

October 22, 1968

A special called meeting of the City Council was held in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Building on October 22, 1968 at 7:30 P.M. with Mayor Flanary presiding.

Present: V.O. Flanary, G.E. Hunnicutt, R.L. Collins, S.H. Neeley, W.G. Stallard

Also Present: Evan Norton, City Mgr & Robert Stump, Attorney

Council discussed Christmas lights. Mr. John Kiser of the Old Dominion #4618 Power Co. advised Council of possible hazard of having such heavy pieces hanging between whiteway poles. Mr. Norton advised Council he had contacted Mr. Carpenter, owner of firm where decorations were bought, and that Mr. Carpenter would be in town Thursday to go over this situation with him. Council referred the matter to Mr. Norton to handle with Mr. Carpenter and Mr. Kiser of Old Dominion Power Co. to see what could be worked out with regard to lighter decorations.

Council discussed at length change in parking meters. Mr. Kidd of the #4619 Merchant's Association expressed merchants request that if Council is going to purchase new meters that they purchase split housing type to give merchants time to inaugurate their program of parking tokens.

On motion by S.H. Neeley, seconded by W.G. Stallard and carried by #4620 unanimous vote, Council moved that selling of parking meter permits be suspended until further study.

Council discussed quotations of parking meters from 3 companies. Duncan #4621 Parking Meter, Rhodes and Rockwell.

On motion by G.E. Hunnicutt, seconded by R.L. Collins and carried by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved that City Manager be authorized to order these meters on the recommendation of the merchants (256) meters from Duncan Parking Meter Company, and that length of time to pay for meters be 36 months.

Council discussed at length with Norton City School Board new #4622 Elementary School and Recreational Facilities. Charlie Daniels, Chairman of City Planning Commission, spoke on matter pointing out that the Consultant Engineers which are already working on Comprehensive Planning Program for City would be glad to work up this program also.

Mr. Powers spoke briefly to Council explaining School's position in this matter. On motion made and duly seconded and carried by unanimous vote, Council moved that the Planning Commission come up with general recreational plan for City of Norton.

Council discussed State approval of plans for new jail. Mr. Charles #4623 McElroy, Architect for School, was present and expressed his regrets at not being able to be Architect for new jail project.

Mr. Norton read two letters; one from Department of Welfare & Institutions and one from Mr. Mason, Supt. of Jails, giving their approval of Norton's proposed plan to build a new jail in Norton.

Mr. Norton discussed with Council Norton's thoroughfare plant. He #4624 advised that State would like approval of this plan so that they can print preliminary.

On motion by G.E. Hunnicutt, seconded by S.H. Neeley and carried by unanimous vote, Council moved that we approve this preliminary plan submitted by the Highway Department for highway development within City limits of Norton with express understanding 58A East of its intersection with projected U.S. 23 be access highway and further subject to the stipulation set forth in resolution concerning development of Route 619.

Mr. Norton discussed with Council updating of street signs. #4625

Mr. Norton advised Council of meeting November 12th at 7:30 P.M. with representatives of different organizations, merchants, etc. to make plans for 75th celebration. #4626

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


Mayor

Clerk

SEE PAGE 142 #4543

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of the City Council of the City of Norton, Virginia, that Route 619 has been removed from what is commonly known as the Appalachian Program; and

WHEREAS, the City of Norton, the County of Wise, and the County of Scott, as well as the people in the general area, will be adversely affected by the removal of said Route 619 from the Appalachian Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the proper authorities be, and they hereby are, requested to restore Route 619 to the Appalachian Program for many reasons, among which are the following: (1) That said road is an access road to Clinch Valley College, a branch of the University of Virginia, located in Wise, Virginia, whereby students in Scott County can use 619 as a direct route between Gate City and Wise, Virginia. The direct route is 27 miles, whereas it is 45 miles by the other routes. Various students between Gate City and Norton could be served on said Route 619. (2) That a large Garment Factory is located in the City of Norton on Route 619 and this employs many people and that the said garment factory has been doubled in size engendering a substantial increase in traffic to the present and expected to engender a considerable increase of traffic in the future. (3) That the City of Norton in order to promote tourist trade and to open the natural resources to the area has at considerable expense developed what is generally known as "Flag Rock Recreational Area" and expects to add additional funds to said development of Flag Rock as a tourist attraction. That the City has graded a road to Flag Rock from 619 and in the summer months Flag Rock is a popular tourist attraction and its patronage should be promoted. (4) That certain citizens of the City of Norton have purchased what is commonly known as the Horne lands consisting of approximately 2,000 acres of which about 1600 acres lie on the High Knob Section on Route 619. That this land is being developed into recreational lands and high class residential lands. (5) That the Forest Service is proposing to place an observation tower on High Knob which should increase the tourist attractions to High Knob, one of the highest points in Virginia. (6) That the High Knob Recreation Area consisting of a lake and beach has been improved and should

engender more patronage.

The Council of the City of Norton feel that if Route 619 is restored to the Appalachian Program and sufficiently improved that it will be a worthwhile contribution to the City of Norton, Wise County, and to Scott County.

BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors of Wise County, Virginia, and a copy forwarded to the Board of Supervisors of Scott County, Virginia

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the proper officials of the State Highway Commission in Richmond, Virginia, the District Engineer of the Bristol District of Bristol, Virginia, to the Resident Engineer at Wise, Virginia, and a copy filed with the Minutes of this meeting.