

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held in the Municipal Council Chambers on Tuesday, March 19, 1991, at 7:30 p.m. with Mayor Robert Raines presiding.

Present: Jack Wallace, Robert Raines, and William Mays

Absent: Linda Sturgill and Ron McCall

Also Present: E. W. Ward, City Manager and Kenneth Asbury, City Attorney

The invocation was given by Rev. Bob Kespelher followed by the Pledge of Allegiance which was led by Social Services Director Bill Stokes.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the March 5, 1991 meeting as presented.

15034

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

15035

Mr. Ward advised Council they had been furnished with information covering Appalshop's request to install a translator on City Property near the 11th Street water tank for their radio station WMMT in order that they may give the citizens of Norton better reception. Mr. Ward further advised Mr. Rich Kirby, Station Manager of WMMT, was present to answer any questions from Council.

Following a brief discussion, Mr. Ward advised that the City Attorney and he had agreed some changes that should be made to the lease agreement mainly: a shorter term lease, revision of insurance, cancellation clause, and compensation for lease.

15036

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council authorized the City Manager to enter into a contract with Appalshop, Incorporated subject to the recommendation and approval by the City Attorney of the lease agreement.

Mr. Ward advised Council of the results of the bids on the Property Reassessment which, due to State mandate must be done every four years, has to be done this year. The City received three bids with Mr. Frank Stacy of Dryden, Va. having the low bid of \$7.00 per parcel.

15037

The City Manager, along with the Commissioner of Revenue, recommends Council accept the low bid of Mr. Stacy, who has done the past two reassessments in the City. Mr. Ward had set up a proposed budget in the amount of \$19,000 to cover the reassessment.

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council authorized the City Manager to enter into a contractual arrangement with Mr. Frank Stacy for the General Property Reassessment in the amount of \$19,000 with said funds to come from City reserves.

Mr. Ward advised the City had an application for one water and one sewer connection in the County by Larry and Sharon Ingle. He further advised that the Planning Commission did approve the one sewer tap at their meeting last week and that the City Administration recommends favorable consideration of this request.

Mr. Ingle was present to answer any questions from Council.

15038

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to approve one water and one sewer tap in the Esserville Section of Wise County for Larry and Sharon Ingle.

The City Manager presented to those present on Council the July 1, 1989 - June 30, 1990 Annual Report for the City of Norton for their review and advised he was available to answer any questions from Council.

15039

In his comments, Mr. Ward advised that Vice Mayor Mays and he had attended the Pre-Allocation Hearing held by the Virginia Department of Transportation in Abingdon on Monday urging them to stay on course and keep the Norton By-Pass in the Six Year Plan.

15040

The Wise County Chamber of Commerce Dinner will be held Friday, March 22, 1991, and presented Council members with tickets for same.

As his final item, the City Manager advised that the Norton School Board will present their budget at the first Council Meeting in April.

There were no comments from the City Attorney.

15041

In comments from Council, Mayor Raines expressed his appreciation to the residents of Norton who organized the activities in the parade and rally for supporting our troops in Desert Storm. He stated it was a well organized event and that it was a job well done.

15042

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



B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:

Mary D. Brown, Clerk