

March 5, 1963

The regular meeting of the City Council was held in the Municipal Court Room on March 5, 1963 at 7:00 P.M. with Mayor B.E Ball presiding.

Present: B.E. Ball, A.O. Umstead, J.C. Holcomb, Archie Woods, J.B. Taggart

Also Present: C.F. Jester, City Manager and R.T. Winston, Attorney

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Representatives of the Norton Garden Club, Chamber of Commerce, Green Thumb Garden and Community Improvement with Mrs. J.J. Stump, Mrs. Jay Litts, Mrs. Rosalind McGannon, Rev. Lowell Hunt and Mrs. D.C. Phipps as spokesmen appeared before council and requested that the following be given consideration: #2350

1. That an ordinance be enacted and enforced at once governing dogs running at large in the City of Norton, since gardening time is approaching.
2. That an ordinance be enacted and enforced governing the shacks, dog kennels, beehives, rabbit hutches, tree houses, chicken lots, broken down fences, and all unnecessary litter on privately owned property, rented property and vacant lots.
3. That more attention be given to the streets with special attention to open ditches and the cutting of weeds in the summer.
4. That the city officials made periodic tours of the City with regard to the above and see that the ordinances are enforced.
5. Inasmuch, as we are a City, the women feel we should have ordinances governing such things as mentioned, and that they should be enforced all year long.
6. That an educational program via the news media be instituted by the Mayor and City Manager pertaining to the necessity of such measures.

Rev. Harris, Gomer Evans and Lonnie Redman appeared before council and requested that something be done to the property located on the left side of the Church of God in the Ramsey Section. They advised council that this property was unsightly and unsanitary to not only the members of this church, but also the public. Council instructed the City Manager to make a personal investigation of this matter and to see that it is cleaned up. #2351

Mr. George Hunnicutt, Chairman of the area power committee, appeared before council and requested that they write the State Corporation Commission asking that they give a report of their findings of the request made in the fall of 1961 regarding power rates. #2352

On motion by J.B. Taggart, seconded by J.C. Holcomb and carried by the following votes, the following resolution was passed: B.E. Ball, J.C. Holcomb, J.B. Taggart, Archie Woods, Voting Yea - A.O. Umstead, not voting.

Resolved that the City Council, Norton, Virginia, direct the City Manager to immediately communicate with the State Corporation Commission of Virginia to request that said commission give in a reply a statement of its findings with reference to the resolution passed by this council in the fall of 1961 and forwarded to the commission with regard to the power situation in Norton and the request of the council for relief from such situation.

Mr. Gomer Evans appeared before council and requested that #2353
some consideration be given to the improvement of Helena
Avenue and that some rock be placed in mud hole between his
property and the Norton Community Parking lot. Mr. Neil Boggs
also expressed his desire to have improvements made on Helena
Avenue. Matter referred to City Manager.

Mr. Jester presented an option agreement between the New York #2354
Mining & Manufacturing Company and the City of Norton.

On motion by A.O. Umstead, seconded by J.C. Holcomb and carried by
the following votes, the following motion was passed: B.E. Ball,
AO. Umstead, J.C. Holcomb, Archie Woods, voting Yea - J.B. Taggart
not voting.

Council moved that the option be accepted on the property owned by
the New York Mining & Manufacturing Company, the lot to contain
approximately 1.7 acres and to be used for the West Norton sewage
plant site. The six months option to be dated March 5, 1963. Said
option to be signed by the Mayor.

A brief discussion was held on the Fleming Land Company option. #2355
Council agreed to give further consideration to this matter and
stated that definite action would be taken at next council meeting.

Mr. Jester gave a report of the Norton Volunteer Fire Department #2356
for the month of February, 1963.

Mr. Jester presented a request of Sol Cury to have Alexandria Street
from 6th Street to entrance of Norton Community Hospital be zoned
for No-Parking. After a brief discussion, it was the concensus of
opinion that Alexandria Street be zoned for No-Parking as requested,
and that the street be made One-Way from 5th Street to the Hospital
entrance. This matter was referred to the City Manager with
their suggestions. #2357

Mr. Jester presented a letter from the Wise County Chamber #2358
of Commerce requesting information for industrial survey of
the City of Norton.

On motion by B.E. Ball, seconded by Archie Woods and carried by
unanimous vote, council moved that this matter be referred by the
City Manager to the Norton Industrial Development Authority.

Mr. Winston advised council that Phyllis Dockery had gotten a #2359
writ of error in the Supreme Court.

Mr. Ball brought to council's attention that Mr. Jester would #2360
like to have a meeting with the City Council prior to completing
the budget in order to discuss the projects as outlined in letter
to council of February 1st.

Council instructed Mr. Winston and the City Manager to prepare #2361
an ordinance to cover cleaning up of properties and bring before
council at next meeting.

There being no further business before council same adjourned.

h. M. ...

Clerk

B. E. Ball

Mayor