

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, June 7, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. at the Hotel Norton with Mayor Robert Raines presiding.

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

Absent: Joseph Hunnicutt

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

The invocation was given by Rev. John Ellington and was followed by the pledge of allegiance, which was led by the Assistant City Manager, Fred Ramey.

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the May 17, 2005 meeting as presented.

21084

During the Mayor's call for visitors, Stan Wilson, Athletic Director of J. I. Burton High School was present and spoke briefly with Council regarding the tennis team's participation in the State Tennis Tournament this week-end. He asked Council to help defray the cost of expenses that will be incurred.

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to appropriate \$2,500 to help defray the cost of the tennis team's trip to the State Tennis Tournament with said funds to come from Contingency.

21085

Mayor Raines extended Council's best wishes to the tennis team.

Council had been presented with An Ordinance Amending the City's Sign Ordinance to allow Electronic Message Boards.

This item covered a request from Southwest Insurance Agency who wishes to put up a digital electronic sign at their location on 11<sup>th</sup> Street across from the high school. Council tabled this request at the last meeting and the City Manager was asked to forward this request to the Highway Safety Commission to get their input.

The City Manager advised that the Highway Safety Commission had met last week and their decision was to approve this request due to the fact that traffic is not moving fast at this location and with the condition that the sign can be removed if it should constitute a safety hazard.

21086

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved that the City Manager advertise a public hearing on the amending of the City Sign Ordinance for the Inclusion of Electronic Message Boards.

Council had been presented with An Ordinance Adopting the Budget for the City of Norton, Virginia for the Fiscal Year of July 1, 2005 Thru June 30, 2006 Appropriating Funds for all Contemplated Expenses of the City for the Fiscal Year and Placing Levies Upon all Real Estate, Personal Property and Bank Stock, Licenses, Fees, User Charges, and All Other Levies as Previously Imposed or Modified Herein.

Mayor Raines gave a brief synopsis on the budget and upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by the following unanimous roll call vote: YES – Wallace, Mays, Fawbush, Raines, NO – None, ABSENT – Hunnicutt, Council moved to adopt An Ordinance Adopting the Budget for the City of Norton, Virginia for the Fiscal Year of July 1, 2005 Thru June 30, 2006 Appropriating Funds for all Contemplated Expenses of the City for the Fiscal Year and Placing Levies Upon All Real Estate, Personal Property and Bank Stock, Licenses, Fees, User Charges, and All Other Levies as Previously Imposed or Modified Herein. (Insert)

21087

Council had a request from Dr. John Sessoms, Superintendent of the Norton City Schools to amend their 2004-2005 budget in the total amount of \$68,641.98.

Dr. Sessoms was present and advised that this request covers \$10,561.98 in E-Rate funds and the remaining \$58,080 is an increase in Reading First Grand Funds.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to amend the 2004-2005 budget of the Norton City Schools in the amount of \$68,641.98.

21088

Council had in their packets A Resolution Authorizing the City to Participate in the VDOT Revenue Sharing Program and to Request funds for the 11<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge Project.

Mayor Raines advised that he and the City Manager had met with Mr. Mark White of VDOT's Richmond office regarding the securing of funds to cover this bridge project. It was determined that the best alternative would be to do all repairs at one time at an estimated cost of \$1.4 million dollars.

210

Mr. Ward advised that VDOT has a new program, the Revenue Sharing Program, being offered to towns and cities and up to one million dollars can be funded. This program is a dollar to dollar match program. The City has already asked VDOT to reallocate the funds, approximately \$500,000, from the Tipple Hill Project to this project. Mr. Ward further advised this program is on a pro-rata basis for whoever applies; therefore the City can submit a request for one million dollars, but could get less. Also matching funds need to be available at the time these funds are awarded.

Mattern and Craig, the engineering firm who does the City's bridge inspections, has advised that there is no problem with the repairs waiting until spring of 2006 to be done. They also advised that the bridge will not have to be closed as the repairs are to be made underneath the bridge.

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by the following unanimous roll call : YES – Wallace, Mays, Fawbush, Raines, NO – None, ABSENT – Hunnicutt, Council moved to adopt A Resolution Authorizing the City to Participate in the VDOT Revenue Sharing Program and to request funds for the 11<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge Project. (Insert)

Council had a request to approve a check made payable to the Norton City Schools for \$200,000.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a check in the amount of \$200,000 made payable to the Norton City Schools.

21000

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by William Mays, 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.

21091

Mayor Raines declared Council in closed meeting.

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

21092

Mayor Raines declared Council back in open meeting.

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

21093

Mayor Raines opened the floor for nominations to the Youth Services Board for four year terms, which will expire on May 2, 2009.

Joseph Fawbush nominated Stan Wilson reappointed as the Agency Representative and Christine Bolling as an additional Student Representative.

21094

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

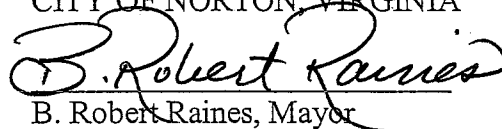
Mayor Raines declared Stan Wilson reappointed as the Agency Representative and Christine Bolling appointed as an additional Student Representative to the Youth Services Board for four year terms which will expire on May 2, 2009.

In comments from the City Manager, Mr. Ward advised that the Best Friend Festival will start this Saturday and run through June 18<sup>th</sup>. The kick-off will be the Kids Fishing Day to be held at the Norton Reservoir Saturday morning from 8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

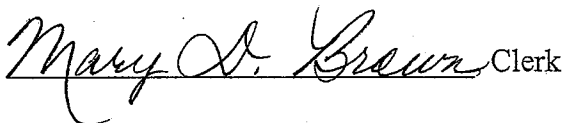
21095

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA

  
B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:

 Clerk