

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, May 20, 1997 at the Municipal Council Chambers with Mayor Raines presiding.

Present: Roy Roberts, Jack Wallace, William Mays, Ron McCall, and Robert Raines

Also Present: E. W. Ward, City Manager and Joe Pippin, City Attorney

The invocation was given by Rev. Jim Jenkins and followed by the pledge of allegiance which was lead by the Superintendent of the Norton City Schools, Mr. William Passan.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Ron McCall, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting as presented.

17812

At this time, Mayor Raines amended the agenda to include Item 7-D-1 A Proclamation Authorizing the Week of May 18-24, 1997 as emergency medical Services Week and Volunteer Rescue Squad Week in the City of Norton.

17813

During the Mayor's call for visitors, Police Chief Sam Mongle advised Council that the name of Mr. Thomas John Osborne had been placed on the Police Memorial Wall on May 15<sup>th</sup> of this year. Mr. Osborne, great grandfather of Ms. Octavia Stidham of Norton, was shot and killed on July 16, 1895 in the line of duty as a police officer. Chief Mongle and Ms. Stidham had worked together on this project.

17814

Mayor Raines expressed Council's appreciation to Chief Mongle for his work on securing this honor for the Stidham family.

Rev. Jim Jenkins, Pastor of the United Methodist Church, thanked Council for the privilege of working with them throughout his tenure here in Norton. He is being transferred in June to Pulaski.

17815

Mayor Raines, on behalf of Council, thanked Rev. Jenkins for his community involvement and support.

A public hearing was held on the 1997-98 Budget for the Norton City Schools which totals \$4,542,737 of which \$1,658,913 is from local funds.

Representing the School Board was Chairman Cliff Daniels and Superintendent of Schools, William Passan.

There were no questions or comments from Council prior to the public hearing. Mayor Raines opened the public hearing.

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

There were no questions or comments from Council following the public hearing.

Upon a motion by Roy Roberts, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to adopt the Norton city Schools 1997-98 Budget which totals \$4,542,737 of which \$1,658,913 is from local funds.

Mayor Raines expressed Council's appreciation for the leadership and efforts to the School Board.

Both Mr. Daniels and Mr. Passan expressed appreciation to the Council on behalf of the School Board and the children of Norton.

An update was given to Council on the Esserville Sewer Project by Mr. Mike Hatfield of Thompson and Litton. Mr. Hatfield advised that 90% of the design is completed and that he had met with Mr. Paul Green of the Health Department last week.

Following this update, Mr. Ward advised that these plans would be submitted to the Health Department for their review and approval and once this is done and we get our permits in order, we will then be in a position to advertise the project. Mr. Ward further advised the funds for this project are 80% from the ARC (approximately \$400,000) with \$100,000 in local funds which is divided between the City of Norton and Wise County.

Council thanked Mr. Hatfield for the update.

Mr. Ward advised that the City entered into a contract on April 7, 1997 with Corte Construction of Bluefield on the Downtown Revitalization Project. Fred Ramey, Coordinator of this project, will present Council with an update on this project.

During the course of this update, Mr. Ramey advised that Super Service Garage had asked for a 30 day delay in vacating the property on Federal Street. The contractor had advised this would be no problem and the delay was granted. A time line was given to Council with a final completion date of October 1st.

Mr. Ramey answered various questions from Council and Mayor Raines thanked Mr. Ramey for this update.

Council had in their packets A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Norton, Virginia Supporting the Virginia Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics. Police Chief Mongle read this resolution to Council.

17819

Upon a motion by Roy Roberts, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Norton, Virginia Supporting the Virginia Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics. (Insert)

Council had been presented with A Proclamation Declaring the Week of May 18 - 24, 1997 as Emergency Medical Services Week and Volunteer Rescue Squad Week in the City of Norton.

17820

The Clerk read the entire proclamation and upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt A Proclamation Declaring the Week of May 18 - 24, 1997 as Emergency Medical Services Week and Volunteer Rescue Squad Week in the City of Norton. (Insert)

Mayor Raines expressed appreciation to Vice Mayor Mays for his work in this field both on a daily basis in his employment and as President of the Norton Rescue Squad.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Ron McCall, 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.

17821

The Mayor declared the meeting in Executive Session.

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

17822

Mayor Raines declared the meeting back in regular session.

The Clerk then polled each member as to the Certification of Executive Meeting with each answering yes. The Clerk then read the entire Resolution of the Certification of Executive Meeting. Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Roy Roberts, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Executive Meeting. (Insert)

17823

Mayor Raines announced no action had been taken during Executive Session.

17824

In his comments, the City Manager advised:

The Rescue Squad has trained 23 employees of the City in CPR and First Aid and he would like to thank them.

Kids Fishing Day will be held on May 31, 1997 at the reservoir from 8:00 - 11:00.

17825

At the regular Council Meeting on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, there will be a public hearing on the City Budget, a discussion on a grant from the Department of Criminal Justice in the amount of \$35,000, and the discussion of the possibility of disposing of the Ramsey Sewage Treatment Plant as City property and turning it over as a piece of taxable property.

The City Attorney advised that he and the City Treasurer have several tax cases pending.

17826

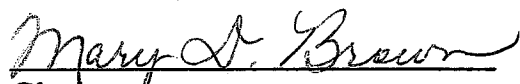
There were no comments from Council.

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA

  
B. Robert Raines  
Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Clerk