City of Martinsville

Minutes – **Regular Meeting**
Wednesday, September 23rd, 2026

Alderman Roll Call:
Chris Davidson
Chris Perry
Harley Craig
Wendy Isbell
Travis Hill
Ashley Wilhoit

Attendance: Robert Lovell-Mayor, Terri Connelly-Treasurer, Caitlin Dill-Clerk, Jordan Wilhoit, Jane Spires, Tiffani Higginbotham, Kelsey Swing, and Dan Kibler.

Meeting called to order at 7 PM.
Prayer: Mayor Lovell
Pledge of Allegiance: All

Public Comments:

--Motion by T Hill, 2nd by C Davidson, to approve the Regular meeting minutes from 09/09/26.
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 pay Bills presented.
Record Vote:

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

Motion carried.

--Audit presentation and findings by Kelsey D. Swing, CPA Partner Gilbert, Metzger, & Madigan LLP.

--Kelsey explained the Financial Statement and budget comparisons. The City received a clean audit opinion, which is ideal. Water, Sewer, and Gas funds have healthy reserves. Assets and liabilities accounts are up from last year, investment capital has a decent amount, some reserves have been spent to finish long planned projects. The council will look over the results; Kelsey will answer any questions that may come up.

--Jana clarified the reasoning of internal controls from the Certified Public Accountants. Due to the size of Martinsville, the results of listing 1, 2, and 3 are the same result every year. Listing 4 regarding utility rates was an issue based on the billing cycle. Martinsville's billing cycle for May was in June but the audit had it down as being in May, this can simply be resolved by updating the Ordinance to reflect "next billing cycle" instead.

--Motion by C Davidson, 2nd by T Hill, to set the Residential Enterprise Zone Rehab/New Construction minimum at $10k to receive tax savings benefits and abatement.

Record Vote:

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

Motion carried.

-- Motion by H Craig, 2nd by C Davidson, to approve City's Trick or Treat date as Saturday Oct 31st from 6p-8p.

Record Vote:

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

Motion carried.

--Motion by T Hill, 2nd by C Perry, to approve Ordinance NO. 2026-09-01 that condemns 220 W Kendall Street as "Unsafe and Dangerous property."

Record Vote:

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

Motion carried.

--Motion by C Perry, 2nd by H Craig, to approve Ordinance NO. 2026-09-02 that condemns 602 N Ferral Street as "Unsafe and Dangerous property."

Record Vote:

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

Motion carried.

--Motion by T Hill, 2nd by C Perry, to purchase a new snowplow for the new truck, Myer plow at $11,000 including install and wiring.

--The old one will be kept to see if it can be repaired at an appropriate amount to use as a backup plow.

Record Vote:

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

Motion carried.

OTHER:

Mayor:

- There will be gas line work up North starting October 14th.
- Volleyball sand court going in when it dries up more to level and then hang the net. The next project is the walking trail around the park, probably starting in the Spring.
- Visit with the Governor's office went very well, they said it was one of the best visits, tour, and explanation of needs they've had. Chapin Rose, IL State Senator, with Adam Neimerg, IL State Representative, will do a tour with the home developer the Land Bank uses on October 21st.
- Two businesses want to open up in Martinsville; they are both currently looking for space.
- Splash Pad is being painted now, half of the pickleball court has poles in ready for fencing to go up.

Perry:

- Has the City inspected the playground equipment? Not yet, W Isbell did not see anything missing at the bottom.

Craig:

- Parks Committee met with Martinsville on the Move members to discuss Parks management. Since Brenda retired from taking care of the parks there is a need to hire a Full-Time person to manage them. Martinsville on the Move could assist with funding for this position.

Isbell:

- Who is in charge of the Soap Box race, would like yard signs and more advertising. -The City is but Martinsville on the Move is sponsoring it.
- There is a need for better lighting at the Blue Park after dark. The current light is blocked by the trees, getting a solar light or something behind the Post Office could help. -Mayor will look into options for adding a light/pole.

--Motion by H Craig, 2nd by A Wilhoit, to go into executive session @ 7:42pm.
--Motion by C Davidson, 2nd by C Perry, to open session @ 8:01pm.
Roll Call:

Davidson
Isbell
Perry
Hill
Craig
Wilhoit

--Motion by C Davidson, 2nd by A Wilhoit, to close the meeting.
Record Vote:

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

Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned 8:08 PM.

Caitlin Dill, City Clerk