

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, May 7, 2002 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Robert Raines presiding.

Present: Joseph Hunnicutt, Jack Wallace, Robert Raines, and William Mays

Absent: Joseph Fawbush

Also Present: E. W. Ward, City Manager and Bill Bradshaw, City Attorney

The invocation was given by the City Manager and was followed by the pledge of allegiance, which was led by the Director of Social Services, Bill Stokes.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the April 16, 2002 meeting as presented.

20165

At this time, Mayor Raines amended the agenda under New Business to include Item 7-D-1 – Authorizing the City Manager to Advertise a Public Hearing a Bond Issue for a Water Project.

20166

During the audience for visitors, Mrs. Melita Fields, representing her mother, Mrs. Louise Delp Large, spoke to Council regarding a paper alley that runs behind her mother's house at 525 Craig Street. Mrs. Fields advised that her family had used this alley for thirty years and recently, a neighbor has blocked this alley and kept them from using it. She showed Council pictures of the items blocking this alley.

20167

Mr. Ward advised that the City has now found out that this is an undeveloped alley and is a City right-of-way. He further advised that the City can now take some action getting this cleaned up and the area opened up again.

Mayor Raines asked the City Manager to proceed with action to take care of this problem.

A public hearing was held on the 2002-2003 budget of the Norton City Schools which totals \$5,586,932. Of this amount, \$1,554,920 local funds from the City

Mr. Ron McCall, a member of the Norton School Board, appeared before Council and gave a brief synopsis of this budget.

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

Mayor Raines opened the public hearing.

There being no public input, Mayor Raines closed the public hearing.

Mayor Raines advised that Council will take action on this budget at the next meeting.

20168

A public hearing was held on an ordinance regulating community antenna television systems operating within the City of Norton.

Mr. Ward advised that this ordinance was drafted by our consultant and, if adopted, sets ground rules for any franchise granted within the City. He further asked Council's favorable consideration of this ordinance.

Mr. Bradshaw, City Attorney, advised that this is a very comprehensive document and an appropriate document for Council to adopt.

At this time, Mayor Raines advised that Adelphia, effective with their July billing, is raising rates; however, this increase has nothing to do with the franchise agreement being worked on at this time.

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

Mayor Raines opened the public hearing.

There being no public input, Mayor Raines closed the public hearing.

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by William Mays, and passed by the following roll call vote: YES - Hunnicutt, Wallace, Mays, Raines, NO - None, ABSENT - Fawbush, Council moved to adopt An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Norton, Virginia Regulating Community Antenna Television Systems. (Insert)

Council had included in their packets A Designation of Applicant's Agent Resolution for their consideration.

Mr. Ward advised that this resolution is from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and they request one person to be designated to handle matters with them. Mr. Ward advised that Bill Stokes, our Emergency Services Director, has worked as the City's agent on the flooding problems since they occurred, and he felt Mr. Stokes should be our designee.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, and passed by the following unanimous vote: YES - Hunnicutt, Wallace, Mays, Raines, NO - None, ABSENT - Fawbush, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of Designation of Applicant's Agent. (Insert)

Council had a request for a sewer tap for Mr. Johnnie E. Fowler, 3419-1/2 Garfield Road, in the Josephine section of the County.

Mr. Ward advised that Mr. Fowler will be tying on to an existing line for Hill Top Trailer Park and will have to run line to connect to the City sewer in that area.

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to approve one sewer tap to Johnnie E. Fowler, 4319-1/2 Garfield Road with said tap to be completed in one year.

Council had been presented with A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Norton, Virginia Supporting the Virginia Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics.

Police Chief Sam Mongle read this resolution.

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by William Mays, and passed by the following unanimous vote: YES - Hunnicutt, Wallace, Mays, Raines, NO - None, ABSENT - Fawbush, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Norton, Virginia Supporting the Virginia Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics. (Insert)

The City Attorney advised Council that work on the one million dollar bond loan for a water project is progressing at a rapid pace and that the City needs to advertise a public hearing to be held on May 21st for this purpose.

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council authorized the City Manager to advertise a public hearing for the one million dollar water bond issue to be held on May 21st.

At this time, Mayor Raines welcome Mrs. Donna Owens of the Forward Wise County Class. Mayor Raines also advised that Mrs. Owens is the Chairman of the Best Friend Festival Committee.

20174

Council had been presented with A Proclamation Designating the Week of May 13th to be Dedicated as National Police Week and May 15th as Police Memorial Day.

Police Chief Sam Mongle read this proclamation.

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt A Proclamation Designating the Week of May 13th as National Police Week and May 15th to be Police Memorial Day. (Insert)

20175

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

20176

Mayor Raines declared Council in closed meeting.

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

20177

The Clerk then polled each member of Council as to the Certification of Closed Meeting with each answering aye. The Clerk then read A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by the following unanimous vote: YES – Hunnicutt, Wallace, Mays, Raines, NO – None, ABSENT – Fawbush, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. (Insert)

20178

In comments from the City Manager, Mr. Ward advised that he has been meeting with the Town of Big Stone Gap on the Water Interconnect Project and it is moving along rapidly. They are in the process of updating the agreement between the City and Big Stone Gap and Bobby Lane of Lane Engineering will be present at the next council meeting to present an addendum to this document.

20179

In comments from the City Attorney, Mr. Bradshaw advised that he has been meeting with Bobby Lane of Lane Engineering and his staff on issues required on the Water Interconnect Project such as easements and permits.

20180

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA


B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:


Clerk