

## AGENDA

Norton City Council

October 20, 2015

6:00 P.M.

1. Roll Call
2. Invocation – Rev. Freddie Powers
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Approval of Minutes
  1. Meeting of October 6, 2015
5. Audience for Visitors
6. Information Session to Consider VDOT MAP-21 Application for Funding.
7. New Business
  - A. Appointment of the Working Officers of the Norton Fire Department.
  - B. Request from the Norton City Schools for a Supplemental Local Appropriation to Participate in the 2015 School Security Grant.
  - C. Update on the Proposed Utility Vehicle Ordinance.
  - D. Submission of an Ornament for the Executive Mansion Holiday Tree.
  - E. Resolution Recognizing October as Disability Awareness Month and Celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

- F. Confirmation of a Check(s)/Transfer(s) in Excess of \$100,000.
- 8. Comments by the City Manager, City Attorney, and City Council.
- 9. Adjournment.

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, October 6, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Council Chambers with Mayor William Mays presiding.

Present: Mark Caruso, Robert Fultz, Jr., William Mays, Joseph Fawbush and Dee Belcher

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

The invocation was given by Reverend Roger Sloce and was followed by the pledge of allegiance led by Police Chief James Lane.

Upon a motion by Councilman Fawbush, seconded by Councilwoman Belcher, and passed by the following vote: YES – Caruso, Fultz, Fawbush, Belcher, Mays, NO – None, ABSENT – None. Council moved to adopt the minutes of the September 15, 2015 meeting as presented.

During the Mayor's call for visitors, Mr. Charles Slemple, candidate for Commonwealth Attorney for Wise County and the City of Norton spoke briefly and thanked Council for their service to the City of Norton. He stated he hopes to be able to work with the City in the future to make the court system work better and in the City of Norton.

Mr. Chris Jones, owner of Vic's Decorating came forward and advised Council he had several items to discuss. First, he had his first meeting with the Heart of Appalachia Tourism (HOA) Authority and it was unique to see what is going on throughout the region. He advised Council the Woodbooger was the most popular exhibit at the Southwest Virginia Outdoor Expo held at Heartwood. Also Heart of Appalachia advised bicycling has surpassed golf as the most popular outdoor activity and they think City of Norton could become the cycling hub for Southwest Virginia.

Secondly, he attended last month's council meeting to discuss the economy downtown. At that meeting, Council encouraged anyone who had ideas for economic development to share their ideas with Council. Chris advised as a result, a committee was formed which consists of 35 individuals. This group has evolved into an Internet "Think Tank" and is comprised of two City Councilman, City Manager, business leaders, and community members. This group initially met in Council Chambers and came up with ideas to share with City Council and he was here tonight to give Council their suggestions. He presented Council the group's ideas and stated the group wants to know if the City has a program to help current business owners, a program to promote downtown businesses, and a program to help individuals who are interested in opening a business downtown. The group also wanted to know if the City could develop an incentive program to entice people downtown. After sharing the rest of the group's ideas Mr. Jones asked if Council had any questions.

Mayor Mays thanked Chris and closed the audience for visitors.

In their packets, Council had been furnished information on proposed amendments to the City's Zoning Ordinance. Mr. Ramey advised Mr. Collins, City Building Official, was present tonight to share updates with Council if needed.

Mayor Mays asked Council if they had any questions.

Mr. Bradshaw advised Council most of the changes were procedural and designed to bring the City's Zoning Ordinance into compliance with state law. He also stated Mr. Collins had done a fantastic job updating this section of City Code.

After a brief discussion, and upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilwoman Belcher, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to refer the Proposed Zoning Amendments to the Planning Commission with the recommendation to include the City's Lost Creek property into R-CR zone.

Included in Council's packets was a Proposed Utility Vehicle Ordinance. Mr. Ramey advised Mr. Larry Carter had provided him with the data on his utility vehicle and he had forwarded the information to Mr. Bradshaw for further research.

Mr. Bradshaw advised Council after receiving the information and doing further research he was able to eliminate the horsepower limitation, provide for more utility vehicle crossings by allowing use of intersections on roads with a traffic signal and a speed limit of 35 mph or less, and the larger insurance requirement Mr. Caruso was concerned about has been changed to reflect that operators carry at least the state minimum requirement. In addition, Council needs to consider Section 13-82. The current draft indicates violations to this ordinance shall be punishable by a civil penalty not to exceed \$100.00. Council must also designate on which streets utility vehicles can be operated.

After a lengthy discussion, Mayor Mays asked the City Manager if he could provide Council with a list of approved streets.

Mr. Ramey advised he would try to have the list of roads by the next council meeting.

In their packets, Council had a request from the Commissioner of the Revenue for a 2014 personal property tax refund that was erroneously assessed to Stephanie West in the amount of \$50.54.

Upon a motion by Councilman Fultz, seconded by Councilman Caruso, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council authorized a refund for erroneously assessed 2014 personal property taxes to Stephanie West in the amount of \$50.54.

Andrew Greear, Water Plant Superintendent, had provided Council with an update on the City's water reserves in their packets. As of September 30<sup>th</sup>, there was a combined reservoir capacity of 88.8 million gallons.

Mr. Ramey advised Council it is management policy to inform Council anytime reservoir capacity is below 100 million gallons. He stated historically, October is a dry month for the City. However, the City is in good shape and since this memo the reservoir is over 100 million gallons.

Mayor Mays thanked Mr. Ramey for the update on the City's water reserves.

Council was presented with a request from the City Manager for Authorization to advertise a Public Information Session to Consider VDOT MAP-21 Application for Funding of the River Walk Project.

Upon a motion by Councilman Fawbush, seconded by Councilman Caruso, and passed by unanimous vote, Council authorized the City Manager to advertise the Public Information Session to Consider VDOT MAP-21.

In their packets, Council had one check to be confirmed. The check was made payable to Thomas Construction Company in the amount of \$159,459.51.

Upon a motion by Councilman Fawbush, seconded by Councilwoman Belcher, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to confirm the one check as stated above.

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

The Tourism Committee had worked with Virginia Tourism Corporation about a year-and-a-half ago on putting together a bus tour. A tour company came for a visit and put together a tour that visited the City this past weekend. The tour stayed in Norton on Friday and visited the Country Cabin, Lays Hardware and ate at Magnolia Kitchen. On Saturday they toured the Ralph Stanley Museum and Home Hardware, ate at the Wise Inn and visited Carter Fold that evening.

Halloween Bash in the Park hosted by Parks & Recreation is scheduled for Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>.

A recent visitor to Flag Rock Recreation area from New York left a note on their fee envelope about how much they enjoyed their stay in the park and he wanted to share this message with Council.

City Offices will be closed on Monday, October 12, 2015 in observance of Columbus Day holiday.

There were no comments from the City Attorney.

In comments from Council:

Councilman Caruso wanted a status update on the MOU with the Forest Service.

Mr. Ramey advised he had communicated with the new ranger and it is something he wants to get involved with but has not as of this time.

Mr. Caruso wanted an update on the Climbers Coalition.

Mr. Ramey advised he met with Brad Mathisen and Brad hopes to come to the next council meeting to give an update on activities since his last appearance at Council.

He advised the Rescue Squad Board of Directors met and significant progress has been made on reorganizing the squad to allow for a more streamlined organizational structure. He advised he felt the squad is ready to move the payroll under the City and the Captain is going to visit the City Manager to discuss the matter.

He advised he would like an agenda and meeting date for Council to discuss a strategic plan or comprehensive plan review. He would like for Council to rewrite the strategic plan before Council gets into CIP and the budget process.

Councilman Fultz advised AmeriCorps is coming next week to help Shayne Fields with the mountain bike trails and next spring will be an opportunity for the City to promote these bike trails.

He advised the Big Stone Gap movie is opening on Thursday of this week and the City is fortunate in that we get the actual movie.

Councilwoman Belcher had no comments.

At this time, Councilman Caruso advised Mayor Mays he would like to thank Becky Coffey for the John I. Burton Hall of Fame set up to honor the inductees into the Hall of Fame. It was a great event.

He would like to thank Mr. Ramey for hosting a marketing major from UVA who is interested in doing a project for the City as part of graduation requirement. Fred has spent a lot of hours on Sunday with this student and hopefully this will bring good results for the City.

Councilman Fawbush advised over 500 students gathered at the 11<sup>th</sup> Street Park for the International Walk to School Day. Delegate Kilgore and representatives from Mattern & Craig, DMME, VDOT, and Thomas Construction were in attendance. He advised this project started nine years ago and he wanted to commend Fred for getting all these entities to work together. Eight bicycles were given away to the students and the event was well attended.

Everyone is invited to Flag Rock on October 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> for the Woodbooger Festival. Fliers are being distributed in the schools and he hopes everyone will meet up on the mountain to join in the activities.

Mayor Mays commended the downtown business owners and stated no one can help you like you can help yourselves.

Mayor Mays addressed Chris Jones about his mentioning the City creating an incentive program for downtown businesses. He advised Chris he wanted to hear what the downtown businesses consider incentives.

He advised he agreed with most of the comments made from the newly formed 35 member group except for one. He stated he is not offended by it but he respectfully disagrees.

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA

\_\_\_\_\_  
William Mays, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of Council



October 6, 2015

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION  
TO CONSIDER VDOT MAP-21  
APPLICATION FOR FUNDING**

The City Council of the City of Norton, Virginia will hold a public information session on Tuesday, October 20, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Council Chambers located at 618 Virginia Avenue, NW, Norton, Virginia. The purpose of the hearing is to receive public comments on a proposed application to the Virginia Department of Transportation for a MAP-21 Grant to assist with the funding to construct a trail along the Guest River from the Norton Community Center to Kentucky Avenue. Citizens are encouraged to attend the meeting and provide comments on the proposed amendment.

Fred L. Ramey, Jr.  
City Manager

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

To the Coalfield: Please advertise in the Coalfield Progress on Friday, October 9, 2015 and Tuesday, October 13, 2015.



NORTON FIRE DEPARTMENT  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
P. O. BOX 141  
NORTON, VIRGINIA 24273

OFFICE OF  
FIRE CHIEF

September 30, 2015

Mr. F.L. Ramey Jr. City Manager  
City of Norton  
P.O. Box 618  
Norton, VA. 24273

Mr. Ramey:

Below is a list of appointed and elected Norton Fire Department Officers for 2015/2016.

**WORKING OFFICERS**

(Appointed)

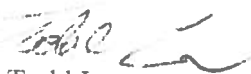
**BUSINESS OFFICERS**

(Elected)

- |                  |                                    |                                 |
|------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Steve McElroy:   | Assistant Chief (Training Officer) | President: John Broskey         |
| Marty Hagy:      | Assistant Chief (Safety Officer)   | Vice President: Michael McCurdy |
| Mike Lintz:      | Captain                            | Secretary: Buddy Cash           |
| Joe Buchanan:    | Captain                            | Treasurer: Gary Call            |
| Billy Mays:      | Lieutenant                         |                                 |
| Stephen McElroy: | Lieutenant                         |                                 |
| Skipper Dorton:  | Lieutenant                         |                                 |
| Tim Couch:       | Lieutenant                         |                                 |

Please accept this list on behalf of the Norton Fire Department. If you should have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

  
Todd Lagow  
Fire Chief



Sec. 8-38. - Working officers generally.

The working officers of the department shall be the chief, assistant chief, captain, two lieutenants, and such additional officers as shall be deemed necessary. With the exception of the chief, the working officers shall be appointed by the city council following the annual September meeting of the department and shall hold office one (1) year from the time of appointment. In the event of any vacancy, the city manager shall fill the same by appointment.

(Code 1975, § 6-26; Ord. of 11-13-90)

AMENDING CHAPTER 13 OF THE CITY CODE  
PERTAINING TO UTILITY VEHICLES

2<sup>ND</sup> DRAFT

WHEREAS, City Council wishes to promote economic opportunity, small business and the appearance and accessibility of property in the City, and

WHEREAS, these values will be enhanced if entrepreneurs are enabled to offer services in the areas of general maintenance, security, agricultural or horticultural purposes, and

WHEREAS, the use of utility vehicles is desirable in the conduct of these activities, and

WHEREAS, it will be necessary and convenient for utility vehicles to be operated on City streets when moving from property to property, and

WHEREAS, the City Council has considered the speed, volume and character of motor vehicle traffic on the streets designated herein and has determined that utility vehicle operations on the streets and in the areas designated herein is compatible with state and local transportation plans and is consistent with the Commonwealth's Statewide Pedestrian Policy, after receiving a recommendation as to such use from the City Manager.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED,

1. That the Norton City Code be amended by adding thereto as Chapter 13, Article IV – UTILITY VEHICLES, the following:

“Sec. 13-77. –Definitions.

The following words and phrases when used in this article shall, for the purposes of this article, have the meanings respectfully ascribed to them:

*Multi-purpose path* means that area of a public street designated by the City for pedestrian travel, and use by utility vehicles.

*Sidewalk* means that area of a public street set aside or used for pedestrian travel which is parallel to and within the boundary lines of a street.

*Street* means the entire width between the boundary lines of every way or place open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel in the City, including the streets and alleys, for law-enforcement purposes, the entire width between the boundary lines of all private roads or private streets that have been specifically designated “highways”, as that term is defined in §46.2-100 of the State Code, by ordinance, and also including sidewalks and multi-purpose paths.

*Utility vehicle* means a motor vehicle that is (i) designed for off-road use, (ii) powered by a motor and (iii) used for general maintenance, security, agricultural, or horticultural purposes. "Utility vehicle" does not include riding lawn mowers.

Sec. 13-78. –Utility vehicle operations on streets not otherwise designed for such operation.

It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a utility vehicle on or over any street, sidewalk, or multi-purpose path in the City, except as provided in this article.

Sec. 13-79. –Limitations on utility vehicle operations on designated streets.

(a) Utility vehicle operations on designed streets shall be in accordance with the following limitations:

- (1) A utility vehicle may be operated only on designated streets where the posted speed limit is twenty-five (25) miles per hour or less. A utility vehicle may cross a highway at an intersection controlled by a traffic light if the highway has a posted speed limit of no more than 35 miles per hour;
- (2) No person shall operate any utility vehicle on any street unless he has in his possession a valid driver's license;
- (3) Every utility vehicle, whenever operated on a street, shall display a slow-moving vehicle emblem in conformity with §46.2-1081 of the State Code; and
- (4) Utility vehicles shall be operated on designated streets only between sunrise and sunset, unless equipped with such lights as are required in Article 3 (§46.2-100 et seq.) of Chapter 10 of the State Code.
- (5) No utility vehicle shall be operated without liability insurance required by the State Code.

(b) The limitations of subsection (a)(1) of this section shall not apply to utility vehicles being operated to the extent necessary for local government employees, operating only upon streets within the City, to fulfill a governmental purpose, provided the utility vehicle is being operated on streets with speed limits of thirty-five (35) miles per hour or less.

Sec.13-80. –Procedure for designation of streets for utility vehicle operations.

- (a) No street or portion thereof may be designated for use by utility vehicles unless that portion of the street has been reviewed and approved for such usage by the City Council and designated for such use in this article.
- (b) Prior to approving a street or portion thereof for use by utility vehicles, the City Council shall (i) consider the speed, volume, and character of motor vehicle traffic using such streets, and (ii) determine that utility vehicle operation on a particular street is compatible with state and local transportation plans and consistent with the Commonwealth's Statewide Pedestrian Policy provided for in Section 33.1-

23.03:001 of the state code, after receiving a recommendation as to such use from the City Manager.

- (c) No street or portion thereof shall be designated for use by utility vehicles if such utility vehicle operations will impede the safe and efficient flow of motor vehicle traffic.

Sec. 13-81. –Designated streets for utility vehicle use.

Notwithstanding any other provision of the City Code to the contrary, the following portions of streets in the City are designated for use by utility vehicles in accordance with the provisions of this article and state law:

**[To be supplied]**

Sec. 13-82. –Violations of this Article IV shall be a traffic infraction punishable by a civil penalty not to exceed \$100.00. Enforcement shall be by citation issued by a member of the City Police Department.

This ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days after adoption.

ADOPTED this \_\_\_ day of October, 2015.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 13 OF THE CITY CODE  
PERTAINING TO UTILITY VEHICLES

1<sup>ST</sup> DRAFT

WHEREAS, City Council wishes to promote economic opportunity, small business and the appearance and accessibility of property in the City, and

WHEREAS, these values will be enhanced if entrepreneurs are enabled to offer services in the areas of general maintenance, snow removal and light hauling for horticultural and similar purposes, and

WHEREAS, the use of utility vehicles is desirable in the conduct of these activities, and

WHEREAS, it will be necessary and convenient for utility vehicles to be operated on City streets when moving from property to property, and

WHEREAS, the City Council has considered the speed, volume and character of motor vehicle traffic on the streets designated herein and has determined that utility vehicle operations on the streets and in the areas designated herein is compatible with state and local transportation plans and is consistent with the Commonwealth's Statewide Pedestrian Policy, after receiving a recommendation as to such use from the City Manager.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED,

1. That the Norton City Code be amended by adding thereto as Chapter 13, Article IV – UTILITY VEHICLES, the following:

“Sec. 13-77. –Definitions.

The following words and phrases when used in this article shall, for the purposes of this article, have the meanings respectfully ascribed to them:

*Multi-purpose path* means that area of a public street designated by the City for pedestrian travel, and use by utility vehicles.

*Sidewalk* means that area of a public street set aside or used for pedestrian travel which is parallel to and within the boundary lines of a street.

*Street* means the entire width between the boundary lines of every way or place open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel in the City, including the streets and alleys, for law-enforcement purposes, the entire width between the boundary lines of all private roads or private streets that have been specifically designated “highways”, as that term is defined in §46.2-100 of the State Code, by ordinance, and also including sidewalks and multi-purpose paths.

*Utility vehicle* means a motor vehicle that is (i) designed for off-road use, (ii) powered by an internal combustion engine of no more than twenty-five (25) horsepower or an electric motor which restricts the speed of the utility vehicle to less than thirty-five (35) miles per hour, and (iii) used for general maintenance, security, agricultural, or horticultural purposes. "Utility vehicle" does not include all-terrain vehicles as defined in §46.2-915.1 of the State Code, riding lawn mowers, or any other vehicle whose definition is included in §46.2-100 of the State Code.

Sec. 13-78. –Utility vehicle operations on streets not otherwise designed for such operation.

It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a utility vehicle on or over any street, sidewalk, or multi-purpose path in the City, except as provided in this article.

Sec. 13-79. –Limitations on utility vehicle operations on designated streets.

(a) Utility vehicle operations on designed streets shall be in accordance with the following limitations:

- (1) A utility vehicle may be operated only on designated streets where the posted speed limit is twenty-five (25) miles per hour or less. No utility vehicle shall cross any street at an intersection where the street being crossed has a posted speed limit of more than twenty-five (25) miles per hour;
- (2) No person shall operate any utility vehicle on any street unless he has in his possession a valid driver's license;
- (3) Every utility vehicle, whenever operated on a street, shall display a slow-moving vehicle emblem in conformity with §46.2-1081 of the State Code; and
- (4) Utility vehicles shall be operated on designated streets only between sunrise and sunset, unless equipped with such lights as are required in Article 3 (§46.2-100 et seq.) of Chapter 10 of the State Code.
- (5) Utility vehicles operating on designed streets pursuant to this article shall be insured by a policy of liability insurance with coverage of not less than three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00) per accident. In lieu of coverage provided by an insurance policy, the owner of such utility vehicles may self-insure the liability coverage if the Commissioner of the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles has issued a certificate of self-insurance pursuant to §46.2-368 of the State Code.

(b) The limitations of subsection (a)(1) of this section shall not apply to utility vehicles being operated to the extent necessary for local government employees, operating only upon streets within the City, to fulfill a governmental purpose, provided the utility vehicle is being operated on streets with speed limits of thirty-five (35) miles per hour or less.

Sec.13-80. –Procedure for designation of streets for utility vehicle operations.

- (a) No street or portion thereof may be designated for use by utility vehicles unless that portion of the street has been reviewed and approved for such usage by the City Council and designated for such use in this article.
- (b) Prior to approving a street or portion thereof for use by utility vehicles, the City Council shall (i) consider the speed, volume, and character of motor vehicle traffic using such streets, and (ii) determine that utility vehicle operation on a particular street is compatible with state and local transportation plans and consistent with the Commonwealth's Statewide Pedestrian Policy provided for in Section 33.1-23.03:001 of the state code, after receiving a recommendation as to such use from the City Manager.
- (c) No street or portion thereof shall be designated for use by utility vehicles if such utility vehicle operations will impede the safe and efficient flow of motor vehicle traffic.

Sec. 13-81. –Designated streets for utility vehicle use.

Notwithstanding any other provision of the City Code to the contrary, the following portions of streets in the City are designated for use by utility vehicles in accordance with the provisions of this article and state law:

**[To be supplied]**

Sec. 13-82. –Violations of this Article IV shall be a traffic infraction punishable by a civil penalty not to exceed \$100.00. Enforcement shall be by citation issued by a member of the City Police Department.

This ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days after adoption.

ADOPTED this \_\_\_ day of October, 2015.

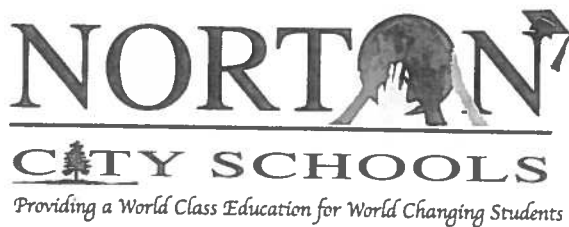
\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK

**SCHOOL BOARD**

Sherry Adams, Chairperson  
Mark Leonard, Vice-Chairperson  
Carol Caruso  
April Fletcher  
Joseph Stallard

**DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT**

Keith Perrigan, Ed.D.  
kperrigan@nortoncityschools.org  
Phone 276.679.2330  
Fax 276.679.4315

October 14, 2015

Mr. Fred L. Ramey, Jr.  
City Manager  
618 Virginia Ave., NW  
Norton, VA 24273

Re: 2015-2016 Supplemental Appropriation Request

Mr. Ramey:

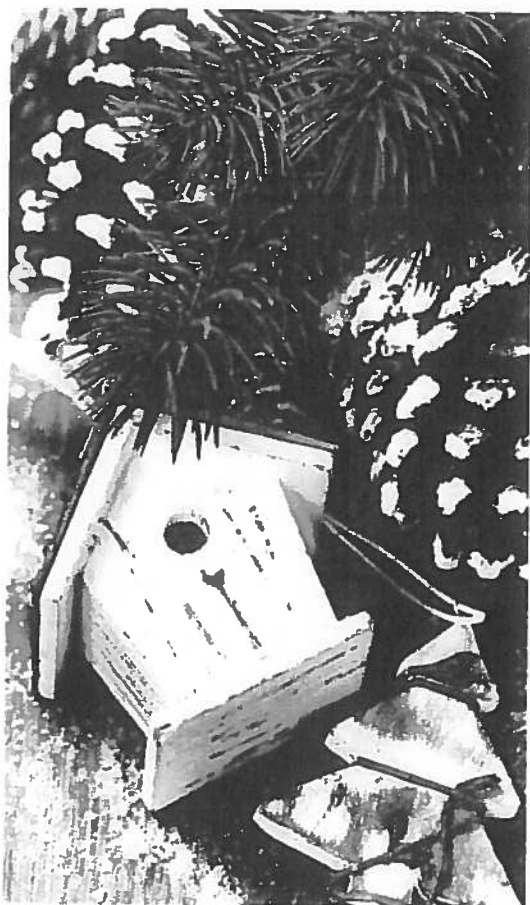
The Norton City School Board requests a supplemental appropriation of \$19,006 in additional local funding to participate in the 2015 School Security Grant. This amount represents the required local match to participate in the grant.

Please contact me if additional information is needed.

Sincerely,

Keith Perrigan, Ed.D.  
Superintendent





## Show Virginia Your Local Pride and Holiday Spirit

The Executive Mansion recently announced that the theme for its 2015 Holiday Tree will be “Celebrating Virginia’s Localities.”

Each locality is asked to submit one ornament that uniquely represents their community. See the ornaments guidelines on page 2.

VML has been asked to assist in collecting ornaments from Virginia cities and towns for the tree that is displayed in the mansion’s ballroom.

The holiday tree will be on view to the public throughout the season and will be seen by thousands of visitors to the Executive Mansion. It’s a wonderful opportunity to celebrate what makes each Virginia town and city special.

**Let us know today that you’re planning to contribute an ornament!**  
Simply e-mail VML’s Nancy Chafin at [nchafin@vml.org](mailto:nchafin@vml.org). Let her know you would like to participate.



### **Guidelines for Submitting Ornaments for the Executive Mansion Holiday Tree**

- Each participating locality is asked to submit one holiday ornament.
- The theme of the ornament is totally up to the locality; however, we suggest a depiction of some unique feature that is specific to your region or community, such as a historic site, a major local industry, a noted person, a natural feature, an animal or plant from the region, etc.
- We welcome handmade ornaments!
- Please note: As the Executive Mansion may feature a children-themed tree in the future, they ask that this year's ornaments be produced by adults (college-aged and above).
- Examples of materials that could be used for creating the ornament include: clay, glass, shells, fabric, wood, objects from nature, agricultural items.
- Preferred size of the ornament should be no larger than 6". Shape and material is totally up to the artist/artisan. The finished ornament should be sent along with the name of the locality and artist placed on the back or bottom of the ornament.
- Deadline for submitting the ornament to VML is November 1.

We recognize that there will be questions and welcome you to phone or email so that we can work with you on what we hope will be a fun and creative project that displays our pride in the places we live. Please direct any questions to VML's Nancy Chafin at [nchafin@vml.org](mailto:nchafin@vml.org) or 804-523-8527.

The mansion officially opens for the holidays the evening the Capitol Tree Lighting with an open house for the general public. This year, the date of that event is Friday, December 4. The tree will be available to view at that time as well as during tour hours throughout the holidays.

## PROCLAMATION

### RECOGNIZING OCTOBER AS DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH AND CELEBRATING THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Twenty-five years ago, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) reaffirmed the idea that all people are entitled to participate fully in our economy and democracy. A law deeply rooted in the principles of our Nation's founding, this landmark civil rights legislation recognized that all Americans have something to contribute to our story and deserve every chance to achieve their full potential. For a quarter-century, individuals have fought to realize this law's enormous promise, and with hard work, we have helped expand what is possible so more of our friends, colleagues, and family members can live full and independent lives.

The product of tremendous effort, struggle, and sacrifice, the passage of the ADA was a victory won by countless Americans who refused to accept the world as it was and -- against great odds -- organized a grassroots movement to enshrine the principle of equality into law. One of the most comprehensive civil rights bills in the history of our country, the ADA promises fairness, opportunity, and complete participation in all aspects of American life for individuals with disabilities. It secures each person's right to independence, and it enables our society and our economy to benefit from the talents and contributions of all Americans by clearing obstacles to employment, transportation, public services, telecommunications, and public accommodations.

This year, as we celebrate this important anniversary and honor all those whose courage and dedication have driven our City's progress, we recognize that our work to uphold the spirit and the letter of this law is not yet finished. In communities throughout our county, barriers that limit our neighbors' potential have been torn down, but too many continue to encounter discrimination and structural inequalities that prohibit them from pursuing their dreams. Young people with disabilities continue to experience bullying in schools. Americans with disabilities who want to and can work are too often denied the dignity of a job. And many working Americans with disabilities still live below the poverty line.

People with disabilities expect and want to have their own families, without the interference and ill effects of fears, myths, and stereotypes of others about disability on their ability to parent. And yet, research shows that parents with disabilities are the only community of Americans who must struggle to retain custody of their children, face

significant barriers when attempting to adopt, and have great difficulty accessing reproductive health care, simply because of stereotypes and fears of disability.

People with disabilities, including graduating students with disabilities, expect and want to join the American workforce in competitive, integrated employment.

People with disabilities expect and want to live in their homes, not nursing homes or institutions.

Disability is a natural part of the human experience that should not limit the opportunities for any American to make choices, pursue a meaningful career, live in the community, or to raise our own families.

Disability touches all of us. More than 50 million Americans have a disability, and living up to the principles of the ADA is an obligation we all share. Every person deserves equal access, equal opportunity, and equal respect, and we each must do our part to ensure our Nation's promise is within the reach of all Americans. As we reflect on 25 years of progress, let us reaffirm the inherent dignity and worth of every individual, and together, redouble our efforts to build a society where all things are possible for all people.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE NORTON CITY COUNCIL** does hereby proclaim October 2015 as Disability Awareness Month and Recognize the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Year of the Americans with Disabilities Act. We encourage ALL RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF NORTON to celebrate the 25th anniversary of this civil rights law and applaud the many contributions of individuals with disabilities.

ADOPTED this 20<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2015.

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA

---

William J. Mays, Mayor

ATTEST:

---

Clerk

09-10-2015

Boring Contractors, Inc.  
VDH Water System Improvements - Phase III  
Construction Pay Application No. 5

\$151,011.63

4-002-040000-0048

V-8157

**CITY OF NORTON**  
**GENERAL OPERATING FUND**  
NORTON, VA 24273

THE FIRST BANK & TRUST  
NORTON VA

137616

68 443 514  
11

\*\*\*\*\*One Hundred Fifty-One Thousand Eleven Dollars and Sixty-Three Cents\*\*\*\*\*  
PAY TO THE ORDER OF:


DATE

AMOUNT

09-10-2015

\$151,011.63

Boring Contractors, Inc.  
P O Box 697  
Abingdon, VA. 24212

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE MP

⑈ 137616⑈ ⑆ 051404464⑆ 100002346⑈