

**MARTINSVILLE COMMON COUNCIL
MARTINSVILLE INDIANA
MORGAN COUNTY, INDIANA
MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 2016**

Mayor Shannon Kohl called the Martinsville Common Council to order on Monday, January 4, 2016. Councilman David Trout then led those in attendance in opening prayer followed by the Mayor's leading attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDANCE

THOSE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Shannon Kohl, Mayor
Terry Buster, District 1
Ben Merida, District 2
Mike Lanam, District 3
Chip Keller, District 4
Phil Deckard II, District 5
Eric Bowlen, Councilman-at-Large
David Trout, Councilwoman-at-Large
Ross Holloway, City Engineer
Dale Coffey, City Attorney
Rick Lange, Chief of Police
Valerie Hugart, Clerk-Treasurer
Becky Tumey, 1stDeputy Clerk

A quorum was declared present.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Eric Bowlen to waive the reading of the minutes of December 21, 2015 and to accept the minutes as written. Councilman Terry Buster seconded the motion. The Motion passes 5-0.

ELECTIONS

- A. Council President – A motion to re-elect Eric Bowlen as Council President was by Councilman Ben Merida and seconded unanimously by all Councilmen. The Motion passes 7-0.

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- B. Morgan County Economic Development – A motion was made to allow Mayor Kohl to retain her seat on the executive board for MCED by Councilman Eric Bowlen and seconded by Councilman Chip Keller. The motion passes 7-0. Also, a motion was made by Councilman Eric Bowlen to nominate Councilman Chip Keller to represent the Common Council on the MCED board. This was seconded by Councilman Davis Trout. The Motion passes 7-0.

REORGANIZATION OF COUNCIL MEETING – Mayor Kohl announced the new format for Council meetings would be: The Mayor shall open and close the meetings and the Council President will conduct the meetings. Also, the agenda for the upcoming meeting shall be set the Monday before the meeting. Clerk-Treasurer Valerie Hugart was asked if the claims docket could be distributed early. She said it all depends on if departments get their claims in on time – which is the Monday before the next meeting. She will release the claims docket as soon as she can. A motion to accept and allow the reorganization of Council meetings was made by Councilman Eric Bowlen and seconded by Councilman Ben Merida. The Motion passes 7-0.

ENGINEERS REPORT

City Engineer Ross Holloway reported detour signs will be put up by the contractor for road closings as the East Morgan Street Sanitary Sewer Project gets underway. Also, the Tropical Freeze building will be demolished in the next week or so by Milestone. Milestone will cover all expenses with the demolition. Harriet Street and Poston Road have temporary stop signs in place. This is the result of residents in the area asking the City for intervention. Ross will distribute a written report at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Amend Salary Ordinance 2014-1697 to 2016-1707 – City Attorney Dale Coffey presented the amended salary ordinance. He explained certain positions and related responsibilities. It will also eliminate summer street seasonal positions. A motion to accept and allow Salary Ordinance 2016-1707 was made by Councilman Ben Merida and seconded by Councilman Mike Lanam. The Motion passes 7-0.

Energy Savings Project aka Water Meter Replacement Project – A motion to continue the discussion of this project in a public hearing was made Councilman David Trout and seconded by Councilman Chip Keller. The Motion passes 7-0.

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NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Phil Deckard II started the discussion of the City buying the former school administration building on South Main Street. Concerns included: too soon to make a decision; the City has other property that may need sold first; prepare a long-term plan for the City and not enough time to consider the purchase. Those in favor of making a bid on the building included: Councilmen Terry Buster, Mike Lanam and Ben Merida. Those opposed were Councilmen Chip Keller, Eric Bowlen, Phil Deckard II and David Trout. A decision was tabled.

CLAIMS

A motion to accept the claims as reported was made by Eric Bowlen. Councilman Ben Merida seconded the motion. The Motion passes 7-0, with Councilman Chip Keller abstaining on claims from Keller Office Supply.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, All Councilmen made the motion to adjourn. The Motion passes 7-0.

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Ben Merida, Councilman

Mike Lanam, Councilman

Chip Keller, Councilman

Eric Bowlen, Councilman-at-large

Philip R Deckard II, Councilman

David Trout, Councilman-at-
Large

ATTEST:

Valerie Hugart, Clerk-Treasurer