

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on Tuesday, March 15, 1994 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 led by the Police Chief, Sam Mongle.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the March 1, 1994 meeting as presented.

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

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A public hearing was held on a Resolution Endorsing the City of Norton Application for Funding Through the Transportation Enhancement Program.

Mr. Ward advised this program is part of the Federal Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1991. Part of this act calls for the establishment of this Transportation Enhancement Program where localities and non profit organizations can apply for 80% funding through the Commonwealth Transportation Board for a grant for a qualified project. Last year the City submitted the Park Avenue Enhancement Project which did not get funded.

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This year the City Administration has two projects they wish to submit: The first and highest in priority is the old Legion Property which the City hopes to make into a wayside with picnic tables, hiking trails, and facilities for other outdoor activities. The estimated total cost of this project is \$40,000.

The second project is the Park Avenue Enhancement Project which will include sidewalk restoration, antique lighting and landscaping along Park Avenue. The estimated cost for this project is \$848,000.

There were no comments from Council prior to the public hearing.

Mayor Raines opened the public hearing.

There were no public comments and Mayor Raines closed the public hearing.

Upon a motion by Roy Roberts, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council adopted A Resolution Endorsing the City of Norton Application for Funding Through the Transportation Enhancement Program. (Insert)

Mr. Ward will finish with the applications and submit them by the April 1st deadline.

Council had a request for one water and one sewer tap in the County by Stewart Thacker of Esserville.

Councilman Roberts asked that Council vote separately on these taps.

Upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council authorized a sewer tap for Stewart Thacker in the Esserville area.

15951

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by William Mays, and passed by the following vote, Wallace, Mays, McCall, Raines - YES, Roberts - NO, Council approved a water tap for Stewart Thacker in the Esserville area.

Council had in their packets a request to apply for a Local Government Challenge Grant for the 1994-95 fiscal year to the Virginia Commission for the Arts. This grant is a 50/50 matching grant in the amount of \$2,800 and goes to Pro-Art. Mr. Ward asked Council's favorable consideration on this request.

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Upon a motion by Roy Roberts, seconded by Ron McCall, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council authorized the City Manager to submit this to the Virginia Commission of the Arts.

Mr. Ward had presented to Council a draft Municipal Access Channel Policy covering the City's new access channel #51. This draft came from the City of Virginia Beach.

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Following a discussion, it was the consensus of Council that Mr. Ward make the changes as discussed and bring this policy back to them at their next meeting.

Upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by William Mays, 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, Actual or Probable Litigation as per 2.1-344(A) (3) of the Code of Virginia, as amended, and acquisition of real property as per 2.1-344(A) (3) of the Code of Virginia, as amended.

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Mayor Raines declared the meeting in Executive Session.

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

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Mayor Raines declared the meeting back in regular session.

The Clerk then polled each member of Council 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 William Mays, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Executive Meeting. (Insert)

15956

Mayor Raines stated no action had been taken on the appointment to the Social Services Advisory Board.

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As to the discussion on the Director of Social Services, Mayor Raines advised we do have a proposed ordinance amending Section 2-71, 2-72, and 2-73 of the Norton City Code providing for the appointment of the local Board of Social Services, the local Director of Social Services, and the responsibilities and duties of the local Director of Social Services, and making various designations pertaining to the Social Services in the City of Norton.

Upon a motion by Roy Roberts, seconded by Ron McCall, and passed by unanimous vote, Council directed the City Manager to advertise a public hearing on a proposed Ordinance Amending Section 2-71, 2-72, and 2-73 of the Norton City Code providing for the appointment of the local Board of Social Services, the local Director of Social Services, and the Responsibilities and Duties of the Local Director of Social Services, and Making Various Designations Pertaining to the Social Services in the City of Norton.

15958

As to litigation regarding Baker Construction, Mayor Raines made a statement advising that on April 21, 1993, Baker filed a suit against the City of Norton in the amount of \$233,212 plus accumulated interest. The suit was based on alleged contract violations surrounding a sewer rehabilitation project in the City in which Baker Pipeline was in the process of constructing. The City had no choice but to defend itself and hired the law firm of Penn, Stuart, Eskridge, and Jones to handle the case. Mayor Raines is pleased to announce this evening that the plaintiff has filed a motion to drop the case.

15959

In his comments, the City Manager advised:

At the April 1, 1994 meeting, the School Board will present its budget request for 1994-95 and that the City will also begin scheduling work sessions for its budget.

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April 9, 1994 is the date of the annual Chamber of Commerce Gala and asked Council members to notify him if they need tickets.

Mr. Ward asked Mr. Ramey to come forward and advise Council of the activities held on Friday, March 11, 1994.

Mr. Ramey advised that the City hosted a group of approximately 20 students from the J. I. Burton Quest Program. Constitutional officers, the Mayor, department heads, and the press spoke to the children giving them an overview of City government. They were also taken on tours of various City facilities and will be attending the April 19, 1994 Council meeting and will conduct a mock Council Meeting on April 20, 1994.

There were no comments from Council.

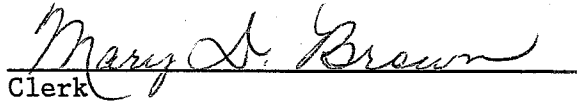
There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned.

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA



B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:



Mary D. Brown
Clerk