

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, August 16, 2005 at 7:30 at the Council Chambers 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

Mayor Raines advised that council meetings for the past two months had been held at the Hotel Norton due to the renovations of Council Chambers. Mayor Raines advised it was good to be back in chambers.

21128

Mayor Raines also recognized newly appointed Police Chief Kenny Jackson to the audience and Chief Jackson was given a round of applause by those present.

The invocation was given by Rev. John Ellington and was followed by the pledge of allegiance, which was led by Ron McCall, Chairman of the Norton City School Board.

21129

During the Audience for Visitors, Bill and Nancy Jones, representing Appalachian Traditions, Incorporated spoke briefly to Council regarding the 38th annual Dock Boggs Festival. Mr. Jones asked Council for a donation on behalf of their organization in order that they may again sponsor this festival.

21130

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a \$1,000 donation to the Appalachian Traditions with said funds to come from Contingency.

Mr. Ron McCall, Chairman of the Norton City School Board, spoke briefly to Council inviting them to attend the dedication of the new cafeteria at Norton Elementary School on Wednesday, August 17, 2005.

Mr. McCall also wanted to thank the City Administration and Council for the use of Fred Ramey's services on the parking lot and sidewalk project at J. I. Burton High School. The project turned out to be a little more than expected and he stated that Mr. Ramey had done a valuable job for the School Board and they were very appreciative.

21131

The City Manager also advised Council that the City had used some of their sidewalk funds to help with this project.

Mayor Raines advised that this area is a main entrance to the City and a very impressionable area and that the work is well deserved.

The City Manager gave Council an update on the Upper Reservoir Dam Project. He advised that the material that needed to be submitted by August 10th to the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation had been sent. He further advised that the City had advertised for professional services on the Alteration Permit Application which is due by January 15, 2006 for spillway improvements. He also stated that the Administration had requested to extend the date on this submission. The City would like to submit 60% of the plans and specifications by January 15, 2006 and final design by March 1, 2006.

In his update, Mr. Ward discussed briefly with Council the options available for the upper dam and their approximate costs. These are the use of roller compacted concrete on the existing dam or to raise the dam five feet with roller compacted concrete application.

21132

In his powerpoint presentation, Mr. Ward gave a proposed project schedule which should be completed by August 1, 2008.

The City Manager advised that the bids for professional services on this project will be opened on August 19, 2005. Negotiations and the awarding of a contract should be done by September 1, 2005.

Following a brief discussion, Mayor Raines thanked Mr. Ward for this update.

Mr. Ward presented Council with an update on the proposed Grease Control Program for the City. He advised that the City is going to try to educate the public as to the program and to the problems that the City has incurred. Letters have already been sent to the establishments within the City covering this. Letters will be sent to those in the county who discharge into our sewer system shortly. The City Administration feels that the solution to this problem will be by an enforcement and inspection program. He further advised that our current Sewer Use Ordinance, which was adopted in 1990, gives us the authority to regulate grease coming into the City's system.

21133

The City Manager advised that Winfred Collins, Assistant Building Official, is currently working on a Comprehensive Grease Control Policy to which customers will have to adhere.

The City Attorney advised that the current Sewer Use Ordinance gives the City the authority to enforce this ordinance inside and outside the City to those users connected to the sewer system.

Following a brief discussion on this presentation, Mayor Raines thanked Mr. Collins for his work on this project.

Council had been given a copy of A Resolution Supporting a Fee Increase for the Medical Examiner. Mr. Ward advised that the former medical examiner for the City had resigned due to being paid insufficient funds on a per case basis. This resolution states that the City will increase the fee paid to Dr. Maurice Nida by \$100.00 per case for a total of \$150.00 per case for the remainder of this fiscal year. Furthermore, the City requests that our legislative delegation request that the Commonwealth also increase this fee to \$150.00 per case.

21134

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by William Mays, and passed by the following unanimous roll call vote: YES – Wallace, Mays, Fawbush, Raines, NO – None, ABSENT – Hunnicutt, Council moved to adopt A Resolution Supporting a Fee Increase for the Medical Examiner. (Insert)

Before announcing the next item on the agenda, Vice Mayor Mays advised that he would abstain from any discussion or vote on this resolution.

Council had been presented with A Resolution Supporting Emergystat Ambulance Service. Mr. Ward advised that EMS regulations state that anytime an ambulance provider is to get licensure, they must have the approval of the local governing authority.

21135

This company has changed ownership from a privately held corporation to a publicly owned corporation.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by the following unanimous vote: YES – Wallace, Fawbush, Raines, NO – None, ABSENT – Hunnicutt, ABSTAIN – Mays, Council moved to adopt A Resolution Supporting Emergystat Ambulance Service. (Insert)

Council had a request for one water and one sewer tap for Rick and Debra McArthur at 4802 Kentucky Avenue, S. W., which is located in the county.

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to approve one water and one sewer tap for Rick and Debra McArthur at 4802 Kentucky Ave., S. W.

21136

Council had copies of two checks to be approved. The first of these checks was to the Norton City School Board in the amount of \$242,462.93 and the second was to Little Henry's Excavating & Paving in the amount of \$196,751.89.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to approve a check made payable to the Norton City School Board in the amount of \$242,462.93 and one made payable to Little Henry's Excavating & Paving in the amount of \$196,751.89.

21137

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to go into closed meeting to discuss personnel as per Section No. 2.2-3711 (A) (1) of the Code of Virginia, as amended.

Mayor Raines declared Council in closed meeting.

21138

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

Mayor Raines declared Council back in open meeting.

21139

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 William Mays, seconded by Jack Wallace, 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)

21140

Mayor Raines opened the floor for nominations to the City of Norton Planning Commission for a four year term which will expire on July 31, 2009.

William Mays nominated Mr. T. J. Flanary to be reappointed to this Commission.

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

Mayor Raines declared Mr. T. J. Flanary reappointed to the City of Norton Planning Commission for a four year term which will expire on July 31, 2009.

21141

Mayor Raines opened the floor for nominations to the Community Corrections Board for a two year term which will expire on June 30, 2007.

Joseph Fawbush nominated Mr. Kenny Jackson to be appointed to this Board.

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

Mayor Raines declared Mr. Kenny Jackson appointed to the Community Corrections Board for a two year term which will expire on June 30, 2007.

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

Walmart will be having a grand opening on August 24, 2005 at 7:00 a.m. and a Special Preview Opening on August 22, 2005 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Council members have received invitations and are encouraged to attend.

Chairman of the Norton City School Board Ron McCall tonight had issued an invitation to the Council to attend the ribbon cutting for the new cafeteria at Norton Elementary School on Wednesday evening, August 18th.

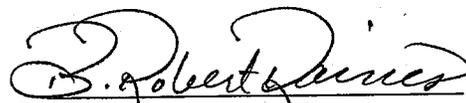
Due to Captain Jackson's promotion to Police Chief, there have been three additional promotions in the Police Department. These are Assistant Chief Dennis Brummette, Lieutenant Randy Mullins, and Sergeant James Lane. This leaves an opening for another officer and the City will soon be hiring for that position.

In comments from the City Attorney, Mr. Bradshaw advised that he had applied to the Circuit Court for the appointments to the Board of Zoning Appeals. He has been advised by the Clerk that this order has been signed; however he has not received the documentation on this yet. He will forward this to Mr. Ward upon receipt.

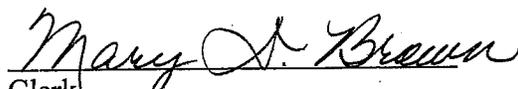
Mayor Raines, on behalf of City Council, extended his thanks to the City Staff and Ball Construction for the remodeling of Council Chambers.

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA


B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:


Clerk