

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Norton City Council was held Tuesday, May 1, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., in the Municipal Council Chambers with Mayor William Mays presiding.

Present: Mark Caruso, Robert Fultz, Jr., William Mays, Joseph Fawbush, and Delores Belcher

Also Present: Fred L. Ramey, Jr., City Manager

The invocation was given by Pastor Roger Sloce and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Police Chief James Lane.

At this time, Mayor Mays said he would like council to consider amending the agenda to include under Item 8-C-1 a Resolution Supporting the Coal Tax Credit Legislation and under Item 8-D-4 an appointment to the Wise County/City of Norton Youth Services Board (Lonesome Pine Office on Youth).

262700

It was the consensus of council to amend the agenda to include under Item 8-C-1 a Resolution Supporting the Coal Tax Credit Legislation and under Item 8-D-4 an appointment to the Wise County/City of Norton Youth Services Board (Lonesome Pine Office on Youth).

Upon a motion by Councilman Fawbush, seconded by Councilwoman Belcher, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the April 17, 2018, meeting as presented.

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During the Mayor's Call for Visitors, Mr. Scott Addison, 1015 Spruce Street, N.W., came forward and stated he is a proud citizen of Norton and that he cares about the city. He thanked council for their support of Norton City School system and for the tough decisions council must make regarding the budget.

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Mayor Mays thanked Mr. Addison for his comments.

The next agenda item was a special presentation by students of Norton Elementary and Middle School (NEMS).

Ms. Gabriella Barnette, music teacher at NEMS, said this year's Aladdin musical was the most successful program to date and that 95 students had auditioned for this year's show. Several kids from the musical performed two songs and received a standing ovation for their performance. The kids introduced themselves and a group picture was taken with council.

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Council members thanked the students for their performance.

In council's packet for their consideration was a draft copy of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Norton Police Department and Norton City Schools for a School Resource Officer.

The city manager noted that city administration did not have the updated and approved MOU from the school system at the time packets were delivered. However, an updated

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and approved MOU from Norton City Schools has been placed at council's desks for review.

Mayor Mays asked if the city attorney had approved the updated MOU.

Mr. Ramey advised the city attorney has reviewed and approved the changes to the MOU.

Upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilwoman Belcher, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, council moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Norton Police Department and Norton City Schools for a School Resource Officer.

Council had been presented with a request to authorize city administration to apply for the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) grant to fund a school resource officer's position at John I. Burton High School for another year. Mr. Ramey said the COPS grant is connected to the MOU that council just approved between Norton City Schools and the Norton Police Department.

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Upon a motion by Councilwoman Belcher, seconded by Councilman Fultz, and passed by unanimous vote, council moved to authorize city administration to apply for a school resource officer grant.

Dr. Gina Wohlford, Superintendent of Norton City Schools, was in attendance to present the school board's proposed 2018-2019 budget. Also present were two of the five members of the Norton School Board, Supervisor of Finance, and the School Board Clerk.

Prior to the superintendent's presentation, Jacqueline Brooke, Supervisor of Finance, handed a Line Item Budget to council members. Dr. Wohlford presented a brief PowerPoint presentation on the school's proposed budget and advised the budget was developed from the governor's proposed budget and is based on 765 students. She said the budget included a \$130,000 step increase for teachers, continuance of the one-to-one Chromebook Initiative, technology upgrades at John I. Burton High School, a new school bus, and a security grant match. Ms. Wohlford said the school system is asking council for level funding, which is \$31,332 above the Local Required Effort (LRE) for a total local appropriation of \$2,491,515.

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After Dr. Wohlford answered a couple questions from council, members were of consensus to advertise the school's proposed budget. Upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilwoman Belcher, and passed by unanimous vote, council moved to authorize the city manager to advertise the school's proposed budget. Mayor Mays thanked her for the presentation.

Donna Stanley, Financial Officer of the Planning District One Behavioral Health Services (PD1), was in attendance to present the FY17 Annual Report.

Ms. Stanley said PD1 is funded through the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and was established through the Code of Virginia. She said the agency contracts with Frontier Health to provide all their services. Ms. Stanley said PD1's 2016-2017 budget was \$15,449,000 and the agency provided services for 5,401 individuals. She said PD1 created a total of 282 jobs which equates to \$8,865,000 in labor income for the local economy. Ms. Stanley continued to provide council with a brief synopsis of PD1's programs and she thanked members for supporting PD1.

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Mayor Mays thanked Ms. Stanley for her presentation.

In their packets, council had received a request from the Commissioner of the Revenue to refund two years of erroneously assessed personal property taxes. The refund was to Shannon Peters for 2015 erroneously assessed mobile home personal property taxes in the amount of \$64.06 and 2016 erroneously assessed mobile home personal property taxes in the amount of \$67.79, for a total refund of \$131.85

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Upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilwoman Belcher, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, council moved to approve the refund to Shannon Peters in the amount of \$131.85 for erroneously assessed personal property taxes for 2015 and 2016.

Council had been given a copy of a Resolution Supporting the Coal Tax Credit Legislation provided by Harry Childress of the Virginia Coal and Energy Alliance.

Mr. Ramey said the resolution was in support of House Bill 665 and Senate Bill 378 which would reinstate and reform the Coalfield Employment Enhancement Tax Credit for taxable years on and after January 1, 2018. This is an initiative that legislators have tried to enact for several years without success.

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Upon a motion by Councilman Fawbush, seconded by Councilman Fultz, and passed by unanimous vote, council moved to adopt the Resolution Supporting the Coal Tax Credit. (Insert)

Upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilman Fultz, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, council moved to go into closed meeting to discuss personnel as per Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1) of the Code of Virginia, as amended.

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Mayor Mays declared council in closed meeting.

Upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilman Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, council moved to go back into open meeting.

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Mayor Mays declared council back in open meeting.

The Clerk 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 Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilman Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. (Insert)

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Mayor Mays opened the floor for nominations to the Board of Zoning Appeals for a five-year term to expire June 2, 2023.

Councilwoman Belcher nominated Brad Austin to be nominated to the Board of Zoning Appeals for a five-year term to expire June 2, 2023.

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Upon a motion by Councilman Fawbush, seconded by Councilman Fultz, and passed by unanimous vote, council moved that the nominations cease.

Mayor Mays declared Brad Austin nominated to the Board of Zoning Appeals for a five-year term to expire June 2, 2023.

Mayor Mays opened the floor for nominations to the Wise County/City of Norton Youth Services Board (Lonesome Pine Office on Youth) to fill the unexpired term of Eric Fletcher whose term expires May 2, 2020.

Councilman Fultz nominated Holden Hunnicutt to be appointed to the Wise County/City of Norton Youth Services Board (Lonesome Pine Office on Youth) to fill an unexpired term which expires May 2, 2020.

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Mayor Mays declared Holden Hunnicutt appointed to the Wise County/City of Norton Youth Services Board (Lonesome Pine Office on Youth) to fill the unexpired term of Eric Fletcher whose term expires May 2, 2020.

In comments from the City Manager:

City Administration will present the draft budget at the May 15th meeting.

Mr. Ramey said the city's water plant received the Gold Award for Excellence in Waterworks Operations.

He said he has been communicating with Susan Howell, the Director of the Cloudsplitter 100 Ultra Trail Race, and that city administration will be sending out a letter to last year's participants, as well as this year's registrants, thanking them for their participation.

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Mr. Ramey said he has provided council with a "Get Outside in Norton, VA" sticker and a copy of May's activities.

The following comments were made by council members:

Councilman Fultz asked if RAM is moving the dental portion of services to the college.

Councilwoman Belcher said RAM will be offering onsite dental services at the Wise County Fairgrounds, and Councilman Fawbush explained the Virginia Dental Association will be providing services at the college.

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Councilman Fultz also said the NEMS students gave a great performance tonight.

Councilman Caruso asked for clarification on the school and city budget process as it relates to appropriation.

Mr. Ramey and the City's Director of Finance Jeff Shupe explained how the city's appropriations affected the adoption of the school and city's budgets.

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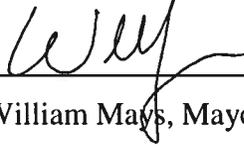
Councilman Fawbush asked the City's Director of Finance to explain the difference in the school's ADM and level funding between last year and this year.

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Mr. Shupe said council level funded on the amount last year and not the number of students. Mr. Shupe said the 815 students noted in the presentation was from two years ago.

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA



William Mays, Mayor

ATTEST:



Clerk of Council