

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, September 1, 1998 at 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal Council Chambers with Mayor Robert Raines presiding.

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

Absent: Joseph Hunnicutt

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 our Parks and Recreation Director, Michele Knox.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the August 18, 1998 meeting as presented.

19121

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

19122

At this time, Councilman Hunnicutt took his seat on Council.

19123

Mr. Mark Hollyfield, recently appointed Executive Director of the Coeburn-Norton-Wise Regional Wastewater Authority, spoke briefly to Council introducing himself. He acknowledged the City's members on this Authority, Mr. Wallace and Mr. Hunnicutt, and also outgoing Chairman, William Mays. He also expressed his appreciation to several City employees who have assisted him since his appointment.

19124

Mr. Ward asked Mr. Hollyfield if tours of the facility were still held for the members of the councils of the participating municipalities. Mr. Hollyfield advised he was in the process of scheduling one and would advise the City Manager as soon as plans are completed.

Mayor Raines thanked Mr. Hollyfield for his presentation.

Parks and Recreation Director, Michele Knox, was present and gave Council a report on this year's pool season advising this was the best year in the past ten years.

Ms. Knox also passed out pictures showing internal pool problems and stated that we are losing approximately 39,000 gallons of water per day.

Following a brief discussion, Mayor Raines advised Ms. Knox that repairs to the pool are in the CIP Plan for 1999-2000. Mr. Ward advised this will be the installation of a liner for the pool in the amount of approximately \$100,000. This work will be done about this time next year.

19125

Mayor Raines thanked Ms. Knox for her report.

Council had in their packets information regarding the regulation of fireworks in the City. They also had a copy of our current regulations on same. Mayor Raines advised that during the 4th of July holiday, there were two tents set up at a local shopping center selling all types of fireworks. He then presented to Council various statistics concerning injuries which occur from fireworks.

19126

Following a lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of Council to table this item for the time being with the stipulation that it may be brought back.

Mr. Ward brought to Council the item of the establishment of a First Night 2000 Committee to plan activities to be held in 1999 and culminate with a New Year Eve's celebration to bring in the new millennium. He advised Council had already budgeted \$5,000 in the current budget and plans to budget \$15,000 in the 1999-2000 budget for this purpose. This committee will be similar to the Norton Centennial Committee.

19127

It was the consensus of Council that the City Manager bring a resolution for adoption at the next meeting which will establish this committee of five to seven members.

Mayor Raines asked the City Attorney if this item could be discussed in tonight's Executive Session since it is on the agenda even though the resolution will not be adopted until the next meeting. Mr. Bradshaw advised Council not to discuss this item in Executive Session.

Mayor Raines advised that Item #3 under Executive Session, Appointment of a First Night 2000 Committee, will be deleted from the agenda.

19128

Upon a motion by Joe Fawbush, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, 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.

19129

Mayor Raines declared the meeting in Executive Session.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Joe Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to go back into regular session.

19130

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 Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by the following vote: Hunnicutt, Wallace, Mays, Fawbush, Raines - YES, NO - NONE, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Executive Meeting. (Insert)

19131

Mayor Raines advised no action had been taken in Executive Session.

19132

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

The City Council photo session will be prior to the next meeting on September 15th. He asked that Council members be there at 7:00 p.m. A reminder will be put in their packets.

The City offices will be closed Monday for the Labor Day holiday. Garbage schedules will run on a regular schedule.

19133

Work on the million gallon water tank is proceeding well. The entire interior has been sandblasted and painting has begun. Problems with low and high water pressure have been regulated now. It will take another 2-3 weeks on this tank and then they will proceed to the tank at Flag Rock.

Our annual paving has been completed and striping will be done in the next two weeks.

The City Attorney advised that he has a court appearance on Friday, September 4th to resolve some objections that have been filed by the attorney in one of the remaining tax sale suits. Mr. Bradshaw believes that these objections will be resolved and we will have a conclusion very shortly afterwards.

19134

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA

B. Robert Raines
B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:

Mary S. Brown, Clerk