

**MARTINSVILLE COMMON COUNCIL  
MARTINSVILLE INDIANA  
MORGAN COUNTY, INDIANA  
FEBRUARY 23, 2026**

**Call to Order, Invocation., and Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Costin called the Martinsville Common Council meeting to order on February 23, 2026. Pastor John Maples led the prayer for those in attendance. Mayor Costin then led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**

Councilor At Large John Badger XIV  
Councilor District 5 Phil Deckard II  
Councilor District 3 Josh Ferran  
Councilor District 4 Suzie Lipps  
Councilor District 2 Ben Mahan  
Councilor At Large Ann Miller  
Councilor District 1 Jonathan Collier

A quorum was declared present.

**Consideration of the Minutes**

- A. Consideration of the February 9, 2026, Common Council Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Councilor John Badger to approve the minutes as presented. Councilor Suzie Lipps seconded the motion. There was one abstention by Councilor Ann Miller. The minutes were approved 6-0-1.

**Consideration of Claims**

A motion to accept the claims was made by Councilor Phil Deckard II. Councilor Suzie Lipps seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

**Committee Report**

- A. Study Committee Regarding City Code Article V, Division 1, Section 18-191 –  
Peddlers, Solicitors and Transient Merchants

Councilor Ann Miller explained to the council that she and Councilor John Badger had come up with fees. This information will be sent via email to each council member and added to the agenda packets for the March 9 council meeting, at which time suggestions and changes can be made.

**Departmental Reports**

- A. Police Department Annual Report

Chief Ryan Manley presented an update of 2025 statistics. He highlighted arrests, charges, and calls. He extended a personal invite to all council members to ride along with a patrol officer.

#### B. Fire Department Annual Report

Chief Kevin Greene presented the 2025 Fire Department Annual Report and Division Statistics. He highlighted several points including the busiest shift, month and day of the week. It was a successful year for the department, and he ended his report by recognizing the retirement of 2 individuals, Steven Ely and David Skaggs.

#### C. Parks Department Annual Report

Park Superintendent, Ashley Cox, gave a report on the 2025 happenings with the parks department. She highlighted the success of additional activities on the 4th of July celebration, including a fishing contest, activities throughout the day, and additional food trucks. She mentioned a successful pickleball tournament as well as noting the numerous shelter rentals throughout the year. It was a successful year and many of the new events will continue in 2026.

### **New Business**

#### A. Consideration of Petition for Establishment of New Regulated Drain

City Attorney, Dale Coffey, presented a consideration of the petition for establishment of a new regulated drain. All costs of notice and all of the legal costs will be covered by a READI grant. The Morgan County Drainage Board will be overseeing this. A motion to accept the petition was made by Councilor Ann Miller. Councilor Jonathan Collier seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

#### B. Consideration of Agreement with Teamsters Local 135

City Attorney, Dale Coffey, presented an agreement between the City of Martinsville and Teamsters Local 135, an affiliate of The International Brotherhood of Teamsters. A motion to accept the agreement was made by Councilor Phil Deckard II. Councilor Ann Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

### **Council Comments**

### **Public Comment**

### **Next Regular Meeting**

- A. The next regular meeting will be on Monday, March 9, 2026, beginning at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers (Room 202), City Hall, 59 S. Jefferson St., Martinsville, Indiana.

### **Adjournment**

Name		Signature
Phil R. Deckard II, Member, District 5, President Pro Tempore	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Jonathan Collier, District 1	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Ben Mahan, Member, District 2	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Josh Ferran, Member, District 3	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Suzie Lipps, Member, District 4	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Ann Miller, Member-at-Large	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
John Badger, XIV, Member-at-Large	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	

**ATTEST**

Name	Signature	Date
Benjamin K. Merida, Clerk-Treasurer		

**MAYOR ACTION**

Name		Signature	Date
Kenneth W. Costin, Mayor	Approve <input type="checkbox"/> Veto <input type="checkbox"/>		