

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, September 19, 2000 at the Municipal Council Chambers at 7:30 p.m. with Mayor Robert Raines presiding.

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

Also Present: Fred L. Ramey, Assistant City Manager

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

The invocation was given by Mayor Raines and was followed by the pledge of allegiance which was led by City Sheriff Carlos Noaks.

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the September 5, 2000 meeting as presented.

19703

During the Mayor's call for visitors, Mr. James Neeley of Big Stone Gap spoke briefly to Council advising that our ordinance on fishing at the reservoir is discriminatory against anyone disabled unless that disability is military related. He would like to have this ordinance changed to where it would include anyone who is disabled, whether they are a citizen of Norton or not. He further advised the requirements as stipulated in this ordinance are being abused.

19704

Mr. Ramey advised Council that these licenses are sold in the Treasurer's Office and two businesses in the city. He advised that letters would be sent to these businesses advising them to make sure that a veteran has a certified disability with the Veterans Agency.

Following a brief discussion, Mayor Raines advised thanked Mr. Neeley for bringing this concern to Council's attention.

Dr. John Sessoms, Superintendent of the Norton City Schools, spoke to Council on the renovations completed during the past two school years at our schools. He also presented Mayor Raines with a list containing the projects to be completed in the next two years.

Dr. Sessoms also expressed appreciation to Council for financial support in the amount of approximately \$300,000 on various projects during this two year period. This amount is in addition to the City's budgeted funds to the school system.

19705

Following a brief discussion during which Dr. Sessoms answered questions from Council, Mayor Raines thanked Dr. Sessoms for this update.

Council had been presented in their packets a draft Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Norton, Virginia Amending the Consumer Utility Tax on Electricity. Mr. Ramey discussed with Council how the rate was determined and presented a letter sent by Mr. Bradshaw stating that the draft ordinance is in proper form and that Council needed to schedule a public hearing during October. Adoption needs to be done during October since a mandated copy needs to go to Old Dominion Power by October 31st.

19706

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council authorized a public hearing to be advertised on this ordinance at the October 17th meeting.

Council had been presented A Proclamation Declaring the Week of September 17 through 23 as Constitution Week.

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt A Proclamation Declaring U. S. Constitution Week. (Insert)

19707

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to go into closed meeting to discuss personnel as per 2.1-344(A) (1) of the Code of Virginia, as amended.

19708

Mayor Raines declared Council in closed meeting.

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to go back into open meeting.

19709

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 the Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by the following unanimous roll call vote: Hunnicutt, Wallace, Mays, Fawbush, Raines - YES, NO - None, ABSENT - None, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. (Insert)

19710

Mayor Raines opened the floor for nominations to the Local Tourism Board for two four year terms which will expire on September 30, 2004.

Joseph Hunnicutt nominated Mr. Don Green and Mr. Chris Jones to be reappointed to this Board.

19711

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved that the nominations cease.

Mayor Raines declared Mr. Don Green and Mr. Chris Jones reappointed to the local Tourism Board for four (4) year terms which will expire on September 30, 2004.

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

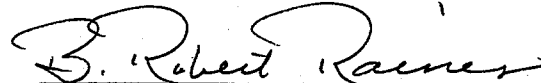
Thompson and Litton had been scheduled to make a presentation to City Council in September on the water study they are conducting. They requested a postponement on this until October. They will be present at our October 3rd meeting to make this presentation.

19712

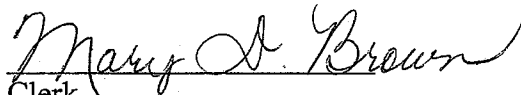
We have a total of 77.1 million gallons of water in both reservoirs as of today. This can be compared to 40 million gallons that we had at this time last year. He is sorry to inform Council that the City lost the softball game on Sunday with the Town of Wise.

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA


B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:


Clerk