

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, March 16, 1999 at 7:30 p.m. at 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 the City Manager and was followed by the pledge of allegiance led by the Police Chief, Sam Mongle.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Joseph Fawbush and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the March 2, 1999 meeting as presented.

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Mayor Raines announced an amendment to the agenda to include Item F-2 under New Business - A Resolution Requesting Deletion of Meals Tax Restrictions from Food Tax Relief Bill (HB1601).

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Council had in their packets a request for a budget amendment by the Norton City Schools in the amount of \$71,413 to their 1998-1999 School Budget. Mr. Ward advised that this money results in a savings from the school year construction grant funds and that the School Board hopes to use these funds toward the purchase of new bleachers in the high school gymnasium.

Present and representing the School Board was Dr. John Sessoms, Superintendent, who spoke briefly to Council, and Dr. Kathleen DePonte, Chairman.

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Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to authorize the City Manager to advertise a public hearing to amend the 1998-1999 School Board Budget in the amount of \$71,413. This hearing is to be held on April 6th at 7:30 p.m.

Council had a request from Dykstra and Salyers, Contractors, for a revocable license to use City property.

The City Manager advised that these contractors own four lots on Murphy Street and they wish to build four single family houses on these lots and need to encroach on City property in order to construct a sewer line which will run down to 10<sup>th</sup> Street. The contractors have agreed to restore the City property to its pre-existing condition. They have been to the Planning Commission on Soil and Erosion Control and this was approved.

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Mr. Ward further advised that they asked the City to extend the present sewer line 150' to where they will connect. This can be authorized, according to Code, by the City Manager.

Mr. Dykstra spoke briefly to Council.

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council authorized a Revocable

License to Dykstra and Salyers Contractors for the use of installing a sewer line for four new single family homes to be built on Murphy Street.

Mr. Ward advised that he would work with both the contractors and the adjoining property owners on this project.

The City Manager brought to Council for discussion changes to the Norton City Code as pertains to fishing the upper reservoir.

Mayor Raines advised that at a meeting held last year Chris Jones appeared before Council representing both the Norton Fire Department and the Old Dominion Sportsman Club regarding some changes at the upper reservoir.

Mr. Ward advised the City Administration had received a request by the Norton Fire Department to hold a specific stocking for the Big Benge Fishing Contest. Participants in this contest must have a City license plus purchase a ticket from the Fire Department; however, our Code does not authorize this. In order to permit this, the Code must be changed.

Mr. Jones was present and briefly spoke to Council. Also present was Michele Knox, City Parks and Recreation Director.

Following a brief discussion, it was the consensus of Council that a public hearing will be held later this year to amend the ordinance to cover the Big Benge Contest sponsored by the Norton Fire Department. The City Manager will also look into getting port-a-lets and some law enforcement during the peak times at the upper reservoir.

Council had a request for a sewer tap in the county for the Wise County Animal Shelter located in Josephine.

Mr. Ward advised the County will have to run sewer line for approximately 1500-2000 feet to connect onto City sewer.

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous vote, Council authorized a sewer tap for the Wise County Animal Shelter in Josephine with the county running sewer line to connect onto the city's line.

Council had a check made payable to the Norton City Schools in the amount of \$190,000.

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council approved a check in the amount of \$190,000 made payable to the Norton City Schools.

A proclamation was included in Council's packet proclaiming the week of March 14 - 20, 1999 to be National Employ the Older Worker Week.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council adopted a Proclamation Declaring the Week of March 14 - 20, 1999 as National Employ the Older Worker Week. (Insert)

A Resolution Requesting Deletion of Meals Tax Restrictions from Food Tax Relief Bill (HB1601) was handed out to Council prior to the meeting.

The Clerk read the resolution aloud.

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Mr. Ward advised that localities cannot collect meals tax on certain foods meeting the definition of "food for home consumption" as defined in the Food Stamp Act and could mean a loss of approximately \$20,000 annually to the City.

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, Council moved to adopt A Resolution Requesting Deletion of Meals Tax restrictions from Food Tax Relief Bill (HB1601). (Insert)

19279

The City Manager advised that copies would be faxed out the first thing tomorrow morning.

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel as per 2.1-344(A) (1) of the Code of Virginia, as amended.

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Mayor Raines declared Council in Executive Session.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to go back into regular session.

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Mayor Raines declared the meeting back in regular session.

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

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The Mayor opened the floor for nominations to the Housing Appeals Board for a five year term which will expire on January 17, 2004.

Joseph Fawbush nominated Mr. Jim Boggs to be reappointed to the Housing Appeals Board.

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

Mayor Raines declared Mr. Jim Boggs reappointed to the Norton Housing Appeals Board for a five year term which will expire on January 17, 2004.

The Mayor opened the floor for an appointment to the Lebanon Group Home Board of Directors for a four year term which will expire on April 1, 2003.

Joseph Hunnicutt nominated Mr. Carlos Noaks to be reappointed to the Lebanon Group Home Board of Directors.

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

Mayor Raines declared Mr. Carlos Noaks reappointed to the Lebanon Group Home Board of Directors for a four year term which will expire on April 1, 2003.

In comments from the City Manager, Mr. Ward advised that the Norton City Schools will present their budget to Council at the next meeting on April 6, 1999.

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In comments from the City Attorney, Mr. Bradshaw advised that at their last meeting, Council had authorized NIDA to renegotiate the loan on the Hotel Norton Property. He advised that the Board of Powell Valley National Bank met on March 15<sup>th</sup> and gave favorable consideration to the renegotiation of this loan. Mr. Ramey will be working with Mr. Wolfe on this loan.

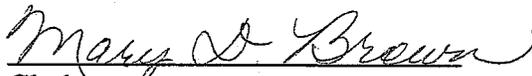
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There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned.

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA

  
B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Clerk