

March 19, 1963

The regular meeting of the City Council was held in the Municipal Building at 7:00 P.M., March 19, 1963 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 & R.T. Winston, Attorney

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

W.H. Witt, Sr., V.J. Strength, Victor Jones, Jr., George Bolling, Chester #2362 Voni and Mrs. Macy Dickenson appeared before council regarding the passage of a proposed dog ordinance. Each of the men spoke against an ordinance to keep dogs confined. Mrs. Dickenson thinking they should be kept confined. Mr. Ball read the proposed ordinance to council after which a lengthy discussion followed. The City Attorney and City Manager were then instructed to check further into dog ordinances with the following suggested provisions:
 (1) Raising of dog license fee (2) Establishing of dog pound (3) Picking up stray dogs that are unlicensed (4) Provide something with teeth for owners of dogs that continue to molest people or property.

Creed Polly, Tom Cassell and Lonnie Redman appeared before council con- #2363 cerning condition of road in Woodlawn Terrace Section caused by running water. Matter referred to City Manager to see what can be worked out on this condition.

Mrs. D.C. Phipps and Mrs. Glenn Edwards appeared before council regarding #2364 clean-up ordinance.

On motion by A.O. Umstead, seconded by Archie Woods and carried by #2365 unanimous roll call vote, council authorized the City Manager in conjunction with the various women's clubs of the City to promote a clean-up campaign for at least two weeks, time to be designated by the City Manager and various women's clubs. The City also to supply trucks and whatever assistance they have available during that time to eliminate all the debris, trash, etc.

Mr. Jester read a proposed ordinance in connection with removal of trash #2366 and debris.

On motion by Archie Woods, seconded by A.O. Umstead and carried by unanimous roll call vote, the following ordinance regarding removal of trash and debris was adopted on first reading:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTON:

(1) The owners of property in the City of Norton shall, at least once each week, remove therefrom any and all trash, garbage, refuse, litter and other substance which might endanger the health of other residents of the City. The City Council deems it necessary that in the event any owner, or owners, of property fails to comply with the requirements of this Section, the City Manager, after giving reasonable notice in writing by Registered Mail, shall have such trash, garbage, refuse, litter and other like substances which might endanger the health of the other residents of the City, removed by City employees, in which event the cost or expense thereof shall be charged to and paid by the owners of such property and may be collected by the City as taxes and levies are collected.

(2) The owners of vacant property in the City of Norton shall cut the grass, weeds and other foreign growth on such property at least once a month during the months from April through October. The City Council deems it necessary that in the event such owners fail to comply with the provisions of this Section, the City Manager, after reasonable notice in writing to the owner or owners of such property, shall have such grass, weeds or other foreign growth cut by City Employees, in which event the cost and expense thereof shall be chargeable to and paid by the owner of such property and may be collected by the City as taxes and leveies are collected.

(3) Every charge authorized by this with which the owner of any such property shall have been assessed and which remains unpaid shall constitute a lien against such property.

Mr. Jester presented a proposed ordinance regarding controlling #2367 of shacks and undesirable buildings. After a brief discussion the City Manager was instructed to contact Mr. Andrews, City Manager of Galax to see the effect and benefit of such an ordinance.

On motion by J.B. Taggart, seconded by J.C. Holcomb and and #2368 carried by the following votes, a Resolution approving application for preliminary loan for Low-rent Public Housing was passed: B.E. Ball, J.B. Taggart, J.C. Holcomb, voting YEA; A.O. Umstead, Archie Woods, voting NAY.

WHEREAS, it is the policy of this locality to eliminate substandard and other inadequate housing, to prevent the spread of slums and blight, and to realize as soon as feasible the goal of a decent home in a suitable living environment for all of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, under the provisions of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended, the Public Housing Administration is authorized to provide financial assistance to local public housing agencies for undertaking and carrying out preliminary planning of low-rent housing projects that will assist in meeting this goal; and

WHEREAS, the Act provides that there shall be local determination of need for low-rent housing to meet needs not being adequately met by private enterprise and that the Public Housing Administration shall not make any contract with a public housing agency for preliminary loans for surveys and planning in respect to any low-rent housing projects unless the governing body of the locality involved has by resolution approved the application of the public housing agency for such preliminary loan; and

WHEREAS, the Norton Redevelopment and Housing Authority (herein called the "Local Authority") is a public housing agency and is applying to the Public Housing Administration for a preliminary loan to cover the costs of surveys and planning in connection with the development of low-rent housing;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Council of the City of Norton as follows:

1. There exists in the City of Norton a need for such low-rent housing at rents within the means of low-income families;
2. The application of the Local Authority to the Public Housing Administration for a preliminary loan in an amount not to exceed \$6200.00 for surveys and planning in connection with low-rent housing projects of not to exceed approximately 31 dwelling units is hereby approved.

Council requested that the City Manager arrange a meeting of the Commissioners of the Norton Redevelopment & Housing Authority and the Councilmen concerning operational cost of the Housing Authority.

#2369

Mr. Jester brought to council's attention the condition of certain retaining walls within the City. After a brief discussion council decided to discuss this matter further in an executive session.

#2370

Mr. Jester gave a brief report of flood damage within the City.

#2371


Mr. Jester advised council that the Small Business Administration was setting up a temporary office in Norton for making loans at 3%.


#2372

The financial report for eight month period was discussed in detail.

#2373

There being no further business before the council same adjourned.


Clerk


Mayor