

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, July 15, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Council Chambers with Mayor Robert Raines presiding.

Present: Jack Wallace, Robert Raines, William Mays, and Joseph Fawbush

Absent: Joseph Hunnicutt

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

The invocation was given by Father Tim Drake and was followed by the pledge of allegiance, which was led by Police Chief Sam Mongle.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the July 1, 2003 meeting as presented. 20556

There was no response to the Mayor's call for visitors. 20557

Mr. Bobby Lane of Lane Engineering was present to give Council an update on the Water Line Replacement Project and presented Council with a handout giving the original and present budget for this project as well as a proposed budget for the remaining funds from this project. 20558

At this time, Councilman Hunnicutt took his seat on Council. 20559

Mr. Lane advised that the Water Line Replacement Project is complete and is in service. The Virginia Department of Health has reviewed and approved the project and all that is left to do is to close out paperwork and to have the project signed off on by Rural Development.

Mr. Lane advised that he would like to see the \$35,000 in the contingency line item of this budget left in as there are a couple of items that need to be discussed and may have to be paid out of these funds. If not, then the funds can be classified as unobligated. There are approximately \$178,000 remaining from this project. The City Administration is going to propose to Council the use of these funds for additional work. Mr. Lane has prepared a proposed budget for these remaining funds. The additional work would be the 21st Street Phase I Project. 20560

Following a discussion and upon a motion Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council approved the request of the City Administration and City Engineer for the remaining funds in the amount of \$178,067 from the Waterline Replacement Project be used as specified in the proposed budget as presented to Council tonight by Mr. Lane.

Mr. Ward presented Council with an update on the Laurel Trails Housing Project. He advised that a meeting was held in Abingdon with representatives of the Department of Housing and Community Development on June 30th. Several items were discussed regarding this project. One item deleted from this project was the small park and a

walking trail in the amount of \$70,000. Thirty thousand dollars was put back in to cover the down payment and to assist with closing costs. Phase One of this project will have 57 lots, with 46 lots to be low to moderate income lots and the remaining 11 lots sold at market rate.

20561

He further discussed the funding for Phase I of this project and advised that the City is going to apply for \$208,060 in Appalachian Regional Commission funds. He also advised that the City can delay a lot of implementation on this project to see if we receive the ARC Funds or we can proceed on some items. The City Administration would like to proceed.

Following a brief discussion, it was the consensus of Council for the City Administration to proceed on this project.

The City Manager advised Council that the annual Virginia Municipal League Conference will be held October 19 – 21, 2003 in Roanoke. Changes have been made in the way reservations are made, and he will need to know as soon as possible who will be attending. Attendees must be registered for the conference and then reservations can be made for rooms.

20562

Mr. Ward had included in Council's packet a portion of the engineering agreement between the City and Dewberry and Davis for the City's Storm Drainage Improvement Project.

The total estimated contract amount is \$288,300 and Mr. Ward asked Council to approve the contract and authorize him to execute this document.

2056

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement between the City and Dewberry and Davis for the City's Storm Drainage Improvement Project.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, 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.

20564

Mayor Raines declared Council in closed meeting.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to go back into open meeting.

20565

Mayor Raines 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 Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by the following unanimous vote: YES – Hunnicutt, Wallace, Mays, Fawbush, Raines, NO – None, ABSENT – None, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. (Insert)

20566

Mayor Raines opened the floor for nominations to the City of Norton Planning Commission for four year terms which will expire on July 31, 2007.

William Mays nominated Mr. John Litton and Ms. Virginia Stokes to be reappointed to this Commission.

20567

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved that the nominations cease.

Mayor Raines declared Mr. John Litton and Ms. Virginia Stokes reappointed to the City of Norton Planning Commission for four year terms which will expire on July 31, 2007.

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

The budget document for the 2003-2004 fiscal year is completed and each Council Member has a copy at his seat.

At Council's seats is a copy of the first draft of the basic Emergency Operation Plan for the City. Grant funds have been secured to have an intern work on this project this summer. He asked that council members look this draft over and get back with him regarding their opinions on it.

20568

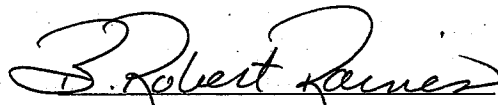
The Gymnasium/Cafeteria Committee has met with representatives of Thompson and Litton to look at this project. They have four proposals and the Committee feels that this issue needs to be presented to City Council and the School Board in a joint meeting.

It was the consensus of Council that this joint meeting be held on August 19, 2003.

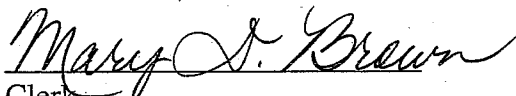
Mr. Ward is to check with the School Board and see if this date is agreeable with them.

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA


B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:


Clerk