

A special called Council Meeting was held with the City of Norton School Board on Thursday, March 29, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Council Chambers with Mayor William Mays presiding.

Present: Mark Caruso, Joseph Hunnicutt, William Mays, Joseph Fawbush, and Terry Roop

Also Present: E. W. Ward, City Manager

The pledge of allegiance was led by Police Chief James Lane.

Those present were advised that the purpose of this meeting is to consider a resolution which supports the general concept of a plan of consolidation. This resolution would authorize both superintendents and both managers to continue discussions and to secure legal counsel to help with this concept. This resolution must be adopted by all four governing bodies.

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Prior to the audience for visitors, Mayor Mays advised that due to the amount of people present, those wishing to speak should keep their comments to five minutes. Those speaking on the topic of school consolidation during this time were: Dr. Jeff Begley, Deborah Lawson, Billie Ann Harris, Kim Hunnicutt, Tracy Gilliam, Dennis Scalf, Amanda Jones, Jodi Spriggs, Phyllis Price Goode, Pat Robbins, Missy Thacker, Dr. Shamiyeh, Niko Godsey, Sharon Jones, Colleen Gilliam, Tracy Maggard, Brooklyn Barnette, Gerald Lawson, Donnie Branham, Melissa Begley, Mark Leonard, Kevin Adams, Sherry Adams, Cheyenne Shepherd, Roy Roberts, Matthew Gilliam, Mike Godsey, and Chris Short.

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There being no further speakers, Mayor Mays closed the audience for visitors.

At this time, Norton City School Board Chairman, Ron McCall, advised that Mr. Ward has put together information on the financing aspect of this topic and if anyone on either of the Boards has any questions for him, please ask them now.

25341

There were no questions from either Board for Mr. Ward.

The School Board Chairman, Mr. McCall, advised that both boards have resolutions to consider.

Councilman Hunnicutt and Councilman Caruso both spoke at this time. Councilman Caruso, for reasons he stated, cannot support this resolution.

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Following the School Board's vote on this resolution, which failed by a vote of 2-3 against, Mayor Mays opened the floor for a motion on the City's Resolution to Support the General Concepts of a Plan of School Consolidation Between Wise County and the City of Norton.

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Upon a motion by Councilman Hunnicutt, seconded by Councilman Fawbush, and passed by the following roll call vote: YES – Hunnicutt, Fawbush, Mays, NO – Caruso, Roop (who stated his reasons for his vote prior to casting same), Council moved to adopt A Resolution to Support the General Concepts of a Plan of School Consolidation

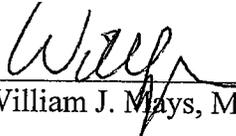
Between Wise County and the City of Norton. (Councilman Roop advised the Clerk the morning after the meeting that he had his Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form at the meeting; however, he failed to give same to her but will do so promptly).

Following both votes, Chairman McCall advised that, due to the resolution not being adopted by the City of Norton School Board, the talks regarding consolidation with Wise County will end.

25344

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA



William J. Mays, Mayor

ATTEST:



Clerk