

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, June 17, 1997 at the Municipal Council Chambers with Vice Mayor Mays presiding.

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

Absent: Robert Raines

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

The invocation was given by Rev. Steve Connerly and was followed by the pledge of allegiance which was lead by Mr. Tony Roberts, President of the Norton Lions Club, and some members of his organization.

Upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by Roy Roberts, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the June 3, 1997 meeting as presented.

17839

During the Mayor's call for visitors, Mr. Tony Roberts, President of the Norton Lions Club presented the City with a check in the amount of \$8,340 covering items and work done at the Clear Creek Park. They had been approached by Michele Knox, the City Parks and Recreation Director, to see if they would be interested in being a sponsor for this park.

17840

On behalf of Council, Vice Mayor Mays thanked the Lions Club for their generosity.

A public hearing was held on An Ordinance Adopting the Budget for the City of Norton, Virginia for the Fiscal Year of July 1, 1997 Thru June 30, 1998 Appropriating Funds for All Contemplated Expenses of the City for the Fiscal Year and Placing Levies Upon All Real Estate, Personal Property and Bank Stock, Licenses, Fees, User Charges, and All Other Levies as Previously Imposed or Modified Herein.

The City Manager advised this budget has been duly advertised and a public hearing had been held at our last meeting. He asked Council's favorable consideration in the passage of this ordinance and gave a brief synopsis on same.

17841

Following a brief discussion by Council and upon a motion by Roy Roberts, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to adopt An Ordinance Adopting the Budget for the City of Norton, Virginia For

the Fiscal year of July 1, 1997 Thru June 30, 1998 Appropriating Funds for All Contemplated Expenses of the City for the Fiscal Year and Placing Levies Upon All Real Estate, Personal Property and Bank Stock, Licenses, Fees, User Charges, and All Other Levies as Previously Imposed or Modified Herein. (Insert)

Council had in their packets the budget for the fiscal year 1997-98 for the Norton Industrial Development Authority. Per the terms of NIDA's loan with the Powell Valley National Bank, Council has to approve their budget prior to July 1, 1997. Mr. Ward advised Mr. Robert Leonard, Treasurer for NIDA, could not be present at tonight's meeting; however Mr. Ramey would answer any questions Council might have.

17842

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by Roy Roberts, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to adopt the 1997-98 Fiscal Budget for the Norton Industrial Development Authority in the amount of \$313,397.

Mr. Ward advised he was in receipt of a letter dated May 9, 1997 from the Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Criminal Justice Services, advising that the City had received a \$35,000 grant in Federal Funds which will apply to the Camp for Cops and Kids and is a 100% funded grant. He had advised this had been brought to Council in a previous meeting and that Council had authorized the grant application. He was seeking Council's favorable consideration on the acceptance of this grant money. The Police Chief was present to answer any questions Council may have had.

17843

There were no questions or comments from the members of Council.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Roy Roberts, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to accept the grant of \$35,000 from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services.

Mr. Ward advised Council that in 1988 Council had adopted a DownTown Store Front Improvement Program which ran through 1992. This program appropriated monies to make loans/grants to business owners/property owners in the Central Business District to make improvements to their facades. Approximately 18 businesses took advantage of this program.

17844

The City gave an exemption to any property owner who participated in this program and who had been certified as eligible to be exempt from the payment to the City of the Building Inspection Fee in connection with the program and also a two year waiver on additional assessment for real estate tax purposes for the

improvements they made if they participated in this program. The program has been silent since 1992-93 and the monies that were used to fund this program was all local money.

Part of the Downtown Revitalization Grant that we have now requires that we re-establish a Downtown Storefront Improvement Program and set aside VHCD funds to administer this program. There will need to be some changes from the old program to the new and Mr. Ward went over these with Council.

Following a discussion, it was the consensus of Council that Mr. Ward and Mr. Ramey work on this new program and bring it back to Council at the next meeting if possible.

Council had in their packets A Resolution in Support of the Partners in Prevention Initiative. Mr. Ward briefly went over this Resolution with Council and advised that he had talked with Dr. Cantrell of the Wise County Health Department and Bill Stokes, Director of Social Services regarding this program.

Upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt A Resolution in Support of the Partners In Prevention Initiative. (Insert)

17845

Council had a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Norton Adopting a Five Year Capital Improvements Program. Mr. Ward advised that only the first year is funded in the new budget.

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Roy Roberts, seconded by Ron McCall, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Norton Adopting a Five Year Capital Improvements Program. (Insert)

17846

A request was made by the City Manager for a budget transfer in the amount of \$15,500. These funds would come from Contingency and would be distributed as follows: \$10,000 to Account #1204-3002 and \$5,500 to Account #8101-1003.

Upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by Roy Roberts, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve the request for budget transfer in the amount of \$15,500 as requested with said funds to come from Contingency.

17847

Council had a check in the amount of \$140,000 made payable to the Norton City Schools to be approved. Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Roy Roberts, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a check in the amount of \$140,000 made payable to the Norton City Schools.

17848

Council had a request from the Norton City Schools for a budget amendment in the amount of \$115,605. Of this amount, \$16,885 is an increase of stated funds, \$1,953 in other funds, and \$96,767 in Federal Grant Funds.

1784

Upon a motion by Roy Roberts, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a budget amendment for the Norton City Schools in the amount of \$115,605.

Upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by Jack Wallace, 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.

17850

The Vice Mayor declared the meeting in Executive Session.

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

17851

The Vice Mayor 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 Jack Wallace, seconded by Ron McCall, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Executive Meeting. (Insert)

1785

Vice Mayor Mays opened the floor for nominations to the Mountain Empire Regional Business Incubator, Inc. for a four (4) year term to expire on July 1, 2001.

Ron McCall nominated Mr. W. H. "Hank" Hankins III.

17853

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

Vice Mayor Mays declared Mr. W. H. "Hank" Hankins appointed to the Mountain Empire Regional Business Incubator, Inc. for a four (4) year term which will expire on July 1, 2001.

Vice Mayor Mays opened the floor for nominations to the Lonesome Pine Regional Library board for a four (4) year term which will expire on June 30, 2001.

Roy Roberts nominated Ms. Leola Yeary to be reappointed to this Board.

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

17854

Vice Mayor Mays declared Ms. Leola Yeary reappointed to the Lonesome Pine Regional Library Board for a four (4) year term which will expire on June 30, 2001.

Vice Mayor Mays opened the floor for nominations to the Southwest Community Criminal Justice Board for a two (2) year term which will expire on June 30, 2001.

17855

Jack Wallace nominated Mr. Sam Mongle to be reappointed to this Board.

Upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by Roy Roberts, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved that the nominations cease.

Vice Mayor Mays declared Mr. Sam Mongle to be reappointed to the Southwest Community Criminal Justice Board for a two (2) year term which will expire on June 30, 2001.

Vice Mayor Mays opened the floor for nominations to the SDA-One Private Industry Council for a three (3) year term which will expire on June 30, 2000.

Ron McCall nominated Mr. Don Green to be reappointed to this Council.

17856

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

Vice Mayor Mays declared Mr. Don Green reappointed to the SDA-One Private Industry Council for a three (3) year term which will expire on June 30, 2000.

In his comments, the City Manager advised:

He will be out of town on vacation June 20 to 30, 1997 and the Assistant City Manager, Mr. Ramey, will be in charge.

17857

In comments from Council, Mr. Roberts asked who was responsible for the sign in front of the Lost Creek Development Property. Mr. Ward advised it was the Virginia Department of Transportation. Mr. Ward advised he would contact the Resident Engineer to see if we could get the sign moved 20' to 30'.

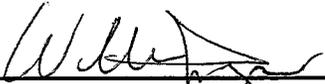
17858

The City Attorney advised he would be out of town for the July 1st meeting.

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA



William J. Mays
Vice Mayor

ATTEST:



Clerk