

## City of Martinsville

### Minutes – Regular Meeting

Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026

### Alderman Roll Call:

Christopher Davidson

Chris Perry

Harley Craig

Wendy Isbell

Travis Hill

Ashley Wilhoit

Attendance: Robert Lovell-Mayor, Teresa Connelly-Treasurer, Caitlin Dill-Clerk, Jordan Wilhoit, Dan Kibler, Karol Murphy, Miranda Hicks, Kenneth Hicks, Kodi Morecraft, Travis Dowd, Deb Stover, Joe Kemper, Jana Spires, and Ryan Slater.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM.

Prayer: Wendy Isbell

Pledge of Allegiance: All

### Public Comments:

- Miranda Hicks brought up an incident where her neighbor had messaged her son using highly inappropriate slurs, she states the neighbors cause a lot of trouble, and threatened their dogs life last year.
- Travis Dowd explained his 9-year-old son likes to play outside but with cameras following him and him being yelled at by the neighbors he can't go outside. Stating these neighbors cause turmoil with all the surrounding neighbors and children. He acknowledges the police are doing what they can but does not know what else he can do.
- Kodi still has concerns about the neighbor's cameras recording her children. The owners claim the cameras are motion activated but that was tested and there was no alarm going off or following of movement, like there is when the kids are out. Her largest concern is that these cameras can record her children inside the house. Travis Hill suggested Kodi's attorney push this subject. She asked the Council for advice on privacy options, like extending her fence in height and planting a tall prairie grass. She mentioned how the new neighbors have also been harassed by these same neighbors receiving racial slurs.
- Deb Stover witnessed Merna stopping the vehicle to set off an alarm, then she came back to set the alarm off again, in her opinion to wake the neighboring children up. Sunday night Deb was outside and heard screaming, she told the people to get on her lot to be safe from the altercation. She feels something needs to be done; the harassment and disputes have gotten worse and have escalated in the last two weeks.
- Mayor asked for clarification on there being three adults and two children living in the trailer. How is it these three are terrorizing the entire neighboring area.
- Chris Davidson stated the Council and Police do not have grounds to be able to do anything given the lack of credible evidence. He suggested getting body cameras or recording glasses for better video proof of disputes and interactions. He recommended all of these neighbors' band together for an attorney.
- Harley Craig clarified this would be considered a civil dispute not a legal dispute and this group could take these neighbors to civil court and fight them financially. To get more traction there needs to be good clean video of interactions with intent. He advised hybrid Willows at the fence line for separation, as well as the tall prairie grass for privacy. He offered to give Kodi clippings of the Willow to start growing a live privacy fence.
- Officer Slater spoke about the use of security cameras recording on personal property, that faces and records a neighboring property can't be charged. When it comes to recording inside a neighboring home, zooming in windows and such, there could be something pushed, its' all about intent. He reiterated that he needs evidence, to send videos to him of each altercation, he can see what is there and try to build a harassment case. Unrelated he said he will be bringing in quotes for new tasers to the next meeting since the current tasers have expired and are no longer made.

--Motion by H Craig, 2<sup>nd</sup> by C Davidson, to approve the Regular meeting minutes for 04/08/26.

Record Vote:

Davidson	Yes	Isbell	Yes
Perry	Yes	Hill	Yes
Craig	Yes	Wilhoit	Yes
Mayor			

Motion carried.

--Motion by T Hill, 2<sup>nd</sup> by A Wilhoit, to pay Bills presented.

Record Vote:

Davidson	Yes	Isbell	Yes
Perry	Yes	Hill	Yes
Craig	Yes	Wilhoit	Yes
Mayor			

Motion carried.

**OTHER:**

Mayor:

- The City's portion of the Union Street project is complete, the Rail Road just has to finish resurfacing.
- Discussed with Taylor Manuel about having pickleball and volleyball tournaments in the future for a City Park Rec Department.
- The Proclamation part of the tree grant has been completed. The trees have been obtained and will be planted next week.
- There are still a few houses that need torn down, by the City tearing it down themselves it could save approximately \$20,000 each time.

Davidson:

- The house has been torn down and lot should be completely cleaned up this week.

Perry:

- The yield sign at 5<sup>th</sup> and Jackson is missing entirely.

Craig:

- Root stalk went to Mallory Jenness at the high school, hoping to graft them next week.

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

Record Vote:

Davidson	Yes	Isbell	Yes
Perry	Yes	Hill	Yes
Craig	Yes	Wilhoit	Yes
Mayor			

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 7:58 PM.

Caitlin Dill, City Clerk