

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, August 5, 1997 at the Municipal Council Chambers with Mayor Raines presiding.

Present: Roy Roberts, Jack Wallace, William Mays, Robert Raines and Ron McCall

Also Present: E. W. Ward, City Manager and Joe Pippin, City Attorney

The invocation was given by the City Manager and was followed by the pledge of allegiance which was lead by the Assistant City Manager, Fred Ramey.

Upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the July 15, 1997 meeting as presented.

17884

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

17885

Mr. Ward advised Council that it had been a couple of months since they had received an update on the Downtown Revitalization Project. Mr. Ramey, the Assistant City Manager, presented this update. He handed out to Council a Project Budget Review and a Timeline on this project. He advised that the total budget for the project was \$1,288,500 and the amount remaining to be spent is \$815,932. After his presentation, he answered questions that members of Council had. The date for final completion of this project is October 1, 1997.

17886

Council had a request for a water tap in the Josephine section of the county for Robert Grant Lawson.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by William Mays, and passed by the following vote: Mr. Wallace, Mr. Mays, Mr. McCall, and Mr. Raines - YES; Mr. Roberts - NO, Council approved the water tap for Mr. Lawson in the Josephine section of the county.

17887

The City Manager had furnished Council in their packets a copy of a letter from the Resident Engineer of the Virginia Department of Transportation in Wise regarding the relocation of a VDOT sign on the Norton By-Pass. VDOT advised they would not move this sign; however the developer or the City could pay to have this sign relocated. Mr. Ward is seeking Council's guidance on how they want him to proceed on this.

Following a brief discussion, it was the consensus of Council that Mr. Ward should arrange a meeting with VDOT, the developer, Councilman Roberts, and himself to discuss this sign.

17888

Included in Council's packet was a Year End Financial Report. Mr. Ward gave Council a brief summary and advised that it was a break even year.

Councilman McCall advised that, in looking at the figures, next year would be a deficit year and perhaps a meeting with the School Board should be scheduled. It was the consensus of Council that Mr. Ward try to arrange this meeting for the second meeting in September.

17889

Councilman Mays asked Mr. Ward for an update on the Gardner Hollow Water Project and the Highway 58 lighting. Mr. Ward advised the Gardner Hollow Project is designed and the bid opening date is August 26<sup>th</sup>. As for the Highway 58 lighting, the necessary approval from VDOT and Old Dominion Power has been secured; however they have run into a problem with cost of the underground conduit. Mr. Ward hopes to have something to bring back to Council within the next few meetings.

17890

Council had a copy of a check made payable to the Norton City Schools in the amount of \$105,000.00. Upon a motion by Roy Roberts, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a check in the amount of \$105,000.00.

17891

Council had a copy of a check in the amount of \$112,433.27 made payable to the Downtown Development Fund. Upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a check in the amount of \$112,433.27 made payable to the Downtown Development Fund.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to go into Executive Session to discuss the disposition of publicly held property as per 2.1-344(A) (3) of the Code of Virginia, as amended, and probable litigation as per 2.1-344(A) (7) of the Code of Virginia, as amended.

17892

Mayor Raines declared the meeting in Executive Session.

Upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to go back into regular session.

17893

Mayor Raines declared the meeting back in regular session.

The Clerk then polled each member as to the Certification of Executive Meeting with each answering yes. The Clerk then read the entire Resolution of the Certification of Executive Meeting. Upon a motion by Roy Roberts, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Executive Meeting. (Insert)

17894

Mayor Raines advised no action is being taken from the Executive Session tonight.

17895

In his comments, the City Manager advised:

That the heat pump system in the Chamber of Commerce Building, which is owned by the City, needs to be replaced as it is undersized for the building. An estimate to replace this has been received in the amount of \$6,000 and funds to cover this can come out of the General Fund. It was the consensus of Council to proceed with this at the cost of \$6,000 to come out of the General Fund Maintenance Fund.

17896

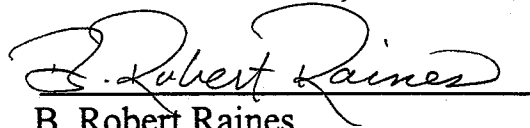
The City Shop and City Offices held a very competitive softball game Sunday and Council is invited to play in the next game.

In comments from Council, Mayor Raines advised that former Councilman Vic Jones, was recuperating from a six by-pass heart surgery when he had another heart attack. He asked that a card been sent to Mr. Jones from the City.

17897

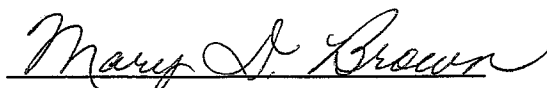
There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned.

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA



B. Robert Raines  
Mayor

ATTEST:



Clerk