

The regular meeting of the City Council was held in the Municipal Court Room on March 21, 1978 at 7:30 P.M. with Mayor Fulks presiding.

Present: Ike Fulks, W. F. McElroy, George Hunnicutt, Vernon Flanary, W. C. Necessary.

Also Present: Joe Baker, City Manager and Kenneth Asbury, Attorney

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Pam Honeycutt of Hamner Avenue appeared before council and asked the City Manager whether or not Humphreys Enterprises had submitted to the City their plans for replacement of the high pressure line that was broken last May. Mrs. Honeycutt was advised that in matter of weeks they should have the plans.

8000

Mrs. C. H. Henderson appeared before council regarding coal trucks hauling coal from 11th Street Coal Site. She stated that three trucks loaded with coal had gone by her house Monday, followed by a large truck loaded with machinery. She asked if this hauling was permissible in a residential district. Council directed the City Manager to check into this matter.

8001

Jeanette Isaac of West Park Avenue appeared before council regarding traffic hazard when coming off alley between 12th & 13th Street out into 12th Street. Council discussed this matter with Mrs. Isaac and instructed the City Manager to have signs placed there temporarily until project of curb & gutter has been finished.

8002

Mr. Richard Peake and Mr. & Mrs. Porpuondo were present at council requesting the city to participate in a scholarship program for the Creative Arts Summer Camp. They would like five scholarships at \$65.00 Each.

8003

On motion by W. F. McElroy, seconded by George Hunnicutt and carried by unanimous roll call vote, council moved that they send five children to Creative Arts Summer Camp, at cost of \$325.00 to be paid from contingency fund, with selection of children to be handled through school board.

Christine Easterling of 401 Park Avenue, N.E. was present at council meeting regarding N.B. Kennedy tearing down fence to her property. She was inquiring as to whether or not the City would be able to help her out in this matter. Council advised her this was a matter she would have to take care of herself.

8004

Monroe Moore of Hamner Avenue appeared before council with the following complaints: 1. Car wash on East Park Avenue blocking road; 2. Holes in road; 3. Tax assessment biggest problem in the area. The City Manager was directed to have signs placed near car wash to prevent blocking of street.

8005

Jeanette Isaac asked how she could find out address of Corps of Engineer for sewer project along her property on East Park Avenue. Mr. Asbury asked that she call his secretary for address.

8006

Freddy Bradley, representing the Norton Jaycees, appeared before council and advise that the Jaycees have several projects in mind for Clean-up and desire to help the City in the overall clean-up.

8007

Mrs. Dick Flanary was present at council meeting and inquired as to why trash had not been picked up at old Elementary School since January. Also needed something done about loud noise and congregating in parking lot at night. Matter referred to City Manager.

8008

Councilman Hunnicutt spoke on reassessment. It was pointed out that the Board of Assessors was appointed by judge of Circuit Court and that the council only had the authority to set the tax rate. Citizens speaking on tax matter - Monroe Moore, Mr. & Mrs. Farah, Jeanette Isaac, Mr. Honberg and Mr. Marcum were present and answered questions concerning assessment.

8009

Appointment of member to Housing Appeals Board tabled until next council meeting.

8010

Council declared weeks of April 10 - 22nd to "Keep Norton Beautiful".

8011

The City Manager presented proposal for closing 7th Street for parking for Municipal Employees and Health Department employees. Council disussed this matter at length. No motion made.

8012

On motion by George Hunnicutt, seconded by Vernon Flanary and carried by unanimous roll call vote, council moved that the City Manager be authorized and directed to negotiate with Norton Redevelopment & Housing Authority to provide some temporary relief for parking on the property they own behind 6th Street for proposed high rise and to come back to council with estimated cost of putting gravel on lot for parking. He was further directed to contact owners of old Norton Community Hospital in regard to parking for City.

8013

Mayor Fulks advised council that bid is to be advertised for building of State Police Building.

On motion by W. F. McElroy, seconded by Bill Necessary and carried by unanimous roll call vote, council moved that we submit in the paper this week for bids for the construction of the new State Police Building.

8014

Councilman Flanary commended the City Manager for what clean-up had been done on Park Avenue.

8015

Vice Mayor McElroy inquired as to status of final funds for Neighborhood Facility Project. The City Manager advised the final request had gone in.

8016

Mayor Fulks advised he had been contacted regarding condition of road in Hootowl section of the City.

8017

Mayor Fulks advised council that he had again been contacted by Mrs. Earles of Ridge Avenue regarding water stream coming over on her property getting into her basement. Council discussed this matter and asked the City Manager to see if anything could be done about this matter.

8018

Councilman Hunnicutt gave a brief summary of Report of Auditor of Public Accounts of June 30, 1976 of different ratings of cities of Virginia.

8019

The City Manager advised council of serious situation the City is in with regard to equipment. He requested he be granted permission to purchase pick-up truck for meter reader without advertising, on an emergency basis.

8020

On motion by George Hunnicutt, seconded by Vernon Flanary and carried by unanimous roll call vote, council moved that the City Manager be authorized and directed to go down to Legg Motor Company or Witt Motor Company and rent truck for reading meters for thirty days.

The City Manager advised council that the managers of Wise County were considering the feasibility of central dispatch system for Wise County under LEAA Justice & Crime prevention. He asked that council pass a resolution allowing the City to participate in this program.

8021

On motion by Bill Necessary, seconded by W. F. McElroy and carried by unanimous roll call vote, council moved that they give City Manager the authority to go ahead with the feasibility study as presented without any cost to the City of Norton.

There being no further business to come before the council same adjourned.

She Fulks
Mayor

J. N. d.
Clerk