

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held in the Municipal Council Chambers on Tuesday, December 18, 1990, at 7:30 p.m. with Mayor Robert Raines presiding.

Present: Linda Sturgill, Robert Raines, William Mays, and Ron McCall

Absent: Jack Wallace

Also Present: E. W. Ward, City Manager and Kenneth Asbury, City Attorney

The invocation was given by Rev. Steve Emory and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance which was led by Police Chief Sam Mongle.

Upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by Linda Sturgill, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the December 4, 1990 meeting as presented.

14956

There was no response to the audience for visitors.

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A public hearing was held on An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of Water and Sewer Bonds in the Maximum Amount of \$744,700.

Mr. Ward advised the passage of this ordinance would authorize the issuance of bonds that would cover reconstruction of sewer lines in the City and that the City has a commitment from the Virginia Revolving Loan Fund for the money at 0% interest. This is also in conjunction with Contract IV of the C-N-W Regional Sewer Authority. Mr. Ward showed those present the section of sewer lines these funds would replace on a map.

14958

Mayor Raines opened the floor for public comment.

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

Mr. Ward advised of one correction on the ordinance and that was No. 5 which states that the ordinance shall take effect immediately. He further advised that this should read, "shall take effect in 30 days after adoption" as per the City Code. If adoption is considered by Council, this stipulation should be made providing Bond Counsel has no problem with this.

Upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to adopt An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of Water and Sewer Bonds in the Maximum Amount OF \$744,700 which will take effect 30 days from the date of adoption. (Insert)

The Mayor advised that the City's water level as of today was 71.1 million gallons which was up from 61 million gallon at our last meeting and that with the run-off we will have, we should top 80 million gallons.

14959

Mr. Ward asked if this should be kept as an agenda item in the near future and was advised to do so.

Mr. Charles Yates, Marketing Director of Southwest Virginia Promise, and Executive Director of Coalfield Economic Development Authority, was introduced to Council by Mr. Ward. He presented a brief summary on both these organizations as to their operations and fundings and answered several questions from Council.

Mr. Yates expressed his appreciation to both Mr. Ward and Mr. Ramey for their cooperation and assistance in obtaining the local AT&T facility.

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Mayor Raines, on behalf of Council, expressed appreciation to Mr. Yates for his working with the City to obtain the AT&T facility for the City of Norton.

Mr. Calvin Honaker, representing the accounting firm of Thrower and Thrower, spoke to Council on the 1990 audit.

The audit revealed the City received an unqualified opinion for the year ending June 30, 1990.

14961

Mr. Honaker then answered several questions that Council asked.

Mr. Ward advised he had been presented with a request from the legal firm of Wolfe and Farmer and Four Seasons Properties requesting a new sidewalk be installed in the 400 block of Park Avenue from the intersection of 5th Street past the building of Sturgill and Sturgill. This request was for the businesses and the City each to pay 50% of the cost. The City portion of this amount would be \$7,785.00. The City Administration favorably asks for Council's consideration.

Council discussed the possibility of adding the rest of the block to this project wherein the entire block would have new sidewalk. Council concurred that they would like to see this done.

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to authorize the expenditure not to exceed \$10,000 for the replacement of sidewalks on the entire 400 block of Park Avenue with said funds to come from Street Repairs.

Council had been presented with copies of two checks in excess of \$100,000 - one in the amount of \$170,000.00 payable to the Norton City Schools and the second in the amount of \$220,067.85 (\$220,000 purchase price and \$67.85 pro rata share of real estate taxes) made payable to the Norfolk and Western Railway Company for purchase of the AT&T Property.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Ron McCall, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council approved two checks in excess of \$100,000. One check was in the amount of \$170,000.00 payable to the Norton City Schools and the second in the amount of \$220,067.85 was made payable to the Norfolk and Western Railway Company for the purchase of the AT&T Property.

Council discussed the date and time of the next Council Meeting as this meeting date falls on New Year's Day. After a brief discussion, Council agreed to hold one meeting on January 15th at 7:30 p.m. and if the need arises for another meeting, then one will be called.

In his comments, Mr. Ward advising that the AT&T Facility is moving toward completion and should finish on time on December 31, 1990. Training of employees will begin in the next two weeks and February 1st is the date set to go into operation.

The City Attorney had no comments.

Councilwoman Sturgill advised she would like to have the Blackwood Industrial Project brought back as an agenda item for discussion in the near future.

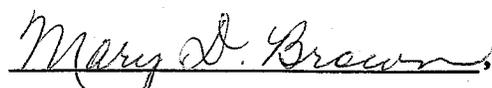
The City Manager advised that administratively he had nothing to bring to Council on this Project at this time.

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



B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:

 Clerk