

Minutes of a Public Hearing held by the City Council in the Municipal Court Room of the City of Norton on January 2, 1973 at 7:30 P.M. with Mayor Woods presiding.

Present: Mayor Archie Woods  
Ike Fultz  
Robert Leonard  
Jim Humphreys  
W. F. McElroy

Also Present: Milas D. Franks, City Manager

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Woods at 7:30 P.M.

Mayor Woods asked City Manager Milas D. Franks to state the purpose of the meeting. Mr. Franks stated that this was a Public Hearing to allow the Citizens of Norton to determine if they wish to request the General Assembly of Virginia to amend the existing Charter of the City of Norton in the following manner:

1. Amend Section 3.4 to provide that the offices of Mayor and Councilmen, both existing and in the future, shall expire at 12:01 A.M. on July 1.
2. Amend Section 3.924 to add that the Council may, in its discretion, appoint a separate attorney for the purpose of handling criminal matters for the City.
3. Change Section 5.2 to use the words "City Sheriff" instead of "City Sergeant" to comply with State Law.
4. Repeal all of Section 3.928 with regard to the establishment of a Police Court Justice and re-enact a provision to empower the City Council to appoint a Police Court Justice, from time to time, who will serve at the pleasure of the Council and also empower the Council to appoint a substitute Police Court Justice to serve in the absence of the original Police Court Justice.
5. Change the last sentence of the Powers of the Council in Section 3.927 to provide that a separate attorney may be appointed by the Council to handle criminal cases arising under and by virtue of the ordinances of the City in order to correspond with the aforesaid amendment to Section 3.924.
6. Amend Section 3.7 to provide that the Mayor and Vice Mayor will be selected by the City Council on the first day of July, 1972, and on the first day of July of every second year thereafter instead of September 1 as is in the existing Charter.

Mr. Franks advised that the notice of this Public Hearing had been duly advertised in compliance with Virginia Code Section 15.1-835.

Mayor Woods then called for discussions or comments from the floor. Wade Winstead stated that he was opposed to the Charter change because there had not been enough time for the people to properly study the changes. He stated that in his opinion it was not advertised in the paper soon enough.

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Mr. Winstead also stated that he was against anyone serving on the Various City Boards that were contractors or did work for the City of Norton.

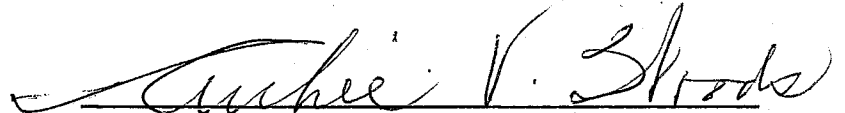
Councilman Humphreys suggested that a Commission should be appointed to study the City Charter and make recommendations to the City Council for changing same. Mr. Humphreys stated that this would be a year long job, so that next year the City could present a complete change to the General Assembly. 6/89

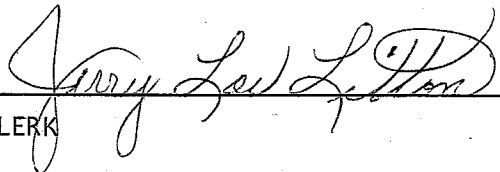
Wade Winstead withdrew his objection to the Amendments to the Charter as read.

On motion by Ike Fultz, seconded by Jim Humphreys and carried by unanimous vote Council moved to allow the City Manager to present these items to the General Assembly for their consideration for amending the City Charter. 6/89

Council agreed to appoint a Committee to study the City Charter and make recommendations for changes to same. This Committee is to be appointed at the next regular Council meeting. 6/89

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

  
MAYOR

  
CLERK