

December 20, 1955

The regular meeting of the City Council was held on the above date in the Municipal Court Room at 7:30 P. M. with Mayor B. E. Ball presiding.

All members of council were present and answered to roll call.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The City Manager presented a letter from the Church of God requesting a street light on 10th Street between Virginia Avenue and Park Avenue. After a brief discussion the City Manager was instructed to contact Mr. Hunt and discuss with him the possibility of the Church erecting a private light. #672

On a motion by Sol Cury, seconded by Fred King and carried by unanimous roll call vote, the A. B. C. License of Ora Chaffin was approved. #673

On motion by A. O. Umstead, seconded by W. R. Hamner and carried by unanimous roll call vote, the reading of the proposed merchant's license ordinance was limited to only the changes or amendments and those remaining unchanged omitted from the reading of the ordinance. #674

On motion by Fred King, seconded by W. R. Hamner and carried by unanimous roll call vote, the following ordinance with the amendments as noted was adopted: #675

AN ORDINANCE IMPOSING LICENSE TAXES FOR THE YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 1956, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1956, AND ALSO FOR EACH AND EVERY YEAR THEREAFTER BEGINNING WITH JANUARY 1, OF EACH SUCH YEAR, AND ENDING WITH DECEMBER 31, THE FOLLOWING, UNTIL OTHERWISE CHANGED, FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE CITY GOVERNMENT, THE PAYMENT OF INTEREST ON THE CITY DEBT, AND FOR OTHER MUNICIPAL EXPENSES: PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF THE ORDINANCES: AND PROVIDING FOR THE COLLECTION OF SUCH TAXES AND FOR CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS AND REGULATIONS AS AN AID THERETO.

Article 12, Paragraph I & L for each retail on premise beer license \$25.00; for each retail off premise beer license \$25.00.

(Note: The proposed change to \$50.00 was reduced to the existing rate of \$25.00 on the motion of Fred H. King, seconded by W. R. Hamner and carried by unanimous roll call vote of council.)

Paragraph 21. On every license to a barber the tax shall be \$15.00 for the first chair and \$10.00 for each additional chair. (Note: This constitutes an increase of \$5.00 on the first chair only. Extra chairs remain the same.)

No. 54, Paragraph B. - Every coal dealer shall pay a license tax of \$25.00. (Note: This is an increase from \$15.00 to \$25.00.)

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No. 94, Paragraph 1 - Every person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of a retail merchant shall pay a license tax measured in part by the gross amount of sales (which shall include charges for repairs or alteration) made by him or it in such business, whether paid for or not during the year preceding the first day of January, shall pay a license tax as follows: \$25.00 plus 25¢ on each \$100.00 of the gross receipts of such business. (Note: This is a change in rate of 13¢ to 25¢ per \$100.00 based on gross receipts.)

No. 95, Paragraph 3 - Upon a motion by A. O. Umstead, seconded by Fred H. King, and carried by unanimous roll call vote, Paragraph 20, article 95 was deleted and the following change in rate adopted: Every person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of a wholesale merchant, shall pay a license tax to be measured in part by the amount of the purchases made by him or at such business whether paid for or not during the year preceding the first day of January, of ..... 25¢ per \$100.00 of such purchases up to and including one million dollars of such purchases and 5¢ per \$100.00 of such purchases in excess of \$1,000,000 of purchases. No license will be less than \$100.00

Article 114, Paragraph B - On a motion by Sol Cury, seconded by Fred King and carried by unanimous roll call vote, the proposed increase on telephone companies of the 3% license tax on gross receipts was deleted and no change in the present rate was made.

No. 128, Paragraph A, Section 9 - On each shuffle board, pin ball, or miniature pool tables, the tax shall be \$50.00. (Note: This is an increase of \$25.00 over the old license.)

The City Manager presented resolutions from the counties of Mecklenburg and Albermarle endorsing the proposed amendment of Section 141 of the Constitution of Virginia and requesting the City Council to adopt a similar resolution. No action was taken on this matter. #676

The City Manager advised that the State Compensation Board had approved the requested salary and expenses for the Commissioner of Revenue and Treasurer effective January 1, 1956. #677

On motion by Sol Cury, seconded by W. R. Hamner and carried by unanimous roll call vote, the City Manager was instructed to advise Chester Engineers to proceed with the preparations and plans and specifications for the letting of bids as soon as possible and to advise the bonding attorneys to begin preparation for the sale of bonds as soon as the market looked favorable. #678

The City Manager brought to the attention of council a letter requesting temporary variance in behalf of C. T. Riddle to strip coal in a Calgrove property located in PennyRoyal Hollow and to prepare this land for a small subdivision. This request is to be acted upon by the Board of Zoning Appeals. The Manger advised that such a request should carry a contractual agreement to fulfill the promise as outlined, and would advise the Board of Zoning Appeals on this matter. #679

A letter was presented to council in behalf of George Wharton requesting repairs or a new bridge be installed at Guest River crossing into Round Town. A similar request was presented in behalf of McConnell at Ramsey of a bridge over Clear Creek. The City Manager was instructed to investigate and bring back an estimated cost on Bridge Structure as soon as possible.

#680

The City Manager presented a letter in behalf of Webb Willitts stating that he wished to advise that if fire in the city dump was not kept controlled at all times the operation of the mine would be closed by the State Inspector and that if said mine was closed, he would bring suit to insure him of minimum royalty expenses in the amount of \$1800 per year.

#681

The Manager explained to council that every attempt within reason was being made to keep smoke or burning from existing on the dump but that the cooperation from both the mine operator and the man located at the dump for disposal control was not satisfactory for the city to keep control of the situation.

On motion by Sol Cury seconded by Fred H. King and carried by unanimous vote, the City Manager was instructed to request that Mr. Tom Cassell be appointed by the courts as Issuing Justice for the City of Norton.

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There being no further business before the council same adjourned.

  
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Mayor

  
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Clerk