

August 18, 1959

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.

Present: B. E. Ball, Sol Cury and W. R. Hammer
Absent: Fred King, F. W. Glass

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

A group of employees of the Interstate Railroad, with Town Manager #1528 John Fletcher of Appalachia as spokesman appeared before council requesting that the City Council pass a resolution requesting the Interstate Commerce Commission to hold hearings in Wise County relative to transfer or sale of Interstate Railroad to any other railroad.

On motion by Sol Cury, seconded by W. R. Hammer and carried by unanimous roll call vote, the following resolution was adopted:

THAT WHEREAS the Southern Railway Company has filed an application in Finance Docket Number 20675 "Southern Railway Company - Merger - Interstate Railroad Company", and WHEREAS the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company has filed an application in Finance Docket Number 20763 "Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company - Merger - Interstate Railroad Company"; and

WHEREAS many citizens of the City of Norton and of Wise County are deeply interested in these proposed mergers, and WHEREAS the distance from Wise County, Virginia, to Washington, D. C. is approximately four hundred miles,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Interstate Commerce Commission be, and it is hereby, requested to hold hearings in Norton, Virginia, with reference to the application of the Southern Railway Company and the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company to merge with the Interstate Railroad Company;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting, and a copy of same be mailed to the Interstate Commerce Commission, Washington, D. C. and to the interested railroad companies.

Mr. Monroe Parker presented his final recreation program report. Council #1529 expressed their appreciation of the fine recreation program of this summer.

Mr. Frank Nard appeared before council regarding parking lot for taxi #1530 stand on his property on Park Avenue. Council advised Mr. Nard that there was no objection to the use of the lot for taxi stand but that the back entrance had to be used and that there could be no crossing of cabs across the sidewalk on to Park Avenue.

A group of citizens from the Josephine area appeared before council #1510 P187 regarding their request for water extension to their properties.

On motion by Sol Cury, seconded by W. R. Hammer and carried by unanimous roll call vote, the City Manager was authorized to present the following proposal to furnish city water to the Josephine Area with the following stipulations:

- (1) Minimum of 30 connections at \$150.00 cash per connection.
- (2) With established outside city water rate of \$2.40 minimum to be paid by each customer.

Mr. Norton and Mr. Thrower reported on their meeting with the County Board of Supervisors regarding County-City Debt Fund. #1531

On motion by Sol Cury, seconded by W. R. Hamner and carried by unanimous roll call vote, the following resolution was passed:

THAT WHEREAS there are settlements to be made by the City of Norton and Wise County, and the City of Norton and the Gladeville Magisterial District with reference to bonded indebtedness which was incurred prior to the date on which Norton became a city of the second class, and in making said settlement, it is necessary to ascertain the percentage of said outstanding obligations which the City of Norton should assume:

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and in conformity with a report made by the auditor, BE IT RESOLVED that in all transactions by the City of Norton and Wise County, and the City of Norton and the Gladeville Magisterial District the percentage of outstanding obligations to be paid by the City of Norton shall be, as to Wise County, thirteen and five-tenths (13.5%) per centum, and as to the Gladeville Magisterial District, thirty-nine (39%) per centum.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting.

The City Manager presented Mr. Charles Tulloh of the League of Virginia Municipalities. Mr. Tulloh expressed the League's appreciation of the City of Norton's membership and participation in League activities. #1532

Mr. Norton reported briefly on insurance coverage of city equipment. Council instructed Mr. Norton to investigate further and report back to council. #1533

Mr. Norton read a letter from the Department of Highways regarding improvement of Highway #58 near the Coke Ovens. #1534

Mr. Norton advised council that the area around the new dam should be fenced, posted and landscaped. Also that a new gate to the filter plant should be installed. After a brief discussion council agreed that it would be advisable to have this done. #1535

Mr. Norton advised council that Benges Rock was in the corporate limits of the City. A brief discussion was held on the beautifying of grounds around Benges Rock. #1536

Mr. Norton presented request from citizens in Area North of Old Norton Coal Company Machine Shop. Council agreed to make this water extension to this area. #1537

Mr. Norton presented a request for street light to be installed on 8th Street, N. E., behind the Ashland Service station, and recommended that this be installed. #1538

On motion by W. R. Hamner, seconded by Sol Cury and carried by unanimous roll call vote, council instructed Mr. Norton to have street light installed on 8th Street, N. E.

Mr. Norton presented Welfare Budget for 1960-62.

#1539

On motion by Sol Cury, seconded by W. R. Hamner and carried by unanimous roll call vote, the Tentative Budget for the Welfare Department for 1960-62 was passed.

The City Manager presented a list of the water customers outside the City Limits. After a brief discussion and on motion by W. R. Hamner, seconded by Sol Cury and carried by unanimous roll call vote, council voted that the rates for water outside city limits be 50% higher than the rates inside, effective on October 1st bills.

#1540

On motion by W. R. Hamner, seconded by Sol Cury and carried by unanimous roll call vote, the following resolution in conjunction with new location for U. S. Highway 23 was passed:

#1541

THAT WHEREAS the City of Norton, in conjunction with the Virginia Dept. of Highways and the Federal Bureau of Roads, plans the extension of Park Avenue west from Twelfth Street in said city as a new location for U. S. Highway 23; and,


WHEREAS, it is necessary to obtain several parcels of land to be used as right of way for said street and highway; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Norton, through its representatives, has been unable to agree upon a price for the acquisition of lands needed for said right of way, which lands belong to the following named individuals and are designated by the parcel number set opposite each in the records of the said Highway Commission of the State of Virginia, to-wit:

Parcel No. 009 - Trula H. Short & N. B. Short
 Parcel No. 018 - John Graham and Marvin Graham
 Parcel No. 019 - Robert A. Peters
 Parcel No. 024 - Carrie M. Jones
 Parcel No. 025 - O. E. Mullins
 Parcel No. 026 - John W. Lovelace
 Parcel No. 027 - E. A. Swindall & Virgie Swindall
 Parcel No. 029 - S. L. Meador, Gladys Meador and Irene Meador.

NOW, THEREFORE, IN consideration of the premises, the City Attorney of the City of Norton is hereby directed to file petitions for condemnation against the above listed property owners for the respective lands and interest in lands needed for the right of way for said street and highway, and the City Manager is authorized to execute such petitions in behalf of the City.

There being no further business before the council same adjourned.


 Clerk


 Mayor