

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, September 19, 2006 at 7:30 in the Municipal Council Chambers with Mayor Robert Raines presiding.

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

Absent: Joseph Fawbush

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

Mayor Raines advised that Councilman Fawbush was attending a continuing education class in Roanoke and was unable to attend this evening's meeting.

The invocation was given by Rev. John Ellington and was followed by the pledge of allegiance led by the Superintendent of the Norton City Schools, Dr. Lee Brannon.

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the September 5, 2006 meeting as presented. 21453

At this time, Mayor Raines amended the agenda under New Business Item 7-D. This item is to be Closed Meeting for the purpose of consultation with legal counsel pertaining to probable litigation as per Section No. 2.2-3711 (A) (7) of the Code of Virginia, as amended. 21454

There was no response to the Mayor's call for visitors. 21455

A public hearing was held regarding the proposed issuance of General Obligation Bonds in an amount not to exceed \$1,350,000 for the 11<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge Project.

Mr. Ward gave Council a brief update on this project and advised that no action needs to be taken by Council following the public hearing. The public hearing is required for the issuance of these bonds in order to solicit public comments.

Mr. Ward advised Council that the next item on the agenda was the adoption of a resolution approving the issuance and sale of General Obligation Bonds for the 11<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge Project. The entity financing this project is the Virginia Municipal League Virginia Association of Counties Project. The amount of these bonds is not to exceed \$1,350,000. One half of this amount, \$666,373, has been awarded to the City by the Virginia Department of Transportation and this will be applied to the debt, leaving a balance of \$666,373 which will be paid by the City beginning December of 2007 in annual payments of \$175,000 per year for four (4) years. 21456

There were no comments or questions from Council prior to the public hearing.

Mayor Raines opened the public hearing.

There being no public input, Mayor Raines closed the public hearing.

Council had been presented with A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Norton, Virginia approving the Issuance and Sale of the City of Norton, Virginia, General Obligation Public Improvement Note, Series 2006, in the Maximum Principal Amount of

Up to \$1,350,000, and the Execution and Delivery of Certain Documents Prepared in Connection Therewith.

Mayor Raines advised this resolution was for a short term debt of four years to cover the cost of repairs to the 11<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge.

The City Attorney advised that he had talked with bond counsel and that the documents are in proper order to be signed by the City.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, and passed by the following unanimous roll call vote: YES – Hunnicutt, Wallace, Mays, Raines, NO – None, ABSENT – Fawbush, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Norton, Virginia Approving the Issuance and Sale of the City of Norton, Virginia General Obligation Public Improvement Note, Series 2006, in the Maximum Principal Amount of Up To \$1,350,000, and the Execution and Delivery of Certain Documents Prepared in Connection Therewith. (Insert)

Present tonight was Dr. Lee Brannon, Superintendent of the Norton City Schools, and several members of the School Board and faculty. Dr. Brannon spoke briefly regarding the School Board's request for renovations to the John I. Burton Football Stadium and Press Box.

Dr. Brannon had presented Council members with handouts prior to the meeting and gave a brief summary of this project. He advised this facility was built in 1950 and last renovated in 1989. He further advised that sections of the seating area are blocked off for safety purposes and that the stadium had to be shored up this year. Following the feasibility studies that have been conducted in the past, it is the recommendation of the School Board that this facility be demolished and a new structure and press box constructed. The total cost of this funding request is \$848,000.

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Dr. Brannon answered questions from members of Council.

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$75,000 for the engineering and design services on the John I. Burton Stadium Structure/Press Box Project. These funds will come from Unappropriated Reserves.

Mayor Raines thanked Dr. Brannon for his presentation.

The City Manager gave Council an update on the Laurel Trails Housing Subdivision Project.

Mr. Ward advised that Horizon Land and Homes has purchased two lots. One has a model home on it and a spec home is being constructed on the second lot. They have also expressed interest in purchasing a third lot for a spec home. The Norton Redevelopment and Housing Authority also plans to purchase a lot and build a spec home on it. Four families have been approved to purchase lots and build homes with 22 applications pending.

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The City has completed a marketing brochure in-house on the subdivision and street signage has been installed in the subdivision. An entrance sign will be installed once a layout and location has been selected.

Mr. Ward advised that he will keep Council updated on the progress of this project.

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to go into closed meeting for consultation with legal counsel pertaining to probable litigation as per Section 2.2-3711 (A) (7) of the Code of Virginia, as amended. 21459

Mayor Raines declared Council in closed meeting.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to go back into open meeting. 21460

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.

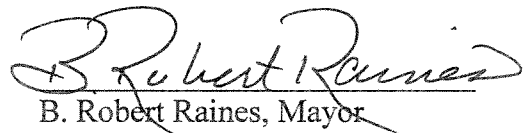
The Clerk then read A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by the following unanimous vote: YES – Hunnicutt, Wallace, Mays, Raines, NO – None, ABSENT – Fawbush, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. (Insert) 21461

In comments from the City Manager, Mr. Ward advised that Council members had been presented with a copy of the City's current budget document and it should be a very helpful document. 21462

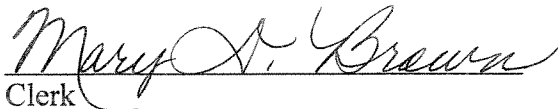
There were no comments from the City Attorney. 21463

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA

  
B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Clerk