

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, March 16, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Council Chambers with Mayor William Mays presiding.

Present: Joseph Hunnicutt, William Mays, Joseph Fawbush, Terry Roop

Absent: Mark Caruso

Also Present: E. W. Ward, City Manager and Bill Bradshaw, City Attorney

The invocation was given by Rev. John Ellington and was followed by the pledge of allegiance led by Mr. Jeff Lester, a reporter for the Coalfield Progress.

Mayor Mays welcomed Ms. Cindy Atwell, a member of the Forward Wise County Class to tonight's meeting. He further advised that Councilman Caruso was absent due to the illness of his father.

24669

Upon a motion by Councilman Roop, seconded by Councilman Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the March 2, 2010 meeting as presented.

24670

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

24671

Council had been presented in their packets a copy of an Agreement with the Virginia Department of Health as Pertains to a Fluoridation Grant.

He advised that he had been working Mr. Tommy Roberts, the Superintendent of the Norton Water Plant, and that they plan to use this 100% grant funds in the amount of \$29,700 to remove the fluoridation feed point out of the area where it is now located and put it in the area of the clearwell. This should have been separated previously per State regulations.

24672

The City Attorney advised that the agreement is in order and the City Manager asked for permission to proceed with this Memorandum of Understanding.

Upon a motion by Councilman Fawbush, seconded by Councilman Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous vote, Council authorized the City Manager to proceed with the Memorandum of Agreement Between the Virginia Department of Health and the City of Norton in the amount of \$29,700.

Mr. Ward advised Council that he and Councilman Roop, who were appointed at the last meeting to represent the City on the School Consolidation Study Committee, met with the other members of this committee on March 10<sup>th</sup> at the Wise County School Board Office in Wise. He advised the meeting was very cordial and there was a long list of questions for discussion. The next meeting will be held on March 29, 2010 at which time the members will be put in sub-committees on different issues. He will be keeping this as an agenda item so that Council will be kept well informed on the topic.

24673

Councilman Roop advised he had filed his Declaration/Disclosure of Personal Interest with the Clerk prior to tonight's meeting. He presented to members of Council a copy of

the discussions held at this first meeting as sent to him by Dr. Jeff Perry, Superintendent of the Wise County Schools and had supplied to fellow council members in their packets his synopsis of the meeting. (Insert – Councilman Roop’s Disclosure Form)

Following a brief discussion, both Mr. Ward and Councilman Roop advised that City Council and the citizens of Norton must be kept well informed on this topic of consolidation of schools and that this would be the most important issue that City Council would have to face.

Mayor Mays thanked both Mr. Ward and Councilman Roop for representing the City Council and thanked them for the information given to Council tonight.

Due to the request at Council’s last meeting by Dr. Shamiyeh regarding new tennis courts being installed at the 11<sup>th</sup> Street Park, Mr. Ward advised that he and Michele Knox, Parks and Recreation Director, had looked at the condition of these courts. He advised that they were in need of being replaced; however, the City does not have the funds to do so at this time. Pictures were shown via a PowerPoint presentation of repairs that need to be made to the courts and fencing around them. If new courts were constructed, it would cost anywhere between \$40,000 to \$50,000 and maybe more plus it would take a long period of time to go through the procurement process. He advised the best time for renovations would be the fall of the year.

24674

Ms. Knox was present to answer any questions Council might have.

Mr. Ward advised it was the recommendation of both he and Ms. Knox to repair the cracks, repair the fencing and hopefully, this should last through a season or two.

Council was informed that Ms. Knox had talked with Dr. Shamiyeh on what repairs would be made.

Council had been given copies of two transfers and one check to be approved. The first transfer was to the Norton Industrial Development Authority in the amount of \$122,004.25 for a quarterly payment on the Norton Commons Project, the second was in the amount of \$300,000 to the Norton City Schools to cover payroll and fringe benefits, and the check was made payable to the Norton Lady Raiders Basketball Team to cover their expenses to the State Championship in the amount of \$7,000. The \$7,000 dollars to the Lady Raiders will come from Unappropriated Reserves.

24675

At this time, Mayor Mays advised Council was very proud of the Lady Raiders who are the state runner-ups in Girls Basketball.

Upon a motion by Councilman Hunnicutt, seconded by Councilman Fawbush, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve the two transfers in the amounts of \$122,004.25 to NIDA and \$300,000 to the Norton City Schools to cover items as stated above.

Upon a motion by Councilman Hunnicutt, seconded by Councilman Fawbush, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a check in the amount of \$7,000 made payable to the Norton Lady Raiders Basketball Team to cover expenses as stated above with said funds to come from Unappropriated Reserves.

Upon a motion by Councilman Fawbush, seconded by Councilman Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to go into closed meeting to discuss

the acquisition of real property for a public purpose as per Section No. 2.2-3711 (A) (3) of the Code of Virginia, as amended.

24676

Mayor Mays declared Council in closed meeting.

Upon a motion by Councilman Hunnicutt, seconded by Councilman Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to go into open meeting.

24677

Mayor Mays declared Council back in open meeting.

The Clerk then polled each member of Council as to the certification of closed meeting with each answering yes.

The Clerk then read A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. Upon a motion by Councilman Hunnicutt, seconded by Councilman Fawbush, and passed by the following unanimous vote: YES – Hunnicutt, Fawbush, Roop, Mays, NO – None, ABSENT – Caruso, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. (Insert)

24678

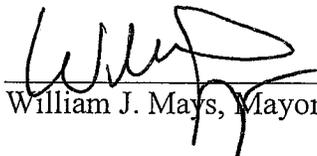
In comments from the City Manager, Mr. Ward advised that the 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Wise County-City of Norton Chamber of Commerce Gala will be held on April 10, 2010 at the Holiday Inn. The City has purchased a table and he would like a headcount from Council members for those who will be attending.

24679

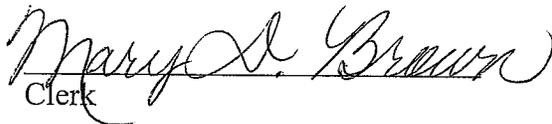
There were no comments from the City Attorney or council members.

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William J. Mays, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk