

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, January 16, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers with Mayor Robert Raines presiding.

Present: Jack Wallace, Robert Raines, William Mays, and Joseph Fawbush

Absent: Joseph Hunnicutt

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

The invocation was given by the City Manager and was followed by the pledge of allegiance led by Police Chief Kenneth Jackson.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the organizational meeting of January 2, 2007 and the minutes of the January 2, 2007 regular meeting.

21545

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

21546

There was no response to the Mayor's call for visitors.

21547

Mr. Brian Blanton of Thrower, Blanton and Associates was present and, after distributing draft copies of the audit to Council, gave a brief presentation of the City's audit for the year ended June 30, 2006.

Council was advised that the City received an unqualified opinion, which means that it is a clean audit. He stated there were some areas with items of non-compliance in the Social Services Department; however, some of these are being corrected at the present time. He will meet with the City Manager and go over these items with him.

Following his presentation, Mr. Blanton thanked Mr. Ward and Mr. Shupe for their assistance during the audit process.

21548

Mayor Raines thanked Mr. Blanton and his associates for his presentation on the audit and advised Council members to contact Mr. Blanton, Mr. Ward, or Mr. Shupe if they have any questions regarding the audit.

Michele Knox, Parks and Recreation Director, gave a brief PowerPoint presentation to Council on the activities for her department for 2006.

She briefly reviewed the classes held at the Community Center. New classes added this year were the Ballroom Dancing Class and an Aerobics Class. Also discussed were the special events, environmental activities, and recycling efforts.

21549

In the Flag Rock Report, Ms. Knox advised that 434 sites were rented during the season.

Council was advised there were increased revenues in the areas of camping fees, pool passes, and pool parties.

Following her presentation, Ms. Knox answered questions from council members.

Mayor Raines thanked Ms. Knox for her presentation.

Mr. Ward advised that Mr. Winfred Collins, the City's Building Official, was present tonight to discuss with Council the proposed Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance.

Mr. Collins advised that the City of Norton entered into a Corrective Action Agreement with the Department of Conservation and Recreation due to the results of a May 27, 2005 review of the city's Erosion and Sedimentation Programs. Eight of the nine required corrective action citations have been corrected and the City has until March of this year to correct the one remaining citation. This citation is regarding the ordinance update. The entire ordinance has been updated from the definitions to the variance procedures.

He then briefly discussed with Council the major differences in the existing ordinance and the proposed ordinance.

Mr. Collins further advised that he and the City Administration are seeking Council's permission to submit this proposed ordinance to the Department of Conservation and Recreation for approval. Once approved by DCR, the ordinance will come back to Council for a final review and a scheduled public hearing.

21550

The City Attorney advised Council that they will need to decide whether the City will chose civil or criminal penalties for violations of this ordinance.

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to authorize the submittal of the proposed Soil and Erosion Ordinance to the Department of Conservation and Recreation for approval.

Mayor Raines thanked Mr. Collins for the work done on this ordinance.

Council had been presented with a copy of a Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreement. Mr. Ward advised that the City Attorney and Police Chief have been working on this agreement and both feel comfortable with its adoption. This had previously been discussed with Council.

The City Attorney advised that the agreement stipulates that assistance will be given if requested.

21551

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreement as presented.

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

21552

Mayor Raines declared Council in closed meeting.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to go back into open meeting.

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Mayor Raines 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 then read A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by the following unanimous vote: YES – Hunnicutt, Wallace, Mays, Fawbush,

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Raines, NO – None, ABSENT – None, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. (Insert)

Mayor Raines opened the floor for nominations to the Building Code Board of Appeals for a five year term to expire January 17, 2012.

Joseph Hunnicutt nominated Mike Ball to be reappointed to this Board.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved that the nominations cease.

21555

Mayor Raines declared Mike Ball reappointed to the Building Code Board of Appeals for a five year term which will expire January 12, 2012.

Mayor Raines opened the floor for nominations to the Norton Highway Safety Commission for two year terms which will expire on January 31, 2009.

William Mays nominated Randy Castle, Bruce Rose, Gary Call, and Linville Reed reappointed to this Commission.

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved that the nominations cease.

21556

Mayor Raines declared Randy Castle, Bruce Rose, Gary Call, and Linville Reed reappointed to the Norton Highway Safety Commission for two year terms which will expire on January 31, 2009.

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

The annual Capital Improvement Meeting has been tentatively scheduled for Friday, March 2, 2007 at 12:00 Noon at The Inn at Norton. He asked that council members check their calendars for this date.

21557

Mr. Ward advised that he had received a call from the Coordinator of the Assign-A-Highway Program and that he was very pleased with Norton's participation in this program. Since Norton is the first City in the Commonwealth to join this program, they would like for City Council to do a re-enactment of this portion of the City Council Meeting to be recorded for a compact disc being made to show throughout the State. The City Manager advised that, if Council was favorable of doing so, he could schedule this to be done before an upcoming council meeting.

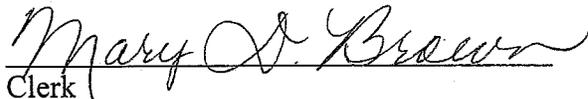
It was the concurrence of Council to participate in the making of this compact disc for the Assign-A-Highway Program and for the City Manager to schedule this prior to an upcoming meeting – possibly the next meeting, which will be February 6<sup>th</sup>.

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA

  
B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Clerk