

A special called meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, April 23, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor William Mays presiding.

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

Absent: Joseph Hunnicutt

Also Present: Fred L. Ramey, Jr., City Manager and Bill Bradshaw, City Attorney

The invocation was given by Rev. Ken Taylor and was followed by the pledge of allegiance led by Dr. Jeff Comer, Superintendent of the Norton City Schools.

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

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Mr. Ramey advised that Council, at its last meeting, had been presented with information regarding a new project for the City of Norton School Board for a Performance Based Energy Efficiency Upgrades to J. I. Burton High School and Norton Elementary & Middle School. Following a discussion, Council authorized the City Attorney to draft a Memorandum of Understanding between City Council and the School Board. A draft copy of this Memorandum of Understanding was included in Council's packet for their consideration and discussion at this meeting.

Regarding how the debt would be handled, the City Manager advised he had discussed this with our auditors and this should not have much affect on the City as long as no collateral is included in the financing agreement.

Mr. Ramey advised the Memorandum of Understanding stipulates that Siemens Corporation guarantees an energy cost savings of at least \$84,763.00 annually. The total cost for this project is \$3,065,000 to fully implement and perform the contract. Mr. Ramey then gave a brief synopsis of this Memorandum of Understanding and advised a copy had been sent to Dr. Comer for discussion with the School Board at their meeting held on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. No action was taken by the School Board and no changes were recommended except for a couple of minor clarifications from Siemens.

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The City Attorney briefly discussed this MOU with Council and advised that it gives them a chance to get an annual report on the amount of savings being made. He further advised that the contract shall not be substantially modified or amended except wit prior written approval of the City Manager.

In comments from Council, Councilman Caruso stated the MOU was simple and straight forward and he appreciated that. Councilman Roop, a member of the Selection Committee for the School Board, stated that this project is very important and he hopes it will go forward and advised they were able to reduce approximately \$173,000 from Siemens' proposal.

During Councilman Roop's statement, Councilman Hunnicutt took his seat on Council.

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Mayor Mays stated it was a good idea to have a Memorandum of Understanding as it protects both sides.

Councilman Fawbush asked Dr. Comer for a clarification on the financing and was advised that several local banks are interested.

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilman Fawbush, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to adopt a Memorandum of Understanding between the Norton City Council and the City of Norton School Board. (Insert – Councilman Roop’s Disclosure Form)

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In their packets, Council had been provided a copy of a transfer to the Norton City Schools in the amount of \$142,509.65 for reimbursement on the roof replacement at J. I. Burton High School.

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Councilman Fawbush asked if this project was completed. Dr. Comer advised that the project was nearly completed.

Upon a motion by Councilman Hunnicutt, seconded by Councilman Caruso, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a transfer in the amount of \$142,509.65 to the Norton City Schools for reimbursement on the roof project a J. I. Burton High School.

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

The planned water outage in the northeastern portion of the City on Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. went well. The water was turned back on at 6:15 a.m.

A Prescription Drug Take Back Day is planned for Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, with the Norton Police Department being a co-sponsor of the event.

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The Norton City Schools will be presenting their budget at the May 7<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting.

There were no comments from the City Attorney.

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In comments from Council, Councilman Caruso asked for clarification on some C-N-W information that was included in their packets. The City Manager and Councilman Fawbush answered his questions as to an I/I situation and the upcoming expansion on the project.

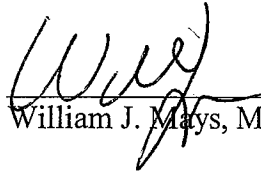
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Councilman Roop extended his appreciation to City employee, Lonzo Williams, who will be retiring at the end of the month. He advised Mr. Williams has a wealth of knowledge and expertise and he wishes him the best in his retirement.

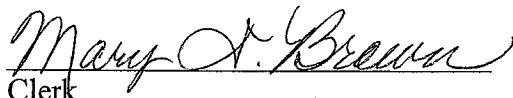
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There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned. Following a five minute break, Council will go into a Budget Work Session.

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA

  
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William J. Mays, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Clerk