

The regular meeting of the City Council was held in the Municipal Court Room on February 20, 1979, at 7:30 P. M. with Mayor Hunnicutt presiding.

Present: George Hunnicutt, W. F. McElroy, Robert Collier, Cliff Daniels, Frank Fischer

Also Present: G. M. Newman, City Manager, Kenneth Asbury, City Attorney, Earle Brown, Acting City Manager

Minutes of the regular and special meetings were read and approved.

On motion by Frank Fischer, seconded by W. F. McElroy, and carried by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved that Mr. G. M. Newman be appointed as City Manager of the City of Norton with effective date of February 19, 1979.

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Randy Daniels, representing John I. Burton Tennis Team, was present at Council meeting to remind council and the city manager to get the tennis courts fixed before the tennis season. Council assured Randy that the courts would be fixed in time for tennis season.

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Mr. Frank Day of Ramsey Section of the City was present regarding acquiring piece of property from the City. Mr. Day presented a map to City Attorney. Matter referred to City Attorney and City Manager for ruling on conveyance of this property.

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Several citizens were present regarding proposed ordinance on tax relief for the elderly. Those speaking on the subject: Marylynn Pace of Senior Citizens Program spoke in behalf of those senior citizens who could not be present; Cora Kibler, Joe Fischer, Mary Smith. This matter being on agenda was delayed until place on agenda.

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Council briefly discussed city sheriff's request for deputy.

On motion by Robert Collier, seconded by Cliff Daniels, and carried by unanimous vote, Council moved that matter of Sheriff's request for a deputy and request of other two constitutional offices be tabled until next Council meeting.

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Acting City Manager, Earle Brown, gave an update on traffic light change. He advised that Mr. Gates, Resident Engineer, Department of Highways, was pursuing the matter.

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Mr. Paul Elkins, of the Mental Health and Retardation Program appeared before Council and presented a proposal for 12 unit apartment for Mentally Retarded. He ask that Council endorse the letter of intent by the Planning Board. Matter referred to City Manager.

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On motion by Cliff Daniels, seconded by Robert Collier an "Ordinance Providing for the Exemption of Taxes on Property of Certain Elderly Persons in the City of Norton, Virginia," was introduced, read in full, discussed, and failed by the following votes: Collier, Yes; W. F. McElroy, Abstained; George Hunnicutt, Abstained; Frank Fischer, No; Cliff Daniels, Yes. This matter is to be brought up at a later date.

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Ralph "Butch" Wells appeared before Council regarding stocking of the reservoir and necessary repairs to parking lot. Council discussed this matter at length and directed Mr. Wells to go ahead as in past.

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Earle Brown advised Council of Litter Control containers which he would like to purchase with county in order to have enough funds for purchase. Matter referred to City Manager.

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On motion by W. F. McElroy, seconded by Robert Collier, and carried by unanimous vote, Council moved that Mr. G. M. Newman, City Manager, be appointed as a member of City of Norton Planning and Zoning Commission and Welfare Board.

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On motion by Cliff Daniels, seconded by W. F. McElroy, and carried by unanimous vote, Mr. G. M. Newman was authorized to sign all general checks as opposed to payroll checks together with City Treasurer, revoking Geraldine O'Bryan as authorized signer of checks in absence of City Manager.

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On motion by Cliff Daniels, seconded by Frank Fischer, and carried by unanimous vote, Council moved they go into executive session to discuss personnel matters.

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On motion by Cliff Daniels, seconded by Frank Fischer, and carried by unanimous vote, Council moved they go back into regular session.

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Mayor Hunnicutt stated there was three decisions made in the executive meeting. 1. On motion by Robert Collier, seconded by W. F. McElroy, and carried by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved that Earle Brown, who has been acting as interim manager be paid at rate of City Manager in amount of \$19,700.00 from period of December 1st thru February 19th, said difference to be paid in manner as Earle Brown desires.

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- 2. Misunderstanding with some people who did work during water crisis. Referred to City Manager for pay schedule.
- 3. Misunderstanding with Tabb, Inc. City Attorney going to give an opinion in writing.

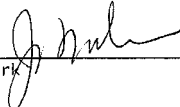
On motion by Robert Collier, seconded by W. F. McElroy, and carried by unanimous vote, Council moved that the following resolution requesting Southwest Virginia Community College in Richlands to remain the place for School of Police Officers was passed.

Councilman Collier suggested a reception for Mr. Newman and his family. Council was in agreement - date to be set by Mr. Newman.

Council briefly discussed work session with Mr. Newman regarding budget for ensuing year. They ask that he secure budget estimates from various community programs in which the city participates.

Council discussed delinquent taxes in the City. Councilman Daniels ask that Council be given a list of delinquent taxes on real estate for the past 3 years.


 Mayor


 Clerk

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