

## City of Martinsville

### Minutes – Regular Meeting

Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

#### Alderman Roll Call:

Chris Davidson

Jacob Hammond

Bob Lovell

Shane Pendleton

Chris Perry

Ashley Wilhoit - Absent

Attendance: Terri Connelly-City Treasurer, Caitlin Dill-City Clerk, Dan Kibler-Marshall Advocate, Ryan Slater, Clayton Wells, Kaitlin Davis, Travis Hill, Wendy Isbell, Robert Maxwell, Jeff Frost, Jordon Perisho, Keeze Carver, Ryan Jones.

Meeting called to order by Mayor Lovell at 7 PM.

Prayer: Bob Lovell

Pledge of Allegiance: All

#### Public Comments:

Robert Maxwell: Robert expressed concerns with lawlessness; such as stones being vandalized in the cemetery and theft happening throughout town. Some safety concerns were stated about hydrants not being serviceable, the smaller water lines coming from the new water tower, and the decrepit house by the school across from the Chancellor house.

Jeff Frost, ID Castings: Jeff detailed an influx of issues within the last two weeks caused by the homeless and known drug users in town. He states on company property there has been waste and trash found, along with signs of break in attempts to the doors. He is concerned for the safety of personal tools and vehicles of the employees. He describes moving forward the next steps for ID Castings safety could be to secure the entire perimeter in barbwire and chain-link fence, increase security, and request more police involvement. He also expressed issues with flush hydrants not working when needing water flow for the business. Since ID Casting is planning an expansion in Martinsville it will be increasing money to the city and jobs for our residents he is concerned if things get worse the company could reconsider expansion and their current location. Later in the meeting Jeff states homeless people aren't the issue, drug use is.

Keeze Carver: Keeze requested assistance from the city with gas hookup to his new business property and with the approach for less damage to the cities sidewalks from big trucks entering/exiting York St.

Jordon Perisho: Jordon inquired about the progress of sidewalks and money usage throughout town. He expressed the need for sidewalks on Grant St and mentioned possible volunteer work for these projects. Later in the meeting Jordon suggests people can apply for assistance from ERBA to help clean up the South end to comply with ordinances.

Ryan Slater: Later in the meeting Ryan elaborated there is no public intoxication law in IL, someone can't be arrested if they are walking under the influence, only once the person becomes disorderly can something be done.

--Motion by S Pendleton, 2<sup>nd</sup> by C Davidson, to approve the previous meeting minutes for 11/27/2024.

Record Vote:

Davidson	Yes	Pendleton	Yes
Perry	Yes	Hammond	Yes
Lovell	Yes	Wilhoit	Absent
Mayor			

Motion carried.

--Motion by C Davidson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by C Perry, to approve the Bill list presented.

Record Vote:

Davidson	Yes	Pendleton	Yes
Perry	Yes	Hammond	Yes
Lovell	Yes	Wilhoit	Absent
Mayor			

Motion carried.

--Motion by C Davidson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by S Pendleton, to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Record Vote:

Davidson	Yes	Pendleton	Yes
Perry	Yes	Hammond	Yes
Lovell	Yes	Wilhoit	Absent
Mayor			

Motion carried.

--Motion by J Hammond, 2<sup>nd</sup> by C Davidson, to hire Kevin Williams and Grayson Morrison as City Police Officers.

Record Vote:

Davidson	Yes	Pendleton	Yes
Perry	Yes	Hammond	Yes
Lovell	Yes	Wilhoit	Absent
Mayor			

Motion carried.

--Motion by C Davidson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by J Hammond, to approve 2025 Holidays and Council Meeting Dates.

Record Vote:

Davidson	Yes	Pendleton	Yes
Perry	Yes	Hammond	Yes
Lovell	Yes	Wilhoit	Absent
Mayor			

Motion carried.

**OTHER:**

Lovell:

- Cancelled meeting for December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
- He will be gone for the January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025 meeting, Chris Davidson will lead.
- Handrails to be placed end of month in front of Cutting Edge Salon.
- Pastoral meetings about homeless problems to find solutions are open to anyone who would like to come.
- There is an idea for the old newspaper building to become a warming center with meals every few days and resources for drug recovery, showers, and laundry could be available. The downside could be an influx of people from neighboring towns. The concern is that a resident could take action into their own hands.

Perry:

- There is a broken banner on Cumberland Street.

Pendleton:

- Appropriations start in April, need to get 5 most important projects to be fixed: sidewalks, culverts, etc.

Davidson:

- He will look into issues with the flush hydrants.
- The Fire Department is looking into the demolition of the house by the school/Chancellor house.
- He will donate a crew for assisting Keeze Carver with his approach.
- There has been issues at the Amphitheater/Woodlands Park with homeless people using electricity, these people hurt tourism and threaten residence safety.
- He described a point of view from when the Mattoon shelter opened. The surrounding towns brought their homeless to the shelter, it then became overloaded.
- The South end of town has an abundance of trash and ordinance violations. This can cause value of houses to decrease, ordinances need to be enforced.

--Motion by C Davidson 2<sup>nd</sup> by J Hammond, to close the meeting.

Record Vote:

Davidson	Yes	Pendleton	Yes
Perry	Yes	Hammond	Yes
Lovell	Yes	Wilhoit	Absent
Mayor			

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 7:52 PM.

Caitlin Dill, City Clerk