

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Council Chambers with Mayor William Mays presiding.

Present: Mark Caruso, Robert Fultz, Jr., William Mays, Joseph Fawbush, and Dee Belcher

Also Present: Fred L. Ramey, Jr., City Manager and Bill Bradshaw, City Attorney

The invocation was given by the Reverend Freddie Powers and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by First Sergeant Greg Mays.

Upon a motion by Councilman Fultz, seconded by Councilman Fawbush, and passed by the following vote: YES – Caruso, Fultz, Fawbush, Mays, Belcher, NO – None, ABSENT – None, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the May 3, 2016 meeting as presented. 25911

There was no response to the Mayor's call for visitors. 25912

A public hearing was held to solicit input on the proposed 2016-2017 fiscal budget for the Norton City Schools. Mr. Ramey advised the Norton City School's proposed 2016-2017 budget has been duly advertised and Dr. Perrigan was present to give a brief summary and to answer any questions Council may have regarding the budget.

Via a PowerPoint presentation, Dr. Perrigan gave Council a summation on the school's budget and advised there were no changes from the last presentation. The school is asking for \$2,659,574 in local appropriations, which is a 4.16% increase above the Required Local Effort (RLE) for the proposed 2016-2017 fiscal budget. He stated this year's budget included adding salary and benefit increases, pay scale adjustments, a Pre-K teacher, school resource officer, and a \$6,000 health insurance increase. 25913

Dr. Perrigan answered a few questions from Council and Mayor Mays thanked Dr. Perrigan for his presentation.

Mayor Mays opened the public hearing.

There being no public input, Mayor Mays closed the public hearing.

There were no comments from Council.

Mayor Mays advised the school's budget would be back on Council's agenda for June 7, 2016 meeting.

In Council's packet was a copy of the City's recently amended Fishing Ordinance. Mr. Ramey advised that he just learned that the City's fishing timeframe for trout was not in compliance with the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF). As a result, Chapter 20 of the City Code Pertaining to the Reservoir will need to be modified so that the timeframe for trout fishing is in agreement with DGIF regulations.

After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of Council to have two timeframes for fishing. The timeframe for trout fishing would be regulated by DGIF when in season. When out of trout season the City would have a secondary timeframe to allow for 25914

catfishing, providing the reservoir is suitable for catfish after testing is conducted at the end of the month.

Mr. Bradshaw advised Council that he would prepare the ordinance and present to them at the June 7th meeting. A public hearing will be held at the next meeting and Council can pass the ordinance as an emergency measure so it would take effect immediately.

Michele Knox, the City's Parks and Recreation Director, was present to update Council on the Department's activities for the summer. Ms. Knox handed out a flyer that publicized the 2016 Summer Camps available in the City and advised there was a camp available every week this summer with the exception of the Best Friend Festival and July 4th weeks. Ms. Knox spoke about the variety of camps offered and about a new Outdoor Adventure Camp that is being offered to high school students. Free lunch is also provided for campers at Norton Elementary and Middle School. Ms. Knox stated there will also be water slides for kids each week at a different City park.

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Mr. Ramey added the City had received a grant from the Wise County/City of Norton Health Department and had partnered with Norton Elementary and Middle School on its "Get Fit" program. This program is unique in that it gets kids involved that are not playing sports after school.

In their packets, Council had received two requests from the Commissioner of the Revenue to refund erroneously assessed personal property taxes. The first refund is to Kenneth R. Browning for 2015 erroneously assessed personal property taxes in the amount of \$105.26. The second request is to Maichalya Hutchinson for 2015 erroneously assessed personal property taxes in the amount of \$48.70.

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Upon a motion by Councilman Fawbush, seconded by Councilwoman Belcher, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve the refunds to Kenneth R. Browning in the amount of \$105.26 and to Maichalya Hutchinson in the amount of \$48.70 for erroneously assessed personal property taxes.

Mr. Ramey updated Council on the 2016 Norton Business Challenge and advised the classes have ended. The pitch presentations took place on Thursday, May 12th and six participants presented their plans. Four judges scored the presentations and the business plans will be judged by another set of judges. If judges have completed scoring the business plans by the next Council meeting awards will be presented to the winners of the 2016 Norton Business Challenge during to the City Council meeting.

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Councilman Fultz thought the 2016 Norton Business Challenge went well and that there was several in attendance that was not ready to present their business plans.

Council had been presented in their packets with A Resolution Proclaiming May 2016 as Adult Abuse Prevention Month in the City of Norton.

Mayor Mays noticed a correction to be made on the Resolution presented in Council's packet.

Mr. Ramey advised Council that the purpose of the resolution is to bring adult abuse to the attention of others and to inform citizens that programs and services are available to help older and disabled Virginians who may be subject to abuse or neglect. Mr. Ramey

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noted the correction to the Resolution had been made prior to tonight's meeting should Council adopt the resolution tonight.

Upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilman Fultz, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the amended Resolution Proclaiming May 2016 as Adult Abuse Prevention Month in the City of Norton. (Insert)

In their packets, Council had one transfer to be confirmed. The transfer was to the Norton City Schools dated May 6, 2016, in the amount of \$100,000 to cover May accounts payable.

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Upon a motion by Councilman Fawbush, seconded by Councilwoman Belcher, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to confirm the transfer to the Norton City Schools as stated above.

Upon a motion by Councilwoman Belcher, seconded by Councilman Fultz, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to go into closed meeting to discuss personnel as per Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1) of the Code of Virginia, as amended.

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Mayor Mays declared Council in closed meeting.

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

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Mayor Mays declared Council back in open meeting.

The Clerk 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 Fultz, seconded by Councilman Fultz, and passed by the following unanimous vote: YES – Caruso, Fultz, Fawbush, Mays, Belcher, NO – None, ABSENT – None, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. (Insert)

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In comments from the City Manager, Mr. Ramey advised that:

The latest Retail Sales Tax Report has been placed at Council's desks.

The semi-annual Disclosure Statements are due June 15th.

The Line of Credit Closing was completed this month.

The Health Wagon's RAM Budget has been placed at Council's desks for you to insert into your Discretionary Funding binders.

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Norris Fabrication has begun demolition of the old pool building and will hopefully be completed in the next 30 days.

The Business Appreciation Luncheon is Thursday, May 19th at UVA-Wise.

There were no comments from the City Attorney.

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In comments from Council:

Councilman Caruso had no comments.

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Councilman Fultz had no comments.

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Councilwoman Belcher stated it is wonderful all the camps and activities being provided to the kids this summer by the City's Parks and Recreation Department.

She stated the City's police officers do a great job and she is pleased to hear that Virginia officers recently assisted Tennessee in their missing child case.

She also commended all City employees for their hard work.

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Councilman Fawbush had no comments.

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Mayor Mays stated the City of Norton is a "great place to live, work, and play."

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA



William Mays, Mayor

ATTEST:



Rebecca K. Coffey
Clerk of Council