with the specific request that the funding be prioritized for City tenants in need. An update will be provided at the February 28th Council meeting.

Attachments: None

Recommendations: No action by Council is needed.



City Council Agenda Summary

Date: February 28, 2023

Item No: 5.

Department:

Issue: Hear information related to the establishment of a new board titled "Community Advisory Board."

Summary: Vice-Mayor Rawls will lead the discussion on establishing a new City board titled Community Advisory Board, with the discussion to include information regarding the intended purpose of the board, meeting schedule, number of members and how such members are selected, terms, along with other relevant information that will help develop the written details.

Attachments: None

Recommendations: Should Council desire to proceed with establishing the board, a vote (motion, second, voice vote) is appropriate.

Date: February 28, 2023

Item No: 6.

Department: City Council

Issue: Consider options for filling a vacant Council seat.

Summary: With Council Member Martin’s last Council meeting being February 28, 2023 (resignation effective March 1, 2023), Section 2 of Chapter 2 of the City Charter outlines a process for filling a vacant Council seat. In summary, Council may appoint someone to fill the seat within 30 days and if that’s not done, Council shall then petition Circuit Court to set a special election to fill the seat.

This situation last occurred in August, 2018 when Council Member Sharon Brooks Hodge resigned due to employment reasons. At that time, Council decided to fill the position within 30 days and initiated the process by holding a public hearing to give citizens interested for consideration of the seat an opportunity to declare their interest. Council also allowed interested citizens to submit applications online.

Attachments: Copy of Section 2, Chapter 2 of the City Charter.

Recommendations: Consider setting a public hearing for Council’s March 14, 2023 meeting to accept names of citizens interested in filling the vacant Council seat and also allow citizens to submit an online application through the City Manager’s office. (motion, second, voice vote).

Sec. 2. - Composition; election and terms of members; to be continuing body; **filling of vacancies**; removal of member for absenteeism.

The council shall be elected as provided by general law. The council shall consist of five members, who shall be elected at large and serve for a term of four years from the first day of January next following the date of their election and until their successors have been elected and qualified.

The terms of councilmen shall be staggered. Two councilmen shall be elected in the year in which their predecessors' terms in office expire and three councilmen shall be elected in the year in which their predecessors' terms in office expire. The incumbents' successors shall be elected every four years thereafter.

Provided, however, those councilmen initially elected following the amendment of this Charter in nineteen hundred seventy-five shall not take office until the expiration of the terms of their predecessors, thereby their initial term shall be for a term of three years ten months.

The council shall be a continuing body and no measure pending before such body shall abate or be discontinued by reason of the expiration of the term of office or removal of said body, or any of them. When a vacancy occurs in the council, it shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members within thirty days of such vacancy. If a majority of the remaining members cannot agree, or do not act within said thirty-day period, and if at least one hundred eighty days remain in the unexpired term at the expiration of said thirty-day period, the council, immediately upon expiration of said thirty-day period, shall petition the Circuit Court of the City of Martinsville to issue a writ of election to fill such vacancy. Upon receipt of such petition, the court shall issue the writ of election, directed to the secretary of the Electoral Board of the City of Martinsville, designating the office to be filled and the time and place of holding such election; and, upon receipt of such writ, the said secretary shall publish a copy thereof at not less than ten public places within the city or publish the same in a newspaper of general circulation at least ten days before such election. No such special election shall be ordered held within the sixty days prior to a general or primary election. Any member of the council who shall be voluntarily absent from three regular meetings of the council consecutively, may be removed from office by resolution of the council declaring his seat vacant.

(Acts 1975, Ch. 416; Acts 1977, Ch. 132, § 1; Ord. No. 2010-02, 6-22-2010)

Meeting Date: February 28, 2023

Item No: 7.

Department: Finance

Issue: Consider approval of the consent agenda

Summary:

The attachment amends the FY23 budget with appropriations in the following fund:

FY23

General Fund: \$ 2,622 – Federal Grant Funds

Capital Fund: \$ 217,110 – School Construction Grant

School Operating Fund: \$ 224,000 – State Grant Funds

Opioid Fund: \$ 126,789 – Opioid Settlement Funds

Attachments: Consent Agenda – 2-28-2023

Recommendations: Approve

BUDGET ADDITIONS FOR 02/28/2023

ORG	OBJECT	DESCRIPTION	DEBIT	CREDIT
01102926	436415	Categorical Federal - DMV Grant		2,622
01311085	506129	PD - Radar Units	2,622	
		DMV Grant Funds for Radar Equipment		
Total General Fund			2,622	2,622

FY23 - Capital - School Construction

16101917	416601	Capital- Categorical State- School Construction		217,110
16579369	508217	School Project - School Construction Grant	217,110	
		School Construction Grant Program Entitlement*		
Total Capital - School Construction Grant			\$ 217,110	\$ 217,110

FY23 - School - Operating Fund

18101917	404002	School - Categorical Other State Funds		200,000
80004600	566056	Security - Non Capital Equipment	200,000	
		State Security Equipment Grant Award		
18101917	404002	School - Categorical Other State Funds		24,000
71001300	561620	VTSS - Supplemental Salaries & Wages	10,720	
71001300	562100	VTSS - Social Security	820	
71001300	563000	VTSS - Purchased Services	2,195	
71001300	563142	VTSS - Professional Development	8,850	
71001300	566000	VTSS - Materials and Supplies	1,415	
		VTSS/PBIS Grant		
Total School Operating Fund			\$ 224,000	\$ 224,000

FY23 - Opioid Fund

75100908	482918	Opioid Settlement Funds		126,789
75100908	503837	Opioid Abatement Programs	126,789	
		Opioid Settlement Funds - Wilmington Trust		
Total Opioid Fund			\$ 126,789	\$ 126,789