

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, January 7, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Robert Raines presiding.

Present: Joseph Hunnicutt, Jack Wallace, Robert Raines, William Mays, and Joseph Fawbush

Also Present: E. W. Ward, City Manager and Bill Bradshaw, City Attorney

The invocation was given by the City Manager and was followed by the pledge of allegiance, which was led by the City Sheriff, Carlos Noaks.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2002 meeting as presented. 20356

There was no response to the Mayor's call for visitors. 20357

A public hearing was held on Council's consideration of the financial encumbrances for the year ended June 30, 2002 in the amount of \$280,332 for the General Fund and \$108,734 for the Norton City Schools.

Dr. John Sessoms, Superintendent of the Norton City Schools, was present to answer any questions Council may have.

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

Mayor Raines opened the public hearing. 20358

There being no public input, Mayor Raines closed the public hearing.

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$280,332 for the General Fund and \$108,734 for the Norton City Schools for the year ended June 30, 2002.

Council had a request from Planet Connect to use City property for the attachment of to antennas to the top of the City's 11th Street water tank.

Mr. Scottie Gilliam was present and spoke briefly to Council regarding this project and answered questions from members of Council and the City Attorney.

The City Manager advised that one item that would have to be worked out would be connected with the maintenance of this water tank. 20359

Following a brief discussion, Mayor Raines asked that Mr. Gilliam furnish a copy of his lease to the City Attorney for him to review and the City Manager is to contact Utility Services to see if this would interfere with the maintenance on this tank and bring this information back to Council at their next meeting.

Council had a request for a water tap for Mr. Johnnie M. Fowler, 4319-1/2 Garfield Road, which is in the county.

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to approve one water tap for Mr. Johnnie M. Fowler, 4319-1/2 Garfield Road. 20360

In their packets, Council received a request from Mr. Ward to issue a Request for Proposals for Auditing Services for the City. The current Audit Contract was issued in June of 1998 to Thrower and Thrower for a period of three years. This contract was extended for another two years as is stipulated in the contract.

Following a brief discussion, it was the consensus of Council for the City Administration to advertise for the RFP, conduct interviews, and bring back a recommendation to Council for approval on auditing services for the City.

20361

Council had included in their packets three checks in excess of \$100,000 to be approved.

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a check in the amount of \$200,000 to the Powell Valley National Bank for the purchase of a Certificate of Deposit.

20362

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a check in the amount of \$275,000 made payable to the Norton City Schools for payroll and fringe benefits.

20363

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a check in the amount of \$152,262.69 made payable to R. S. Jones and Associates, Inc., for Pay Application for the Water Line Replacement Project.

20364

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to go into closed meeting to discuss personnel as per 2.2-3711(A) (1) of the Code of Virginia, as amended and discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community as per 2.2-3711(A) (5) of the Code of Virginia, as amended.

20365

Mayor Raines declared Council in closed meeting.

At approximately 9:15 p.m., Councilman Hunnicutt left the closed meeting and council meeting due to a prior personal commitment.

20366

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to go back into open meeting.

Mayor Raines declared Council back in open meeting.

20367

The Clerk then polled each member of Council as to the Certification of Closed Meeting with each answering yes. The Clerk then read A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting.

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by the following unanimous vote: YES – Wallace, Mays, Fawbush, Raines, NO – None, ABSENT – Hunnicutt, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting.

20368

Mayor Raines opened the floor for nominations to the Norton Social Services Advisory Board for two four year terms, which will expire on November 15, 2006.

Jack Wallace nominated Roger Sloce to be reappointed to this Board and Marty Adkins to be appointed to this Board for four year terms.

20369

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

Mayor Raines declared Mr. Roger Sloce reappointed and Mr. Marty Adkins appointed to the Norton Social Services Advisory Board for four year terms to expire on November 15, 2006.

At this time, Mayor Raines advised that the City had received a request from Congressman Richard Boucher for an elected official to serve on the High Knob National Recreation Area Initiative. Mayor Raines advised that Councilman Hunnicutt had expressed interest in serving on this committee.

20370

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Councilman Joseph Hunnicutt was appointed to serve on the High Knob National Recreation Area Initiative.

Mayor Raines that the next scheduled council meeting is January 21st. Due to hectic schedules that week, he would like for the council meeting be rescheduled to Monday, January 20th. It was the consensus of Council to change this meeting to Monday, January 20, 2003 at 7:30 p.m.

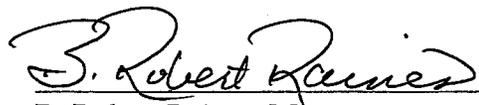
20371

In comments from the City Manager, Mr. Ward advised that the annual Financial Disclosure Statements are due in to the City Clerk by January 15, 2003.

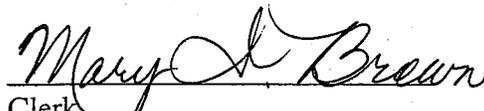
20372

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA


B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:


Clerk