

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on Tuesday, September 19, 1995 at 7:30 p.m. with Mayor Raines presiding.

Present: Roy Roberts, Jack Wallace, Robert Raines, William Mays, 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 led by the Assistant City Manager, Fred Ramey.

Upon a motion by Roy Roberts, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the September 5, 1995 meeting as presented.

17303

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

17304

At this time, Mayor Raines turned the floor over to Police Chief Sam Mongle. Mr. Mongle advised he had been approached by Ms. Octavia Stidham of the Ramsey section of Norton asking for assistance in getting her grandfather in the Police Officers Hall of Fame in Washington, D. C. Ms. Stidham advised the Police Chief that her grandfather, Mr. Thomas J. Osborn, was the first Police Chief in Norton having been appointed by the first Council and that he was shot and killed in the line of duty on July 16, 1895.

17305

The Police Chief presented to Ms. Stidham a plaque both honoring and in memory of her grandfather. Mayor Raines thanked Ms. Stidham for bringing this information to Chief Mongle's attention and thanked Chief Mongle for his follow up on this. He further stated this shows the sacrifice and dedication of police officers.

The City Manager gave Council an update on the Norton Upper Dam Project. He advised that at the last meeting the problem was presented to Council, engineering estimates of the cost of repairs were given to Council, and at that time it looked as though the City would be bearing the cost for these repairs as there were no substantial leads or ideas as to grant monies. Since that time, we have received two grants to help fund this project, an ARC Grant in the amount of \$165,520 and a Virginia Water Project Grant in the amount of \$25,000. Mr. Ward expressed his thanks and appreciation to both Congressman Rick Boucher and Senator William Wampler for their assistance in securing these two grants.

17306

The City Manager passed out a memo he received from Thompson and Litton today giving a brief update on the activities that have gone on at the upper dam since our last meeting. Mr. Ward briefly went over this memo stating that bids were received on September 11th and Barnette Contractors of Wise submitted the lowest bid of \$178,350. Clearing has been completed, field work for survey has been completed, heavy equipment has been moved in, and the end of the drain pipe has been excavated to improve drainage. Barnette's anticipates starting the drain pipe extension tomorrow after the Geotechnical Engineer

examines the site and they expect to start the road upgrade tomorrow. The sand will be delivered starting on Monday, September 18th.

Mr. Ward also supplied Council with a revised budget on this project and advised the total expenditures had increased from the original figure of \$206,900 to \$240,150. Of that amount, \$178,350 is construction and \$61,800 is anticipated engineering and related costs. If all things go according to this budget schedule, the City will have to provide \$49,630 local monies to complete this work. The project is still on schedule and completion is scheduled to be the latter part of October or early November.

The City Manager further advised the Corps of Engineers in Nashville agreed with the plan of correction on this project. Council will continue to receive updates on this project.

Mayor Raines again expressed appreciation to Congressman Boucher and Senator Wampler for securing this financing at such a fast pace.

Mr. Chris Jones of the Norton Kiwanis Club spoke to Council regarding the proposed Benges Rock Project they are contemplating undertaking. He briefly advised Council what they hoped to do to make this a tourist attraction as well as an educational tool for students. Mr. Jones showed Council a brief video of the area involved in this project and asked consent of Council for his organization to proceed with this project.

Following a brief discussion in which the City Manager advised that the City Administration endorses this concept and upon a motion by Roy Roberts, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council authorized the entering into a community based project (such as the 11th Street Park was done) with the Norton Kiwanis Club and that the Kiwanis will take the lead on this Benges Rock Project as was discussed tonight by Chris Jones.

17307

In their packets, Council had received a request for the establishment of an ambulance service in the City. This requests came from Ms. Frances Boggs and Mr. J. M. Pilkenton.

Both Ms. Boggs and Mr. Pilkenton were present and spoke briefly to Council advising they needed to secure the approval of the local governing body.

Mr. Ward advised these agencies are governed and regulated by the State Code of Virginia through the State Health Department.

At this time, Vice Mayor Mays advised he is employed by the Southwest Virginia Emergency Medical Services and is the licensing inspector for this agency and will answer any questions; however he will abstain from voting on this item.

17308

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by Roy Roberts, and passed by the following vote: Roberts, Wallace, McCall, and Raines - AYE, Mays - ABSTAIN, Council authorized the City Manager to prepare a letter in support of the establishment of the Tri-City Ambulance Service, Inc.

Council had in their packets a Resolution Adopting the Virginia Juvenile Crime Control Act Local Plan.

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Roy Roberts, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to adopt A Resolution Adopting the Virginia Juvenile

17

Crime Control Act Local Plan. (Insert)

Mayor Raines called upon the City Attorney to inform Council on the adoption of ordinances relating to criminal offenses. Mr. Pippin, in turn, gave the floor to Mr. Gary Gilliam, Assistant Commonwealth Attorney.

Mr. Gilliam advised that the City's ordinances on criminal offenses were last updated in 1985. He had gone through these ordinances and brought them up to date which will assist the Norton Police Department in doing their job. He further advised he had done the same for the towns of Pound, Appalachia, and Coeburn.

17310

The City Attorney asked for favorable consideration in the scheduling of a public hearing.

Following a discussion and upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council authorized the City Manager to advertise a public hearing on an Ordinance Relating to Criminal Offenses in order for the necessary changes be made in our criminal ordinances.

Mayor Raines thanked Mr. Gilliam for his work on this project.

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 personnel as per 2.1-344(A) (1) of the Code of Virginia, as amended.

17311

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.

Mayor Raines declared the meeting back in regular session.

17312

The Clerk then polled each member of Council as to the Certification of Executive Meeting with each answering aye.

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

17313

Mayor Raines opened the floor for nominations to the Southwest Virginia EMS Council for a three year term which will expire on 9/30/98.

William Mays nominated Mr. Bill Stokes be reappointed to this Council.

17314

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

Mayor Raines declared Mr. Bill Stokes reappointed to the Southwest Virginia EMS Council for a three year term which will expire on 9/30/98.

Mayor Raines opened the floor for nominations to the Mountain Empire Older Citizens Advisory Board for a two year term which will expire on 9/15/97.

Roy Roberts nominated Michele Knox be reappointed to this Board.

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

17315

Mayor Raines declared Michele Knox reappointed to the Mountain Empire Older Citizens Advisory Board for a two year term which will expire on 9/15/97.

Mayor Raines opened the floor for nominations to the Regional Tourism Board for a two year term which will expire on 9/30/97.

Jack Wallace nominated Michele Knox be reappointed to this Board.

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

Mayor Raines declared Michele Knox reappointed to the Regional Tourism Board for a two year term which will expire on 9/30/97.

In his comments, the City Manager advised:

He is working with the Commonwealth and Ken Poore and Associates on the Down Town Redevelopment Grant.

On Friday, September 22, 1995, we will be taking proposals from qualified firms to begin our analysis and evaluation on our Parks and Recreation facilities and hopefully will gain some recommendations for some improvements.

On September 28, 1995, we will have a bid opening on our Hawthorne Pump Station.

On October 10, 1995, we will have a bid opening on our Anderson Hollow/Spring Avenue Block Grant Water/Sewer Project.

Mayor Raines advised our water levels were a mixed blessing due to the dam project; however we are approaching a critical time and need to ask our citizens to conserve water. By Thanksgiving, the reservoirs should be full.

Mayor Raines also commended the City Manager for his efforts and contacts in securing the grants for the dam project.

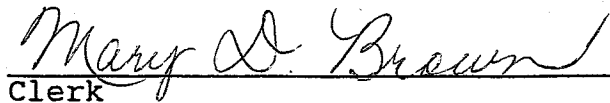
There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned.

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA



B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:



Clerk