

City of Martinsville

Minutes – Regular Meeting

Wednesday, July 8th, 2026

Alderman Roll Call:

Chris Davidson

Chris Perry

Harley Craig

Wendy Isbell

Travis Hill

Ashley Wilhoit

Attendance: Robert Lovell-Mayor, Caitlin Dill-Clerk, Terri Connelly-Treasurer, Jordan Wilhoit, Dan Kibler, and Mark Steenbergh.

Meeting called to order at 6:58 PM.

Prayer: Mayor Lovell

Pledge of Allegiance: All

Public Comments:

Mark Steenbergh is concerned about Monroe Street. He said the road was scraped and holes were filled with dirt but rock wasn't added to successfully fill them. After this occurred his vehicle was covered with dirt, once it became wet, he had a muddy mess and the pot holes came back. The Mayor said that can be corrected, rock can go be used and the left-over millings from the downtown roadwork could possibly be used as well to correct this.

--Motion by T Hill, 2nd by C Perry, to approve the Regular meeting minutes for 06/24/26.

Record Vote:

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

Motion carried.

--Motion by A Wilhoit, 2nd by T Hill, to pay Bills presented.

Record Vote:

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

Motion carried.

--Motion by A Wilhoit, 2nd by H Craig, to approve Treasurer's report.

Record Vote:

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

Motion carried.

--Motion by C Davidson, 2nd by H Craig, to accept the bid from Martinsville Roofing to repair the roof at 19 W Cumberland Street for the sum of \$15,788, with additional cost if plywood needs purchased.

Record Vote:

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

Motion carried.

--Motion by T Hill, 2nd by A Wilhoit, to approve Ordinance NO 2026-07-01 2026-2027 Appropriation Ordinance.

--If funds are needed for roofing or something similar at a later date the Ordinance can be amended.

Record Vote:

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

Motion carried.

--Consideration and action on Atomic DK Studio LLC's proposal to the City.

--The Mayor states the City's future needs to have a Grant Writer, they pay for themselves. There was a lady from Eastern Regional, who Hutsonville uses, who mentioned filling this need in the past as part time. Casey uses a firm out of Effingham. Once Greenup acquired a Grant Writer, they quickly made a lot of positive changes. The City needs to be proactive instead of reactive and have Grant paperwork ready to apply. The City's Engineers do notify when specific grants are available because they get a small portion. Chris D mentions the need for a Grant Writer who can and will write any type of grants. Federal grant writing is a lot of work. Terri references how this person would be working closely with water guys, gas guys, etc. and would need to be actively looking for grants. Dan states he can inform the Mayor and Council when specific Grants are available and coming due. He says he can act as liaison between all departments (Council, committees, the Chamber etc.) as support for ongoing projects. The Mayor mentioned how Casey and Marshall both have an individual who is involved closely with projects and keeps everyone updated. There were discussions on hiring this position full time verses the actual need for it possibly being less than full time hours like the original proposal stated. Dan recommended the first step being a 90-day trial period. He could meet and build pages for all of the committees and build a database with projects ongoing for hydrants. Harley likes the idea of having someone in this position but is concerned if it is in the City's budget. The Budget and Finance Committee needs to meet with Terri to discuss funds and decide what can be allotted for a position.

--No action taken.

OTHER:

Mayor:

- Reminder that Washinton Street by City Hall will be shut down July 13th to August 14th.
- The sidewalk in front of the Perry residence West of the gas station has been completed.
- Cleaning around water meters will begin.
- Options have been looked at for replacing Corey's truck, it was pointed out a gas truck would perform better than a diesel truck in this line of work, they will keep looking for possibilities.

Davidson:

- Fire Protection will be asking for an update on the fire hydrants. They are waiting on a vote after seeing priority hydrants & pricing, to see possibilities of helping pay for repair work.

Craig:

- He was approached by Eastern Illinois Radio Club to put a club repeater on the North water tower, as long as the climber is licensed and insured, they could install.

Hill:

- Bob Jenkins asked for an update on the sidewalk repair from the incoming trailer. The Mayor will look into it.
- There is a tree that may be in a service alley by Mark Long and Blankenbakers property; it looks to be growing into the line. It will be looked at.

--Motion by C Davidson, 2nd 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 8:03 PM.

Caitlin Dill, City Clerk