

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, April 5, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Council Chambers with Mayor William Mays presiding.

Present: Mark Caruso, William Mays, Joseph Fawbush, Terry Roop

Absent: Joseph Hunnicutt

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

The invocation was given by Rev. Ken Taylor and was followed by the pledge of allegiance led by Police Chief Randy Mullins.

Upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilman Fawbush, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the March 15, 2011 meeting as corrected. In paragraph #25000, the name of Colby Dean's coach should have been Shawn Dean and not Sam Dean as stated.

25015

At this time, Mayor Mays amended the agenda under Item No. E-2 Closed Meeting to include "Discussion of Building Official".

25016

During the Mayor's call for visitors, the Clerk read a letter Council had received from Mike Goforth, coach of the J. I. Burton Girls' Basketball Team, thanking Council for their support during the 2010-2011 season.

25017

During this time, Councilman Hunnicutt took his seat on Council.

25018

Ms. Angie Sproles, representing the Appalachian Community Action and Development Agency, Incorporated, spoke briefly to Council requesting Council's approval for this agency to apply for an Emergency Solutions Grant for homeless individuals or those at risk to be homeless. If this grant is awarded, they would receive \$50,000 per year for two years.

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Councilman Fawbush, seconded by Councilman Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council authorized favorable support of the Appalachian Community Action and Development Agency, Incorporated's application for an Emergency Solutions Grant.

25019

Mayor Mays expressed his appreciation and thanks to Ms. Sproles for the work she is doing.

In their packets, Council had A Joint Resolution to Dissolve the Industrial Development Authority of Lee, Wise and Scott Counties and the City of Norton.

Mr. Ward advised that this Authority was formed in 1969 and the City's contribution was between \$5,000 to \$15,000. For this contribution, the City will receive, once the dissolution takes place, approximately \$145,000. Upon receipt of these funds, Mr. Ward suggested that the funds be given to the Norton Industrial Development Authority. A

sum of \$50,000 should be used to pay off on the Lost Creek Property and the balance should be expended on existing debt that NIDA has.

The Authority has completed its mission and at a meeting held on March 3, 2011 with all parties represented, it was agreed to dissolve this Authority. Mr. Ward and the City Attorney, Mr. Bradshaw, were in attendance. Mr. Bradshaw, along with other attorneys, worked on this resolution.

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Councilman Roop, seconded by Councilman Hunnicutt, and passed by the following unanimous roll call vote: YES – Caruso, Hunnicutt, Fawbush, Roop, Mays, NO – None, ABSENT – None, Council moved to adopt A Joint Resolution to Dissolve the Industrial Development Authority of Lee, Wise, and Scott Counties and the City of Norton. (Insert)

Upon a motion by Councilman Roop, seconded by Councilman Caruso, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved that the funds the City will receive from the dissolution of the Industrial Development Authority of Lee, Wise and Scott Counties and the City of Norton in the approximate amount of \$145,000 should go to the Norton Industrial Development Authority for expenditures per the recommendations made tonight by the City Manager.

A discussion was held on a proposed Waste Flow Agreement with Wise County. Mr. Ward advised that the City Attorney and he drafted the agreement based on a consensus that was reached with Wise County several months ago. Once approved, it will allow Wise County to transmit wastewater through the City's Guest River Interceptor Line and on to the regional treatment plant in Coeburn. Wise County adopted the agreement at their March meeting and it is on the agenda for City Council consideration tonight.

Mr. Ward gave Council a synopsis of the Agreement which included the term, amount of flow, accessibility fee, and rates to be charged Wise County.

Mr. Ward advised he would be willing to answer any questions that Council may have on this Agreement.

Following a discussion, it was the consensus of Council to table this item until the April 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. With this being such an important agreement, Mayor Mays encouraged all council members to read this document again and should they have any questions prior to the 19th, they should contact the City Attorney or the City Manager.

Council had been presented with A Proclamation Declaring April as Distracted Driver Awareness Month. Mr. Ward advised that this proclamation and information had been sent to the City by the Virginia Municipal League. He then presented a brief PowerPoint presentation to those present and asked that the Coalfield Progress give some coverage to this topic.

Upon a motion by Councilman Hunnicutt, seconded by Councilman Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt A Proclamation Declaring April as Distracted Driver Awareness Month. (Insert)

At this time, Mayor Mays recognized two members of the Forward Wise County Class, Tom Galyean and Sheila Scott and welcomed them to the meeting.

In their packets, Council had a copy of a transfer to the Norton City Schools in the amount of \$160,000 to cover payroll and fringes dated March 30, 2011.

Upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilman Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a \$160,000 transfer to the Norton City Schools to cover payroll and fringes. (Insert – Councilman Roop’s Disclosure Form)

25024

Upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilman Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to go into closed meeting to discuss personnel as Section No. 2.2-3711 (A) (1) of the Code of Virginia, as amended.

25025

Mayor Mays declared Council in closed meeting.

Upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilman Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved that they go back into open meeting.

25026

Mayor Mays declared Council back in open meeting.

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

The Clerk read A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting.

25027

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

Mayor Mays opened the floor for nominations to the Virginia Municipal League 2011 Policy Committee Nominations.

Councilman Caruso nominated Fred Ramey to the Community & Economic Development Committee, Tommy Roberts to the Environmental Quality Committee, Jeff Shupe to the Finance Committee, E. W. Ward to the General Laws Committee, Roger Ramey to the Human Development and Education Committee, and Steve McElroy to the Transportation Committee.

25028

Upon a motion by Councilman Fawbush, seconded by Councilman Roop, Council moved that the nominations cease.

Mayor Mays declared the nominees approved for the various Virginia Municipal League 2011 Policy Committees as submitted by the City Manager and listed above approved.

In comments from the City Manager, Mr. Ward advised that:

Flag Rock opened on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

The closing on the Upper Reservoir Project was held last week and after May 9<sup>th</sup>, this area will not be open for some of the normal uses that it has been previously.

25029

The annual Chamber of Commerce Gala will be held on April 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn. The City has a table and he has tickets for Council members and their spouses.

An Easter Egg Hunt will be held at the City Park on April 17<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.

The Hawthorne Signal Project is underway and hopefully will be completed by June. The Norton City School Board will present their budget to Council at the April 19<sup>th</sup> meeting and the City will hold a budget workshop after this meeting.

In comments from City Council:

Councilman Roop advised he was pleased that VDOT is working on the signal at the Hawthorne Intersection. 25030

Mayor Mays advised he was pleased also; however, he asked the City Manager to check into whether a guard rail will be installed around the foundation for the traffic signal pole that is located on the Hawthorne side. Mr. Ward advised that he would check into this. 25031

Councilman Caruso advised that National Trails Day is June 4<sup>th</sup> and members of the Tourism Committee are planning guided hikes from multiple locations around Flag Rock and other City parks. 25032

He had been to Flag Rock and advised that it looks really good. He commended City employees for the job done getting it open.

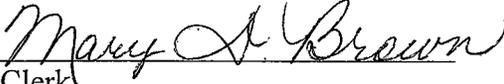
He asked the City Manager to see if the contractor can put their vehicles in the back area of the parking lot at the upper reservoir in order that hikers and visitors can still use the City's trail system. Mr. Ward advised he would check into this.

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA

  
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William J. Mays, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Clerk