

February 4, 1954

The regular meeting of the City Council was held in the Municipal Court Room on the above date at 7:30 P. M. with Mayor B. E. Ball presiding.

All members were present, together with Fred B. Greear, City Attorney and Ross F. Walker, City Manager.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. E. B. Petrey appeared asking reconsideration for the license tax on shoe shops. Council advised him that they would consider the matter and contact him at a later date. #265

On a motion by Fred H. King, Seconded by Sol Cury and carried unanimously the A. B. C. License for Off premise beer was granted J. U. Gillenwater. #266

On a motion by Sol Cury seconded by A. O. Umstead and carried unanimously the A. B. C. License for on-off premise beer was granted William B. Shepherd. #267

The taxi application by Anthony Anderson was tabled pending further investigation. #268

B. O. Howard appeared requesting the alley behind Krogers be made passable for garbage service. Mr. Howard was advised that the City Manager would take care of this matter as soon as possible. #269

On motion by Sol Cury seconded by A. O. Umstead and carried unanimously by roll call vote the enumerators for the city census were authorized payment as follows: #270

Those residing in the city, \$6.00 a day; those non-residents, \$3.00 a day; those residing in the city and working in the city, \$3.00 per day.

The City Manager presented a letter from W. B. Cohen regarding damages to his property adjoining the viaduct construction. The matter was referred to the City Attorney for handling. #271

Mr. W. P. Kanto appeared in behalf of the School Board requesting the City Council to pass a resolution requesting a separate school division for Norton. Upon a motion by Fred H. King, seconded by W. R. Hamner the following resolution was adopted: #272

WHEREAS, by an order duly entered by the Circuit Court for Wise County, Virginia, the Town of Norton was changed to A City of the Second Class as provided by law, and

WHEREAS, the School Board of the City of Norton has deemed it to the best interest of the City of Norton that the City of Norton be made, constituted, and declared a separate school division, and

WHEREAS, the School Board of the City of Norton duly passed a Resolution at its meeting held on Tuesday, February 2, 1954, that the State Board of Education of the Commonwealth of Virginia be petitioned to make, declare, and constitute the City of Norton a School Division, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Norton Virginia, endorses the action of the School Board of the City of Norton aboveNorton above set forth, and further prays and petitions the State Board of Education of the Commonwealth of Virginia to make, declare and constitute the City of Norton a school division.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meetin and that attested copies of same be delivered or sent to the School Board of the City of Norton, the School Board for Wise County, Virginia, and the State Board of Education of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Those voting "AYE": B. E. Ball, Mayor
 Fred H. King
 A. O. Umstead
 Sol Gury
 W. R. Hammer

Those voting "NAY": None

The Mayor declared the Resolution duly passed and adopted.

J. B. Taggart, chairman of the Water Study Committee, presented a preliminary report. #273

Upon motion by Fred H. King seconded by Sol Gury and carried unanimously the Water Study Committee report was accepted and the committee advised to continue their study and to present a final report within sixty days.

Upon a motion by Sol Gury seconded by Fred H. King and unanimously carried #274 Section 56 of the license tax code was amended to read as follows:

No. 56 Contractor, Builder, Etc.

Any person, firm or corporation accepting orders or contracts for doing work on or in any building or structure requiring the use of paint, stone, brick, mortar, wood, cement, structural iron or steel, sheet iron, galvanized iron, metallic piping, tin lead, electric wiring or othe metal or wall paper or any other building material; or who shall accept orders or contracts to do any scraping or sanding of floors by means of machinery designed for such purposes; or who shall accept orders or contracts to do any paving or curbing on sidewalks on streets public or private property, using asphalt, brick, stone cement wood or any composition; or shall accept an order for or contract to excavate earth, rock or othermaterial for foundations or any other purpose, or who shall accept an order or contract to construct any sewere or drain of stone, brick, terra cotta or any other material; or who shall accept orders or contracts to exterminate vermin, termites or other insects by poison, fumigation; or otherwies; shall be deemed a contractor.

Any person, firm or corporation being a contractor as hereinabove defined, and who is engaged in, or offers to engage in, shall pay a license tax of as follows:

If his gross orders or contracts are less than \$25,000	\$ 25.00
Over \$25,000 but not more than \$50,000	50.00
Over \$50,000 but not more than \$75,000	75.00
Over \$75,000 but not more than \$100,000	100.00
Over \$100,000 but not more than \$150,000	150.00
Over \$150,000	200.00

The license tax of every such contractor beginning business shall be measured in accordance with the foregoing scale by the gross amount of all orders or contracts which he had accepted before applying for the license, plus the gross amount of all orders or contracts which he estimates he will accept between the date of the issuance of his license and the 31st day of December following.

Any person who shall make a business of erecting or constructing houses for the purpose of selling or renting the same, and shall not employ therefor a contractor or person who shall act as superintendent who has paid the license tax required by law, shall pay a license tax as above provided for. No license required under this section shall be transferable or prorated.

If a bond is required no permit shall be issued until the same has been given as required by law or ordinance.

On motion by A. O. Umstead seconded by W. R. Hamner and carried unanimously the City Council set the first and third Thursdays of each month as regular meetings to be effective beginning the month of February. #275

Upon a motion by Fred H. King seconded by W. R. Hamner and carried unanimously the City Manager was authorized to purchase a wide carriage typewriter for the Commissioner of Revenue. #276

Upon a motion by Fred H. King, seconded by Sol Cury and carried unanimously the City Manager was authorized to sign the Civil Defense Mutual Aid Agreement. #277

The City Manager read a report on the hearing held in Richmond, January 27th by the Water Control Board regarding sewage treatment progress. #278

The City Manager brought to council's attention the numerous requests for certified copies of the minutes of council and requested that he be allowed to set a charge for such service. The matter was tabled pending further investigation by council. #279

The request for water service by C. N. Blair was tabled pending the contractual arrangements with Mr. Blair. #280

The City Manager presented a sketch of the proposed sign location and canopy design as presented by the architect. He was instructed to omit the canopy from further consideration and to have the sign placed on top of the existing canopy on the front of the building. #281

On a motion by Sol Cury seconded by W. R. Hamner and carried unanimously the following officers of the Volunteer Fire Department were approved: Emory Province, Chief; Earl Brown, Asst. Chief; S. E. Trinkle, Captain; P. C. Addison, Lt.; Kim Godwin, President; J. C. Brown, V. Pres.; Joe Fischer, Sec.; W. C. Necessary, Treasurer. #282

A discussion of capital improvements in the annexed areas was tabled pending further investigation and recommendations by the City Attorney. #283

On motion by Fred King seconded by W. R. Hamner and carried unanimously R. H. Fink was appointed Justice of Peace for the City of Norton. #284


On a motion by Fred H. King seconded by Sol Cury Ross F. Walker was appointed City Manager. #285

Mr. Hamner brought up the problem of unlicensed vehicles and derelicts being parked on public streets. The City Manager advised that until a suitable ordinance was drawn that he would attempt to keep them off the streets. #286

There being no further business the council adjourned.



Mayor



Clerk