

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Norton City Council was held on December 1, 1987, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Daniels presiding.

Present: Cliff Daniels, Robert Raines, Roy Roberts, Jack Wallace, and William Mays

Also Present: C. R. Brown, City Manager, and Kenneth Asbury, City Attorney

The invocation was given by Rev. Don Bowles followed by the Pledge of Allegiance which was led by Dr. George Culbertson.

13982

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Robert Raines, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to accept the minutes of the November 4, 1987 meeting as presented.

13983

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

13984

Ken Poore and Foster Paulette, representatives of Ken Poore and Associates made a special presentation to Council on the progress being made with the downtown revitalization.

Mr. Paulette advised they had broken down this revitalization into four projects: Park Avenue Street Improvements, Town Center Park, Parking Lot at Virginia Avenue and Eighth Street, and a Farmers' Market.

Council was provided with sketches of the proposed work and also with cost estimates.

13985

Mr. Poore advised Council that they needed Council to advise their consensus as to the concept presented tonight as they already have the approval of the Norton Industrial Development Authority on this concept. Also in conjunction with the Downtown Physical Improvement Program, they suggested two types of rehabilitation efforts to benefit commercial establishments downtown linking a low interest rehabilitation loan program and/or a store front improvement program, both of which would have to be underwritten with some capital to entice the merchants. Furthermore, they need Council's endorsement of making low interest loan and grant funds available to the downtown merchants to fix up both the buildings and store fronts.

Mayor Daniels recessed Council for approximately five minutes so that Council and the audience could look over the sketches. Mayor Daniels declared the meeting back in session and opened the floor to questions to the planners from both Council and the audience.

After much discussion, Council advised the planners that they had no answer for them tonight, but Council did schedule a public hearing/work session to begin at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 5, 1988. The City Manager is to invite by letter all merchants and property owners on Park Avenue to attend this hearing. Council advised the planners that it would not be necessary for them to be in attendance.

Mayor Daniels asked Mr. Poore and Mr. Paulette to remain until after the meeting for further discussion.

The Mayor advised that as of 2:00 p.m. today, December 1, 1987, we had a combined total of 49.6 million gallons of water in both reservoirs.

13986

The City Manager advised that we are still pumping twenty four hours a day and that many citizens are trying to conserve. The water we are purchasing from Wise was cut off during Thanksgiving due to pump trouble, and should be back on within the next five days.

The Mayor again urged for conservation.

The City Manager requested a budget adjustment to Account #3201-5400. Mr. Brown advised this was a 1% refund on fire insurance premiums and the law stipulates this must be spent by the Fire Department over and above their budget.

Upon a motion by Roy Roberts, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council approved the request to appropriate the sum of \$7,563.58 to Account No. 3201-5400 as a budget adjustment.

13987

The City Manager presented Council with a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Norton Approving an Audit Adjustment of the 1986-1987 Audit.

The City Manager advised this was an audit adjustment which was uncollectable and the recommendation of the auditor was to abate this amount. 13988

Upon a motion by Robert Raines, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to pass A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Norton approving an Audit Adjustment of the 1986-1987 Audit in the amount of \$519.00. (Insert)

Before entering into Executive Session, Mr. Brown, the City Manager, asked to amend the agenda. 13989

Mr. Brown had presented Council with a revised I & I Abatement Schedule which he had prepared and sent to the State Water Control Board in Abingdon. They liked the schedule and want same sent to their offices in Richmond. The City Manager is seeking Council's authorization to submit this schedule to the Richmond Office of the State Water Control Board. 13990

Upon a motion by Roy Roberts, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council authorized the City Manager to forward to the State Water Control Board in Richmond the revised I & I Abatement Schedule. If approved by the Richmond Office, it will be sent back to Council for their approval.

Mayor Daniels advised that the City had advertised for a public hearing to be held December 15, 1987 for making changes in the City Charter under the guidance of the City Attorney. Copies of the changed Charter are available for the public in the City Manager's Office. 13991

Mr. Brown advised he had an informal request for a Dance Hall License for one night only - New Year's Eve from a local business. Mr. Brown stated our current ordinance does not cover this. The City has looked at the establishment and with two or three housekeeping items, the site will be suitable.

After brief discussion, Council advised the City Manager to advertise for a public hearing to be held at the December 15th meeting. 13992

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Robert Raines, and passed by unanimous 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.

Upon motion by William Mays, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to go back into regular session. 13993

The Mayor announced there were no comments as to personnel.

The City Manager advised the Christmas Parade will be held Saturday, December 6, 1987, at 6:00 p.m. Council is invited and encouraged to be at the reviewing stand and if Council wishes, a car will be furnished for them to ride in the parade. Following the parade, a tree lighting ceremony will be held by the City in front of the Municipal Building at 7:30 with the J. I. Burton Band, Santa, the singing of carols, and the Fire Department helping with hot chocolate and candy. 13994

The Employee Christmas Party will be held on Thursday, December 10, 1987 at the Burton High School Cafeteria.

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

Cliff Daniels

Mayor

ATTEST:

Mary D. Brown

Clerk