

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on Tuesday, June 4, 1996, at 7:30 p.m. with Mayor Robert 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 Father Tom Collins which was followed by the pledge of allegiance led by the Director of Social Services, Bill Stokes.

17507

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the May 21, 1996 meeting as presented.

17508

There was no response during the audience for visitors.

17509

Council had been presented with An Ordinance Adopting the Budget for the City of Norton, Virginia for the Fiscal Year of July 1, 1996 Thru June 30, 1997 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.

Mr. Ward went over a synopsis of this budget: The General Fund Budget is \$5,971,304; the Water and Sewer Fund Budget is \$1,687,760; the Norton City Schools Budget is \$4,589,695; the Social Services Fund is \$633,125; and the Downtown Redevelopment Fund is \$1,103,500. A public hearing was held on this ordinance at our last meeting.

Upon a motion by Roy Roberts, seconded by Ron McCall, 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, 1996 Thru June 30, 1997 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)

17510

Council had included in their packets A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Norton Adopting A Five Year Capital Improvements Program.

The City Manager advised the first year of this plan is funded in the 1996-1997 budget. In the General Fund, the amount totals \$933,618 and in the Water Fund \$148,000. Years 2 thru 5 are projects the City plans to attempt to try to fund somewhere during this five year period.

Mr. Ward asked Council's favorable consideration on this resolution.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Norton Adopting a Five Year Capital Improvements Program. (Insert)

17511

Council had in their packets A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Norton, Virginia Requesting the Virginia Department of Transportation to Initiate an Urban Project to Four Lane A Section of Park Avenue.

Mr. Ward advised the Commonwealth Transportation Board has issued their plan for 1996-97 and included in that plan is the Urban Highway Project for the City of Norton to four lane the small section of road from Dairy Queen up Tipple Hill as discussed earlier with Council by Vince Valenti of the Virginia Department of Transportation.

The City will be responsible for 2% of the cost associated with this project and VDOT will be responsible for 98%.

The City Manager asked for Council's favorable consideration of this resolution.

Upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Norton, Virginia Requesting the Virginia Department of Transportation to Initiate an Urban Project to Four Lane A Section of Park Avenue. (Insert)

The City Manager presented to Council two options being offered to localities by the Virginia Retirement System. The first option is House Bill 901 which was passed by the General Assembly and it offers any VRS member with at least 25 years of service to purchase up 36 months of credit for active military service or service rendered in the retirement plan of another state at 5% of salary at the time of purchase.

VRS needs to be notified by July 1, 1996 if the City wishes to opt out. Mr. Ward advised there will be a cost involved; however it should be a small amount of money.

Following a brief discussion, it was the consensus of Council to table this item until the next meeting. Mr. Ward will bring Council some figures on the cost involved.

The second option is the funding of COLAs for retirees. Mr. Ward advised there were two options the City can take; one being a Five Year Phase In Plan and the other is Full Funded. The City Manager went over each of these plans with Council and a brief discussion ensued.

Upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to adopt the Guide Resolution for Full Funding. (Insert)

Council had in their packets a request for a water tap in the Thackers Branch area for Mrs. Connie M. Culbertson.

Mr. Ward advised water was available in this area.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by William Mays, and passed by the following vote: Roberts - NO, Wallace, Mays, McCall, and Raines - YES, Council approved a water tap for Mrs. Connie M. Culbertson in the Thackers Branch area.

Mr. Ward is to advise Mrs. Culbertson.

Mr. Ward advised Council that the City was in receipt of a letter from the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Personnel and Training who handles our Local Choice Hospitalization Plan. In this letter, they are offering the City the option of an additional year of coverage

at the same cost. This will carry us to 6/30/98 and the City Administration recommends that we accept this offer.

Upon a motion by Roy Roberts, seconded by Ron McCall, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to accept the offer from the Department of Personnel and Training to extend our present cost to 6/30/98.

17516

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Roy Roberts, 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 and discussion concerning a prospective business where no previous announcement has been made of the business' interest in locating in the community as per 2.1-344(A) (5) of the Code of Virginia, as amended.

17517

Mayor Raines declared the meeting in Executive Session.

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

Mayor Raines declared the meeting back in regular session.

17518

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 Ron McCall, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Executive Meeting. (Insert)

17519

Mayor Raines opened the floor for nominations to the Lenowisco Board of Directors for a four year term which will expire June 30, 2000.

Roy Roberts nominated Mr. B. Robert Raines to be reappointed to this Board.

17520

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

Mayor Raines declared Mr. B. Robert Raines reappointed to the Lenowisco Board of Directors for a four year term which will expire on June 30, 2000.

At this time, Mr. Jim Kennedy, 200 - 6th Street, N. W., Apt. 608, spoke briefly to Council regarding the Junction Center for Independent Living advising that the term of the current City representative to this Board will expire on September 30, 1996. He would like to submit his name for consideration of this appointment at that time.

17521

Mayor Raines thanked Mr. Kennedy for attending the meeting and also for his interest in submitting his name for appointment to this Board.

In his comments, the City Manager advised:

The City Pool will open on Saturday, June 8th.

The Best Friend Festival begins on Sunday, June 9th and runs through June 16th.

17522

The bridge at Round Town has been installed and will stay in place until the new bridge goes in.

Advised the flag pole on Flag Rock was broken by either wind or lightning during a bad storm recently and would be repaired as soon as possible.

In comments from Council, Mr. Mays advised that on Thursday and Friday, June 6th and 7th, the Financial Systems Review Committee from the Governor's Advisory Board of Emergency Medical Services will be in the City doing grant reviews for the entire state. This will be held at the Norton Rescue Squad Building. Council is invited to come down and visit during this time and at 7:00 on Thursday evening, a cook-out will be held.

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA


B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:


Clerk