

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, August 3, 1999 in the Municipal 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 Rev. Roy Laduke and was followed by the pledge, which was led by the Assistant City Manager, Fred Ramey.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the July 20, 1999 meeting as presented.

19390

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

19391

The City Manager advised that, as of today, we had a combined total of 70.217 million gallons of water in our two reservoirs and had only 3/8" of rain last week. He expressed concern about being at this level at this time of the year. The City has ceased street washing and he proposed to Council that they consider closing the swimming pool one week early, on Sunday, August 8th. The only conflicts for the Recreation Director will be the second week of the last session of swimming lessons and a couple of pool parties that have been booked.

Mr. Ward further advised that the Administration would like to turn PSA water into the East Park Avenue area; however, he does not feel that the City can do that with the pool open because the pool loses, through leaks, approximately 20,000 gallons of water daily.

19392

Following a brief discussion, it was the consensus of Council to close the pool one week early on August 8th and to refund the full amount of swimming lessons. Mayor Raines also called upon citizens to conserve water.

The City Manager had presented to Council a draft ordinance pertaining to keeping animals and fowl.

Mr. Ward advised that he, at Council's request, had sent letters to local cities and towns seeking copies of their ordinances on this issue. He had responses from four of these localities.

Council and the City Attorney discussed the draft ordinance and asked that the City Attorney and City Manager work on this with the following changes: Council is to look at civil penalties rather than criminal penalties, Special Use Permit to be issued by City Council or their designee, and there should be included an exception stating this will not affect animals kept indoors.

19393

Mr. Bradshaw advised that they will work on this ordinance and bring it back to Council within the next couple of meetings.

Mr. Ward presented to Council the Comparative Cost Report for the year ended June 30, 1998. He also gave a brief overview of some of the information contained in this

report pertaining to the City and then a brief comparison of the City with that of our sister city, Buena Vista.

1939

Mayor Raines thanked Mr. Ward for his presentation.

Mr. Ward advised Council that the annual Virginia Municipal League Conference will be held October 17 - 19, 1999 in Williamsburg and asked that members of Council advise him as soon as possible whether they will be able to attend.

1939

Mayor Raines advised that one of our regular meeting nights would occur during this time, and Council would handle that at a later date.

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, 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.

19396

Mayor Raines declared Council in closed meeting.

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

19397

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

1939

Mayor Raines opened the floor for nominations to the Norton Planning Commission for four year terms which will expire on July 31, 2003.

Joseph Hunnicutt nominated Mr. John Litton and Ms. Virginia Stokes to be reappointed to the Norton Planning Commission for four year terms that will expire on July 31, 2003.

19399

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

Mayor Raines declared Mr. John Litton and Ms. Virginia Stokes to be reappointed to the Norton Planning Commission for four year terms that will expire on July 31, 2003.

In comments from the City Manager, Mr. Ward advised:

He had received information from our sister city, Buena Vista, that its representatives would be visiting us on August 17th and leave on the 18th. He and the Assistant City Manager are working on a tentative agenda and he hopes that members of Council will have some time to set aside to visit.

Our yearly paving project is underway and will probably last another week.

The grading portion of the 11th Street Pump Station has been done. Completion date on this project is scheduled in late September.

19400

The Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy is working on the St. Mary's Highway Project which will affect 3rd Street in this area. Third Street, going into the hospital, will be one way for a significant part of this project. DMME is working on a press release. This project is to start August 12th and will run for approximately 120 days. This will eliminate the highwalls on both sides of 3rd Street going up to the hospital and a highwall that is in the back of the hospital.

There were no comments from either the City Attorney or Council.

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA



B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:



Clerk