

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on Tuesday, April 16, 1996 at 7:30 p.m. with Mayor Robert Raines presiding.

Present: Roy Roberts, Jack Wallace, William Mays, Ron McCall, and Robert Raines

Also Present: E. W. Ward, City Manager, and Joe Pippin, City Attorney

The invocation was given by Dr. Miller Liston which was followed by the pledge of allegiance led by the Assistant City Manager, Fred Ramey.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Ron McCall, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the April 2, 1996 meeting as presented.

17466

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

17467

A public hearing was held to consider the issuance of a Public Dance Hall License for Mosby's Steak House, Inc.

Mr. Ward advised this public hearing had been advertised and that Phillip Prince was present to answer any questions.

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

Mayor Raines opened the public hearing.

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

17468

There being no comments from Council, Mayor Raines asked Mr. Prince to come forward and brief Council on their plans. Mr. Prince did so. Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Roy Roberts, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to issue a Public Dance Hall License for Mosby's Steak House, Inc. for a period of one year running from the date of issuance.

At this time, Council called for the presentation by the Black Diamond Resource Conservation and Development Inc. Mr. Brian Delaney, their Coordinator, asked to be moved forward after Item 7-D as he is expecting another speaker who has not arrived. Mayor Raines advised that this would be fine.

17469

Council had before them a request for a Central Absentee Voter Election District (CAVED) by the Registrar and Electoral Board.

Ms. Ruth Woods, Secretary of the Electoral Board, advised there would be several speakers on this and that the request was for the November election only.

Mr. Joe Tom Howard of the Electoral Board spoke first opposing this stating the City did not have enough absentee votes to warrant the additional three employees who would be needed. Mr. Howard then asked several questions of Marie Muir, City Registrar.

Speaking in favor of this was Ms. Woods, who stated that Mrs. Hunnicutt, the other member of the Electoral Board, was also in favor.

17470

Following a brief discussion, William Mays made a motion for

Council to support a resolution calling for the installation of a Central Absentee Voter Election District. The motion died due to the lack of a second.

Mayor Raines expressed his thanks and appreciation of the work the Electoral Board and workers do for the City.

At this time, Mayor Raines went back to the presentation by Black Diamond Resource Conservation and Development, Inc. Speaking was Mr. Brian Delaney, Coordinator, who briefed Council on the upcoming Groundwater Quality Project for the Lenowisco Planning District. He asked that Council appoint one member to this Project Board.

Following Mr. Delaney was Ms. Terri Brown, Karst Protection Coordinator of the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation Division of Natural Heritage, who spoke briefly to Council covering this project and presented them with a handout covering same.

Mayor Raines thanked both Mr. Delaney and Ms. Brown for their presentations.

Council had in their packets A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Norton, Virginia Authorizing the Application for a Grant from the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.

Mr. Ward advised this grant would cover fishing and boating access improvements. This resolution would authorize the City, through the Parks and Recreation Department, to apply for a 75% grant for a ramp and dock at the upper reservoir. The City Manager advised this grant would not cover paving. The total cost of this grant would be \$5,000 and the City's 25% would be \$1,250 if the City does the work. Mr. Ward asked for Council's favorable consideration.

Upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by Roy Roberts, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Norton, Virginia Authorizing the Application for a grant from the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. (Insert)

Since Election Day is on the first Tuesday of May and upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to have the first meeting in May on Wednesday, May 8th at 7:30.

In his comments, Mr. Ward advised the winning posters and a list of winners are exhibited in Council Chambers for Council's viewing.

He also showed Council one of two plaques that will be installed on the Veterans Memorial Bridge.

In comments from the City Attorney, Mr. Pippin advised he has been in correspondence with Century Communications regarding the rate increase effective May 1st. He advised the matter has been turned over to their Legal Department for research.

In comments from Council, Mr. Roberts inquired about the Cellular Phone Tax. He understands that one company is collecting and the other isn't. Mr. Ward advised that he and the City Attorney were looking at this.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the

meeting adjourned into a work session on the budget.

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA



B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:


Clerk