

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, December 4, 2001 at 7:30 p.m. at the municipal Council Chambers with Mayor 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 the City Manager and was followed by the pledge of allegiance, which was led by Police Captain Kenny Jackson.

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the November 20, 2001 meeting as presented.

20049

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

20050

Council had been presented with A Resolution Regarding the Issuance of Not to Exceed \$16,500,000 Hospital Refunding and Improvement Revenue Bonds (Norton Community Hospital, Inc.) Series 2001 by the Industrial Development Authority of the City of Norton, Virginia.

Mayor Raines recognized Mr. Buford Sturgill, Chairman of the Norton Community Hospital Board, and asked him to introduce the delegation present tonight. Mr. Sturgill introduced various members of the Board as well as employees of the hospital and also thanked Council for hearing their request tonight.

The presentation given to Council was by Mr. Rick Napper, CEO of Norton Community Hospital, who passed out packets to Council.

The City Manager advised that Norton Community had come before the Norton Industrial Development Authority requesting assistance for financing and refinancing costs of various improvements to the hospital. They are requesting NIDA to issue tax exempt industrial revenue bonds and to use the proceeds of those bonds for various purposes including the financing, acquiring, constructing, and equipping of the additions and improvements to the hospital, the refunding of the existing 1996 Series Bonds, funding a reserve for debt service, and paying a portion of the costs of issuing the Bonds.

20051

On November 19, 2001, NIDA scheduled a public hearing to seek citizen input on this proposed bond issue and there were no comments. NIDA then unanimously adopted an Inducement Resolution that proposed to assist Norton Community Hospital with this request. City Council is being asked tonight to adopt a resolution to consider the endorsement of this project.

Mr. Rick Napper, CEO of Norton Community Hospital, made a presentation to Council regarding this project. He advised that the total new construction will be 24,311 square feet of space, total renovation space will be 47,045 square feet, which amounts to 71,356 square feet of space for the total project. Total construction cost on this project is 11.9 million dollars. They plan to retire current debt of 2.3 million dollars and the hospital itself will pay off out of cash approximately \$300,000 of debt.

Mr. Napper then went over a financial summary, some key points on the bond issue, and a timeline for this project.

Following his presentation, Mr. Napper answered questions asked by members of Council.

City Attorney Bradshaw advised Council that he had looked over the documentation submitted to him and that everything is in good form and he is satisfied that future documents will be the same. He further advised that the City and NIDA have practically no exposure to any sort of liability on this bond issue.

Mr. Bradshaw answered questions from members of Council.

Upon a motion by Willam Mays, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by the following unanimous roll call vote: YES – Hunnicutt, Wallace, Mays, Fawbush, Raines, NO – None, ABSENT – None, Council moved to adopt A Resolution Regarding the Issuance of Not to Exceed \$16,500,000 Hospital Refunding and Improvement Revenue Bonds (Norton Community Hospital, Inc.) Series 2001 by the Industrial Development Authority of the City of Norton, Virginia. (Insert)

Mayor Raines commended the Board and Administration of Norton Community Hospital for having the vision for this type project and stated that they have the cooperation of the City of Norton.

Buford Sturgill, on behalf of the Board, thanked Council for their support of this project.

Mr. Ward had provided Council in their packets an update on the City's Comprehensive Plan. He advised that the Planning Commission had met last Thursday on the community meeting held on November 10, 2001. Included in this update is a summary of the views that were expressed at this community meeting. The hope coming from this meeting was that the City would be able to develop task force groups that would then develop vision statements for the City for the next 20 years. Due to the limited participation from the public, the Planning Commission decided to modify this idea to have open community meetings during January and February that will be facilitated by the Planning Commission and our consultant. There will be six major theme areas and these are: education, housing, economic development, recreation, culture, and quality of life, technology, and infrastructure. The first meeting will be January 10, 2001 and will continue for five additional Thursdays. City Council is invited to attend each of these meetings.

20052

Council had been furnished with a copy of the audit for the year ending June 30, 2001 for both the C-N-W Regional Sewer Authority and the Norton Industrial Development Authority.

Mr. Ward gave a brief synopsis of each of these audits to Council and advised that he would be glad to answer any questions from Council.

20053

Mayor Raines thanked Mr. Ward for the presentation on these two audits.

Council had a request for a water and sewer tap for Cheryl D. Hall of 5138 Spotswood Road in the Esserville section of the County. Mr. Ward advised that sewer is not available at this location. Water is available; but Ms. Hall must run her line several hundred feet.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to approve the request of one water tap for Cheryl D. Hall of 5138 Spotswood Road with the stipulation that the tap must be made within a year from this date with Ms. Hall running her line several hundred feet.

20054

Council had a request for a water tap for Kirby D. Holbrook of 7717 Wells-Boone Road, which is in the Guest River area of the county.

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to approve one water tap for Kirby D. Holbrook of 7717 Wells-Boone Road.

Council had two checks submitted for approval. The first was payable to the Norton Industrial Development Authority in the amount of \$228,639.81. The second was made payable to the Norton City Schools in the amount of \$200,000.

20055

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a check in the amount of \$228,639.81 to the Norton Industrial Development Authority and another in the amount of \$200,000 made payable to the Norton City Schools.

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to go into closed session to discuss personnel as per 2.2-3711 (A) (1) of the Code of Virginia, as amended.

20056

Mayor Raines declared Council in closed session.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to go back into open session.

20057

Mayor Raines declared Council back in open session.

The Clerk then polled each member of Council as to the Certification of Closed Session with each answering aye. The Clerk then read A Resolution for the Certification of Closed Session. Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, 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 Session. (Insert)

20058

Mayor Raines advised that no action had been taken in closed session.

20059

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

The City Christmas Dinner will be held this Thursday, December 6, at 7:00 at the Norton Rescue Squad Building.

20060

The Norton Hotel Grand Opening will be on Monday, December 17th at 3:00 p.m.
The City's audit will be presented at the next Council meeting.

In comments from the City Attorney, Mr. Bradshaw advised that he would continue to review the documents on the Norton Community Bond Issue and he expressed appreciation to Council for working for them.

2006

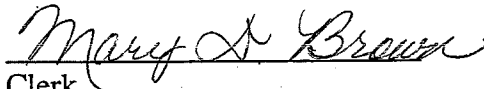
There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned.

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA



B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:



Clerk