

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, April 15, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Council Chambers with Vice Mayor William Mays presiding.

Present: Jack Wallace, William Mays, and Joseph Fawbush

Absent: Robert Raines and Joseph Hunnicutt

The invocation was given by the City Manager and was followed by the pledge of allegiance, which was led by Police Chief Sam Mongle.

At this time, Vice Mayor Mays welcomed Ms. Marla Meade to tonight's meeting. Ms. Meade is a member of the Forward Wise County Class.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2003 meeting as presented.

20466

There was no response to the Vice Mayor's call for visitors.

20467

A public hearing was held on the consideration of the adoption of a new Comprehensive Plan.

Vice Mayor Mays welcomed Mr. Terry Harrington of Marsh-Witt Associates, who worked with the Planning Commission on this plan, and Mr. John Litton, a member of the Planning Commission.

Mr. Harrington spoke briefly to Council advising that they had worked on this document for 20 months, starting in the summer of 2001, and discussed the various meetings held during this time frame. He further advised that the the Planning Commission held a public hearing at their March meeting, and at that time, they recommended this plan be sent to Council for approval. He then advised Council that he would be happy to answer any questions they may have.

Mr. Ward advised that there were copies of this plan in his office for the public to view and use.

There were no questions or comments from Council prior to the public hearing.

Vice Mayor Mays opened the public hearing.

Mr. Litton advised that Mr. Harrington did an outstanding job guiding the Planning Commission through the procedure of establishing a new Comprehensive Plan and he wished to thank him.

There being no further public input, Vice Mayor Mays closed the public hearing.

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to adopt the new Comprehensive Plan.

20468

Dr. John Sessoms, Superintendent of the Norton City Schools, presented Council with their 2003-04 proposed budget and gave them a brief summary on this budget. He advised that the total of City funding is \$1,603,475, which is an increase of \$48,555.

20469

After he had answered several questions from Council, Vice Mayor Mays thanked Dr. Sessoms for this information, which will be used in Council's upcoming budget work-Shop, scheduled for May 6th.

Council had in their packets a request from Norton Community Hospital for use of City property.

Mr. Ward advised this request covered City property located on 14th and 15th Streets where the hospital would like to put in decorative lighting. This area currently is without lighting. City crews have checked this area and there is no risk of conflict with water and sewer lines.

20470

The City Manager said this could be done by means of a Revocable Special Use Permit and advised that the City Administration recommends approval of this request.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a Special Use Permit for Norton Community Hospital for the installation of decorative lighting on 14th and 15th Streets.

Council had a request for a water tap for Mr. Fleeman Partin of 6044-A West Norton Road, which is located in the county.

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to approve one water tap for Mr. Fleeman Partin of 6044-A West Norton Road.

20471

Council had been presented in their packets A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Norton, Virginia Adopting a Small Purchasing Policy as Per 2.2-4303 (G) and 2.2-4303 (H) of the Code of Virginia, as Amended.

The City Manager advised that the Procurement Code of Virginia changes about every year; and the City hasn't changed theirs in several years and it should be updated.

The City Attorney agreed with the City Manager that the City's Procurement Code should comply with the State's Code.

20472

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by the following roll call vote: YES – Wallace, Mays, Fawbush, NO – None, ABSENT – Hunnicutt, Raines, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Norton, Virginia Adopting a Small Purchasing Policy as Per 2.2-4303 (G) and 2.2-4303 (H) of the Code of Virginia, as amended. (Insert)

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to go into closed meeting to discuss personnel as per Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1) of the Code of Virginia, as amended.

20473

Vice Mayor Mays declared Council in closed meeting.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to go back into open meeting.

20474

Vice Mayor Mays declared Council back in open meeting.

The Clerk then polled each member of Council as to the Certification of Closed Meeting with each answering yes. The Clerk then read A Resolution of the Certification

of Closed Meeting. Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by the following unanimous vote: YES – Wallace, Mays, Fawbush, NO – None, ABSENT – Hunnicutt, Raines, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. (Insert)

20475

Vice Mayor Mays opened the floor for nominations for an appointment of an independent financial auditor for the City.

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to authorize the City Manager to procure and negotiate an audit contract with Thrower, Livesay, and Blanton.

20476

In comments from the City Manager, Mr. Ward advised that a ceremony honoring the eight students from the Norton City Schools who achieved a perfect score on their Standards of Learning scores this year will be held at the Hotel Norton on April 23rd at 6:00 p.m. and Council Members are invited to attend.

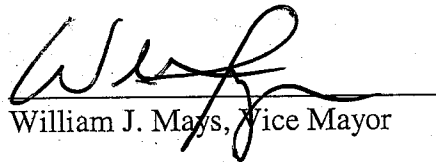
20477

In comments from Council, Vice Mayor Mays advised that he would like to extend to Assistant City Manager Fred Ramey congratulations for being honored with the President's Award at the annual Wise County/City of Norton Chamber of Commerce annual gala held this past weekend. He further advised that Mr. Ramey was very deserving of this award.

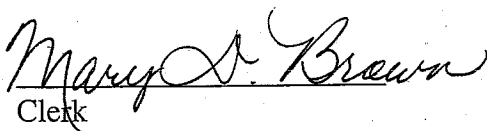
20478

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned.

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA


William J. Mays, Vice Mayor

ATTEST:


Clerk