

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, April 6, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers with Mayor Robert Raines presiding.

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

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 Director of Norton Social Services, Bill Stokes.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the March 17, 2004 meeting as presented.

20763

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

20764

A public hearing was held on the consideration of an amendment to the 2003-2004 budget of the Norton City Schools in the amount of \$200,445.

Present at tonight's meeting was Dr. John Sessoms, Superintendent of Norton City Schools, and Tim Cassell, a member of the Norton City School Board.

Dr. Sessoms gave a brief synopsis of the two requests. The first request was for \$68,152, which reflects deferred revenue that covers School Construction Funds, E-Rate Funds, and SOL Algebra Funds.

The second request is for funds totaling \$132,293, which covers \$50,000 for Capital Improvements and \$82,293 for the NES Cafeteria/Gym Project. This amount is to be designated for the NES Cafeteria/Gym Project.

20765

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

Mayor Raines opened the public hearing.

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

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 amend the Norton City School 2003-2004 budget in the amount of \$68,152 and to table the request for \$132,293 until the School Board receives the plans from Thompson and Litton for the Cafeteria/Gym Project at Norton Elementary School.

Mr. Stan Wilson of J. I. Burton High School was present to request funding for assistance with the 50th anniversary of John I. Burton High School. Mr. Wilson had supplied Council with a letter with a line item budget totaling \$8,000 and advised that they would appreciate any assistance Council could give them.

20766

After a brief discussion and upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to assist with the funding of the 50th anniversary of John I. Burton High School in the amount of \$8,000. These funds are to come from last year's surplus funds.

Mr. Wilson advised that should any funds be left over, they will be returned to the City.

Mr. Wilson thanked Council for their assistance in this request.

Council had been presented with A Resolution Authorizing the Submission of an Application to the Virginia Department of Health for Funding of a Water Line Replacement Project.

Mr. Ward advised that Bobby Lane of Lane Engineering advised Council at their last meeting of an area in Dorchester that needs water line replacement. Mr. Lane advised Council at that time that he would like to apply for a grant in the amount of \$50,000 from the Virginia Department of Health for this project, which will be known as the Frog Level Project.

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt and passed by the following roll call vote: YES – Hunnicutt, Wallace, Mays, Fawbush, Raines, NO – None, ABSENT – None, Council moved to adopt A Resolution Authorizing the Submission of an Application to the Virginia Department of Health for Funding of a Water Line Replacement Project. (Insert)

20767

Council had a request to amend the City's 2003-2004 General Fund Budget in the amount of \$58,036. This request covers funds the City has received from the Virginia Department of Emergency Services Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness. In their packets, Council had been presented with a list of items to be purchased with these funds from the Coordinator of Emergency Services for the City, Bill Stokes.

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to amend the 2003-2004 General Fund Budget of the City in the amount of \$58,036.

20768

In their packets, Council received a request for one water tap for Mr. Charles R. Culbertson of 4627 Overlook Road.

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to approve one water tap for Mr. Charles R. Culbertson of 4627 Overlook Road.

20769

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Jack Wallace, 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.

20770

Mayor Raines declared Council in closed meeting.

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

Mayor Raines declared Council back in open meeting.

20771

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 Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by the following unanimous vote: YES – Hunnicutt, Wallace, Mays, Fawbush,

2077

Raines, NO – None, ABSENT – None, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. (Insert)

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

He had received and shown to Council members a picture of Norton taken in the early 1900s. This picture was sent to him by Mr. Jimmy Porter, whose father had resided in Norton.

April is Keep America Beautiful Month and the City has designated the week of April 16th through the 26th as Clean-Up Week. The City is offering free rent-a-trucks and pick-ups during this time. Saturday, April 24th, is Clean-Up Day.

20773

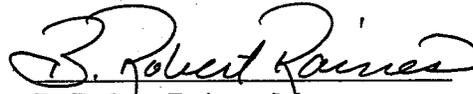
The City has received notification of being approved for an Appalachian Regional Commission Grant in the amount of \$280,060. This grant is for the Laurel Trails Housing Project and bids are to be opened on April 30th.

At Council's April 20th meeting, the School Board will make their budget presentation.

Mr. Ramey had attended a construction meeting on Norton Commons. A portion of Hawthorne Drive will need to be closed sometime in June through September.

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA


B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:


Clerk