

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, July 16, 2002 at 7:30 p.m. with Vice Mayor William Mays presiding.

Present: Jack Wallace, William Mays, and Joseph Fawbush

Absent: Robert Raines and Joseph Hunnicutt

The invocation was given by Father Tim Drake and was followed by the pledge of allegiance, which was led by Police Chief Sam Mongle.

At this time, Vice Mayor Mays amended the agenda to include item 6-E-1 – A Request for A Special Use Permit by Bon Secours St. Mary’s Hospital.

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Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the June 25, 2002 meeting as presented.

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During the Vice Mayor’s call for visitors, Mr. Shane Hubbard, a coach for the Junior League Squad of the Norton Little League, spoke to Council requesting funds to help take the team to Richmond for play-off games. Also speaking was Mr. Freddie Collins and Mr. Gary Hampton, who advised that they would need \$3,000 for the trip

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council approved \$3,000 to the Norton Little League for the Richmond trip with said funds to come from Contingency.

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Vice Mayor Mays wished the team good luck on their trip.

Council had a request for approval of the proposed paving list of priority streets.

Mr. Ward advised that the City has appropriated approximately \$150,000 for paving and would like to spend \$100,000 on the streets as listed. The remaining \$50,000 is kept in the budget for work done throughout the fiscal year.

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After a brief discussion and upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the proposed paving list of priority streets as presented to them by the City Administration.

Council had for their consideration A Resolution Approving the Planning District One Community Services Board Performance Contract.

Mr. Ward gave Council some background information on this Board and advised that approval of this contract is done annually.

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Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by the following unanimous vote: YES – Wallace, Mays, Fawbush, NO – None, ABSENT – Hunnicutt, Raines, Council moved to adopt A Resolution Approving the Planning District One Community Services Board Performance Contract. (Insert)

Mr. Ward gave Council an update on several on-going water issues.

The reservoir level as of today is 85,925 million gallons of water. The City is currently bringing in Wise County Public Service Authority Water in the eastern part of the City and will continue to do so until the reservoir levels turn around.

The Water Line Replacement Project has been advertised and a Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Thursday, July 18th, with a bid opening scheduled for July 30th at 2:00 p.m. at City Hall. Areas affected by this project are Route 74, Kentucky Avenue, East Park Avenue and West Main Avenue.

One of the water problems that has been looked at for the last few years is the need to improve water accountability. During the last fiscal year, the City replaced 1,000 water meters and will do the same again this fiscal year. He further advised that the City is striving for 70% accountability. The contract was awarded in July and the project should begin in September.

The Big Stone Gap-City of Norton Interconnect Project has funding in place and the design is completed. It is expected to be advertised this summer with construction to begin in the late fall. This project will permit the City to provide water service to the Hoot Owl Hollow area and will allow the City to purchase water from Big Stone Gap when needed.

Mr. Ward advised that the City employees have found isolated areas, such as 21st Street and Dorchester, where there are serious problems. The City has a meeting scheduled on July 17th with the Department of Health and it is hoped that they will offer us a grant for these areas. The City has had a major problem the last two weeks in the Dorchester area and City crews have laid 700' of new line. Hopefully, residents of this area will be back into water services this week.

The City Manager advised Council that this is just an update on these various water issues and that he will continue to keep them informed.

The City Manager advised Council that the City did not receive the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development funding for the Pilot Housing Project in the amount of \$770,000. Both Mr. Ward and our consultant on this project will meet with a representative of the VDHCD in Richmond to go over the application to see if there are areas for improvement on it for reapplying on this project next year. He asked Council for their recommendation on this issue.

Following a brief discussion, it was the consensus of Council for this application to be submitted again next year on the Pilot Housing Project.

In Council's packets, Mr. Ward had supplied Council with information regarding the annual Virginia Municipal League Conference, which will be held in Norfolk from October 20- 22, 2002. He asked that members of Council advise him as to who will be attending as soon as possible in order that he can make their reservations.

Council had a request for a Special Use Permit from Bon Secours St. Mary's Hospital to install banners on poles on the Third Street Road leading to the hospital.

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to approve a revocable Special Use Permit for Bon Secours St. Mary's Hospital for the purpose of installing banners.

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Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to go into closed meeting. 20233
Vice Mayor Mays declared Council in closed meeting.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to go into open meeting. 20234
Vice Mayor Mays declared Council back in open meeting.

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 Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by the following unanimous vote: YES – Wallace, Mays, Fawbush, NO – None, ABSENT – Hunnicutt, Raines, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. (Insert) 20235

There were no announcements from the closed meeting. 20236

In comments from the City Manager, Mr. Ward advised that the City had received numerous phone calls from cell phone users in the City regarding a \$3.00 County Charge on their cell phone bills. He had contacted Alltel and they had advised him that due to new software, the City charge comes up as a County Charge even though these funds come to the City. They further advised that this could not be changed on their software. 20237

He had asked for an accounting of our funds and a list of our resident cell phone users. It is his determination that the City is receiving the correct amount on this tax.

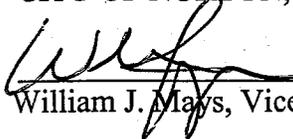
Following a brief discussion on this, Council thanked Mr. Ward for this information.

The City Attorney advised that in his dealings as the Town Attorney for Big Stone Gap, they have also experienced problems with Alltel. Having talked with them and their counsel, he feels that they are seriously working on these software problems. 20238

Also, Mr. Bradshaw advised that City Sheriff Carlos Noaks had given him a copy of legislation adopted wherein the City needs to pay its share of the expense incurred to cover Court House security. He would like to study this legislation and report back to Council on this matter.

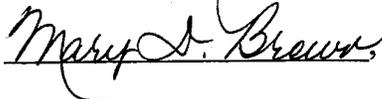
There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned.

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA



William J. Mays, Vice Mayor

ATTEST:

 Clerk