

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Monday, January 20, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. in the Hotel Norton Lobby with Mayor Robert Raines presiding.

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

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

Absent: E. W. Ward, City Manager

The invocation was given by Father Tim Drake and was followed by the pledge of allegiance, which was led by Councilman Jack Wallace.

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the January 7, 2003 organizational meeting as presented. 20373

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the January 7, 2003 meeting as presented. 20374

There was no response to the Mayor's call for visitors. 20375

Mr. Ramey advised Council that the Administration was in receipt of a copy of the lease that they had requested from Planet Connect at the last meeting. Both the City Attorney and City Administration have reviewed this lease and have proposed changes. Mr. Ramey also handed to the members of Council and the City Attorney a copy of a proposal sent by e-mail to the City by another company requesting to place three antennas on this tank for the same purpose of providing the City with wireless services.

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous vote, Council authorized the City Administration to issue a request for proposal on providing high speed wireless communications to the City and its residents. 20376

Mr. Ramey advised that the City may have to do some research on this matter; however, the Administration will start on this RFP immediately.

At this time, Mayor Raines advised that City Manager E.W. Ward is absent from tonight's meeting due to illness. He also advised the reason for conducting the meeting tonight rather than on the regular meeting date is due to scheduling conflicts. He also expressed appreciation to the Norton Industrial Development Authority for the use of the Hotel Norton Lobby to conduct this meeting. 20377

Mr. Ramey gave Council a brief update on the Hotel Norton activities during 2002. He went over the financial aspects, construction, job growth, special events, and other opportunities that have occurred or will occur in the near future at the Hotel Norton. He

also asked that Council submit to the IDA any suggestions they may have regarding the Hotel.

Mayor Raines thanked Mr. Ramey for his presentation and for the efforts of the IDA especially with the Christmas decorations. Mr. Ramey advised that the Green Thumb Garden Club had donated \$500 toward the decorations and also assisted with decorating the hotel.

203

Council had been presented in their packets a copy of a Service Agreement Between the Southwest Virginia Regional Jail Authority and Member Jurisdictions (Counties of Buchanan, Dickenson, Lee, Russell, Scott, Smyth, Washington and Wise and the City of Norton).

20379

Mr. Ramey advised that this agreement was included for Council's review and that no action would be taken tonight. This will be the topic of the Regional Jail Authority's meeting to be held on Tuesday, January 21, 2003. If approved, the agreement will be brought to the member localities in February for approval.

The agenda item of 7-C - Update on Various City Issues and Projects was tabled until the next council meeting. Mr. Ramey did advise that the water line project is proceeding and Mr. Bobby Lane of Lane Engineering will be present at the next meeting to discuss this project with Council.

20380

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 No. 2.2-3711(A) (1) of the Code of Virginia, as amended.

203

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.

20382

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

20383

Mayor Raines opened the floor for nominations to the Building Code Board of Appeals for a five year term which will expire on January 17, 2008.

Joseph Hunnicutt nominated Mr. T. J. Flanary to be reappointed to this Board.

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

20384

Mayor Raines declared Mr. T. J. Flanary reappointed to the Building Code Board of Appeals for a five year term which will expire on January 17, 2008.

Mayor Raines opened the floor for nominations to the Highway Safety Commission for a two year term which will expire on January 31, 2005.

Jack Wallace nominated Mr. Randy Castle, Mr. Bruce Rose, Mr. Gary Call, and Mr. Linville Reed to be reappointed to this Commission.

20385

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved that nominations cease

Mayor Raines declared Mr. Randy Castle, Mr. Bruce Rose, Mr. Gary Call, and Mr. Linville Reed reappointed to the Highway Safety Commission for two year terms which will expire on January 31, 2005.

Mayor Raines opened the floor for nominations to the Norton Redevelopment and Housing Authority for a four year term which will expire on January 28, 2007.

William Mays nominated Mrs. Dorothy Graham to be reappointed and Mr. T. J. Flanary to be appointed to this Authority.

20386


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

Mayor Raines declared Mrs. Dorothy Graham reappointed and Mr. T. J. Flanary appointed to the Norton Redevelopment and Housing Authority for five year terms which will expire on January 17, 2008.

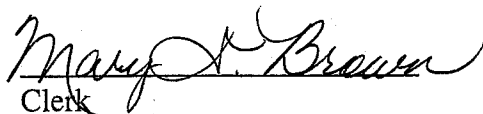
Mr. Ramey advised that Mr. Ward would be back in the office tomorrow.

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA


B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:


Clerk