

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, March 7, 2000 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal 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 Father Joe Facura and was followed by the pledge of allegiance which was led by Police Chief Sam Mongle.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous vote, the minutes of the February 1, 2000 meeting were approved as amended.

19534

During the Mayor's call for visitors, Mrs. Joyce Winston, representing the Pro-Art Association, spoke briefly to Council regarding their funding in the City's 2000-2001 budget. She ask that the budgeted amount be the same as in this fiscal year.

Mayor Raines advised that this item is on tonight's agenda and will be voted on at that time.

19535

Father Joe Facura spoke to Council requesting a street light in front of his residence at 1009 Virginia Avenue.

Mr. Ward advised Father Facura that he would check into this matter.

A public hearing was held on An Ordinance Amending the City Zoning Ordinance Rezoning Certain Property from M-2 Heavy Industrial to B-3 General Business.

Mayor Raines asked Mr. Jon Rockett, Chairman of the City of Norton Planning Commission, to speak on this matter. Mr. Rockett advised the Planning Commission had held a public hearing on this matter and their recommendation to City Council was to change this area, 701 Kentucky Avenue, from a M-2 to B-3 General Business Zone.

Mayor Raines opened the public hearing.

Mr. Terry Collier, owner of this property, spoke briefly to Council and advised that the new use for this property as temporary emergency housing is the reason behind the request for zoning change. This property is being bought by the Family Crisis Support Center.

19536

Ms. Rita McReynolds of the Family Crisis Support Center, was present to answer questions from Council.

Mr. Rockett advised Council that the Planning Commission recommends the approval of this change in zoning.

Mayor Raines thanked those who spoke during the public hearing.

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

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, and passed by the following unanimous roll call vote: Hunnicutt, Wallace, Mays, Fawbush, Raines - YES, NO - None, ABSENT - None, Council moved to adopt An Ordinance of the City

Council of the City of Norton, Virginia Rezoning Certain Property from a M-2 Heavy Industrial Zone to a B-3 General Business Zone. (Insert)

A public hearing was scheduled to be held tonight on the issuance of a Public Dance Hall Permit to the Players Club, Incorporated located at 532 East Park Avenue.

Mayor Raines gave a brief background on this request.

The City Manager advised Council that from the time the public notice was published and Mr. Pennington was notified in writing to come in and apply for a Dance Hall Permit, the ownership of the Club had changed. The new owner advised Mr. Ward that this establishment is now the Old Road Grill and that he did not want to secure a Dance Hall Permit.

19537

The City Attorney advised Council that since all these changes have taken place, there was no need to hold a public hearing; however, Council may want to let the representatives of the East Park Avenue area that are present at tonight's meeting to speak.

Speaking tonight and asking to be kept informed of the status as far as a Dance Hall Permit at this location were Mr. Larry Hamilton and Mr. Frances Hill.

Mr. Mike Hatfield of Thompson and Litton was present and gave Council an update on the Esserville Sewer Project. He advised that the project is just about completed. The contract completion date is Thursday, March 9, 2000 and he doesn't know if this date will be met. The project has gone well and he is pleased with the quality of the work of the contractor. They have had two change orders, both of which are for a lesser amount than the contract price, and they are looking at approximately \$82,000 left from the ARC Grant.

19538

After speaking with Rural Development, they have stated they would like this money spent in the City.

They have looked at a line that is in need of repair and also talked about purchasing equipment to be used in the field of sewer work with these funds.

Mr. Hatfield answered questions from Council.

Mayor Raines thanked Mr. Hatfield for this update.

Council had in their packet a request for the authorization to make application for a local government challenge grant.

Mr. Ward advised that this is the item which Mrs. Winston had inquired about in the Audience for Visitors regarding funding for the Pro-Art Association. This challenge grant will match the City's \$5,000 allocation to Pro-Art for a total allocation of \$10,000 to Pro-Art in the 2000-2001 budget. The deadline for this request is April 3rd and it has to be approved by the governing body.

19539

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and approved by unanimous roll call vote, Council authorized the City Manager to make application for a local government challenge grant in the amount of \$5,000 which is to be matched by \$5,000 for a total allocation to Pro-Art in the amount of \$10,000.

Council had a copy of a check in the amount of \$195,000 made payable to the Norton City Schools.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a check in the amount of \$195,000 made payable to the Norton City Schools. 19540

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to go into closed meeting to discuss personnel as per 2.1-344(A) (1) of the Code of Virginia, as amended. 19541
Mayor Raines declared Council in closed meeting.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to go back into open meeting. 19542
Mayor Raines declared Council back in open meeting.

The Clerk then polled each member of Council as to the Certification of Closed Meeting with each answering yes. The Clerk then read the entire Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by the following unanimous vote: Hunnicutt, Wallace, Mays, Fawbush, Raines - YES, NO - None, ABSENT - None, Council moved to adopt a Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. (Insert) 19543

Mayor Raines opened the floor for nominations to the Ninth District Development Financing Incorporated for a two (2) year term which will expire on January 31, 2002.

Joseph Hunnicutt nominated Mr. Paul Kuczko 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. 19544

Mayor Raines declared Mr. Paul Kuczko reappointed to the Ninth District Development Financing Incorporated for a two (2) year term which will expire on January 31, 2002.

In comments from the City Manager, Mr. Ward advised that the pool contractors have begun installing the new liner at the pool and that this project will run 2-3 weeks. 19545

In comments from the City Attorney, Mr. Bradshaw advised that he had appeared before a Special Commissioner on a tract of land in the City which has back taxes owed on it. The City will be receiving these back taxes.

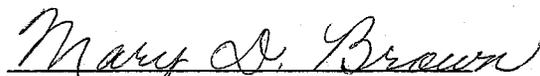
Mr. Bradshaw also advised that after the February 1st meeting, he presented petitions to the Circuit Court for appointment of the members of the Board of Equalization. This petition was signed by the judge on February 17, 2000. 19546

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA


B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:


City Clerk