

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

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

Also Present: E. W. Ward, City Manager

Absent: Joseph Fawbush and Bill Bradshaw, City Attorney

The invocation was given by the City Manager and was followed by the pledge of allegiance led by the City's Director of Finance, Jeff Shupe.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the July 17, 2007 meeting as presented.

21684

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

21685

Council had been presented with a copy of the 2007 Paving List. This document included a priority list and a list of other streets that are in need of paving.

Mr. Ward advised that the City has budgeted \$180,000 for this year's paving. This includes paving, patching, and the purchase of rock and stone. The City Administration wishes to proceed with soliciting bids on the priority list. Should any funds remain, they will be applied to some of the other streets listed.

21686

Following a brief discussion, it was the consensus of Council for the City Manager to proceed with securing paving bids.

In their packets, Council had A Resolution Approving the Planning District One Community Services Board Performance Contract.

The City Manager advised this Board works with mental health, alcohol, and drug abuse issues. The City's representative on this Board is Sarah Davis. The City's annual contribution is \$20,651. The City Administration is seeking Council's favorable consideration on this resolution.

21687

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by William Mays, and passed by the following unanimous vote: YES – Hunnicutt, Wallace, Mays, Raines, NO – None, ABSENT – Fawbush, Council moved to adopt A Resolution Approving the Planning District One Community Services Board Performance Contract. (Insert)

Mr. Ward advised Council that if, at any time, they would like to have a representative from any of these boards present at a Council Meeting to give a report to Council, he will be glad to advise them.

Council had been given a copy of A Resolution In Support of the Virginia Employment Commission Office in Norton in their packets.

Mr. Ward advised that this past spring the Director of the Virginia Employment Commission met in St. Paul. Several people spoke in support of keeping the office in Norton and also the one located in Richlands. Mr. Ward spoke on behalf of the City.

At this time, Councilman Hunnicutt advised that he would abstain from any discussion or vote on this topic.

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by William Mays, and passed by the following vote: YES – Wallace, Mays, Raines, NO – None, ABSENT – Fawbush, ABSTAIN – Hunnicutt, Council moved to adopt A Resolution in Support of the Virginia Employment Commission Office in Norton. (Insert)

21688

A Memorandum of Understanding with the Virginia Department of Emergency Management was presented to Council with a request to execute same.

The City Manager advised that this Memorandum of Understanding is between the Virginia Department of Emergency Management and the City and seeks to address the training, exercises, interoperability, and planning initiatives identified in the 2006 Homeland Security Grant Program awarded to the Commonwealth of Virginia on July 1, 2006.

21689

These funds will be used on a state or regional area rather than to an individual locality.

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to authorize the City Manger to execute A Memorandum of Understanding between the Virginia Department of Emergency Management and the City of Norton. (Insert)

In their packets, Council had a copy of a check made payable to the Norton City Schools in the amount of \$\$275,000 for approval.

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a check in the amount of \$275,000 made payable to the Norton City Schools.

21690

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to go into closed meeting to discuss personnel as per Section 2.2-3711(A) (1) of the Code of Virginia, as amended.

21691

Mayor Raines declared Council in closed meeting.

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

21692

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 read a Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by the following unanimous vote: YES – Hunnicutt, Wallace, Mays, Raines, NO – None – ABSENT – Fawbush, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. (Insert)

21693

Mayor Raines opened the floor for nominations to the City of Norton Planning Commission.

Joseph Hunnicutt nominated Virginia Stokes and John Litton to be reappointed to four year terms which will expire July 31, 2011.

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

21694

Mayor Raines declared Virginia Stokes and John Litton reappointed to the City of Norton Planning Commission for four year terms which will expire on July 31, 2011.

In comments from the City Manager, Mr. Ward advised that he had been having meetings with the City auditors and attended a seminar and it appears that the audit regulations are becoming much more stringent. Unfortunately, it appears that the audit is going to cost more money.

21695

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

CITY OF NORTON VIRGINIA


B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:


Clerk