

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, February 1, 2000 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Council Chambers with Mayor Robert Raines presiding.

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

Absent: William Mays, Vice Mayor and Bill Bradshaw, City Attorney

Also Present: E. W. Ward, City Manager

The invocation was given by Rev. Steve Conerly and was followed by the pledge of allegiance which was led by City Sheriff Carlos Noaks.

Vice Mayor Mays took his seat on Council prior to the pledge.

Mayor Raines advised that Council had, prior to tonight's meeting, toured the newly renovated Sheriff's office.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council approved the minutes of the January 18, 2000 meeting as presented.

19521

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

19522

A public hearing was held on An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Norton, Virginia Amending and Re-enacting Sections 3-31 through 3-60 of the Norton City Code.

Mayor Raines advised that a public hearing had been held prior to the holidays. At that time Council was informed by the City Attorney that due to Federal Judge Glen Williams' decision that the Town of Pound's Dance Hall Ordinance was null and void, he felt that the City of Norton's was also. Both of these ordinances were done by the same attorney and are very similar. At that time, Council instructed the City Attorney and City Manager to work on this ordinance and to make any modifications. At the last meeting, these changes were discussed with Council and tonight's public hearing was scheduled.

During comments from Council prior to the public hearing, Councilman Hunnicutt suggested a change be made on Section 3-56 Issuance or Denial Generally. This change should be as follows: No such permit shall be issued to any person, corporation, or organization which is represented by a person convicted of a felony or crime of moral turpitude (including but not limited to lying, cheating, stealing, or drugs) in any jurisdiction while an adult.

19523

Mr. Ward briefly went over the changes that were made in this ordinance.

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

Mayor Raines opened the public hearing.

Mr. Frances Hill, who operates a gas station at 530 Park Avenue, N. E., spoke to Council regarding the Players Club which is on property adjacent to his business. He

advised Council that he had to clean up his lot in the mornings. He further stated this is not the type of business he would like to have in this area.

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

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by the following unanimous roll call vote: YES - Hunnicutt, Wallace, Mays, Fawbush, Raines, NO - NONE, ABSENT - NONE, Council moved to adopt An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Norton, Virginia Amending and Re-enacting Sections 3-31 through 3-60 of the Norton City Code with the change in Section 3-56 as stated above. (Insert)

A public hearing was held on a budget amendment in the amount of \$120,206 to the 1999-2000 budget of the Norton City Schools.

Dr. John Sessoms, Superintendent of Norton City Schools, was present and briefly discussed the three grants that totaled the above amount of money which necessitates this budget amendment. These grants are: Class Size Reduction Grant in the amount of \$29,084; Safe and Drug-Free School and Communities Grant in the amount of \$61,122, and a Community Grant for new software in the amount of \$30,000.

Mayor Raines asked Dr. Sessoms several questions prior to the public hearing.

19524

Mayor Raines opened the public hearing.

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

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

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$120,206 to the 1999-2000 budget of the Norton City Schools for the above listed three grants.

The City Manager advised that as of today we have a total level of 42.433 million gallons of water in our reservoirs. He further advised that we had not been drawing down from our lakes in two weeks. Water we have been supplying has come from run off.

19525

Council had been presented A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Norton, Virginia Opposing Senate Bill 148 Which Repeals the E-911 Tax.

At our last meeting, Council directed the City Manager to prepare a resolution opposing Senate Bill 148 which, if adopted, will have a level funding of seventy-five cents statewide for E-911 tax. The City currently has their own tax on this of \$1.00.

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by William Mays, and passed by the following unanimous roll call vote: YES - Hunnicutt, Wallace, Mays, Fawbush, Raines, NO - NONE, ABSENT - NONE, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Norton, Virginia Opposing Senate Bill 148 Which Repeals the E-911 Tax. (Insert)

19526

Copies of said ordinance are to be sent to legislators in Richmond and also to the local governments in Wise County.

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to go into Closed meeting to discuss personnel as per 2.1-344(A) (1) of the Code of Virginia, as amended.

19527

Mayor Raines declared Council in closed meeting.

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

19528

Mayor Raines declared Council in open meeting.

The Clerk then polled each member of Council as to the Certification of Closed Meeting with each answering aye.

The Clerk then read the entire Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by William Mays, and passed by the following unanimous vote: YES - Hunnicutt, Wallace, Mays, Fawbush, Raines, NO - NONE, ABSENT - NONE, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. (Insert)

19529

Mayor Raines opened the floor for nominations for appointment to the Board of Equalization for a term to expire 12/31/2000.

Joseph Fawbush nominated Mr. T. J. Flanary, Mr. Joe Tom Howard, and Mr. Jim Daniels as nominees for appointment to the Board of Equalization by the Circuit Court. Each member is to be paid \$40.00 per meeting.

19530

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved that the nominations cease.

Mayor Raines declared Mr. T. J. Flanary, Mr. Joe Tom Howard, and Mr. Jim Daniels to be nominees for appointment to the Board of Equalization for a term to expire 12/31/2000 with each member being paid \$40.00 per meeting. These nominees' names will be sent to the City Attorney and he will forward same to the Circuit Court Judge for appointment.

In comments from the City Manager, he invited members of Council to join him for a trip to Trammel to see a water plant whose system treats mine water for their public water supply. This trip is scheduled for Tuesday, February 8th. Everyone should meet at City Hall at 9:00 for departure. They should return by noon. Mr. Ward asked Council to inform him in advance in order that he may make travel arrangements.

19531

In comments from Council, Mayor Raines advised that representatives from the City have been invited by Wise County to accompany them on a trip to Richmond on February 15th and 16th to meet with area legislators. February 15th will be Council's regular meeting night and he suggested canceling this meeting.

19532

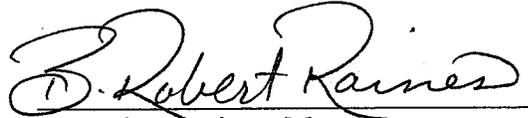
Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to cancel their regularly scheduled meeting of February 15th in order that they may participate in this trip to Richmond.

Mayor Raines also advised Council he had received a phone call from a citizen complimenting the City on their quick response to snow removal and to repairing broken water lines.

19533

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned into a work session on water issues.

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA


B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:


Clerk