

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, September 7, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Council Chambers with Mayor William Mays presiding.

Present: Mark Caruso, William Mays, and Terry Roop

Also Present: E. W. Ward, City Manager

Absent: Joseph Hunnicutt, Joseph Fawbush, and Bill Bradshaw, City Attorney

The invocation was given by Rev. John Ellington and was followed by the pledge of allegiance led by Police Lieutenant Roger Cooke.

Upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilman Roop, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the August 17, 2010 meeting as presented.

24809

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

24810

During the last meeting, the City Manager was advised to check with Mr. Bob Spera and see if additional funding is needed for the upcoming "Let Freedom Ring" activity at the Lonesome Pine Airport.

Mr. Spera advised that he is short of the needed funds and would appreciate any additional funding from the City. Mr. Ward advised that the City has already allocated \$500 to this activity.

24811

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Councilman Roop, seconded by Councilman Caruso, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to appropriate an additional \$500 to the "Let Freedom Ring" activity to be held September 23-26 at the Lonesome Pine Airport. This will make the City's total contribution \$1,000 with said funds to come from Contingency.

Tommy Roberts, Water Plant Superintendent, had provided Council with an update on the City's water reserves in their packets. As of August 30th, there was a combined reservoir capacity of 87 million gallons. The City is still purchasing water from Wise County Public Service Authority

24812

Following a brief discussion, the City Manager advised that the fall stocking of fish in the upper reservoir has been cancelled due to the lower reserves at that location. He further asked the citizens of Norton to continue to conserve water.

Mayor Mays thanked Mr. Ward for this update.

Roger Ramey, Director of Social Services, spoke briefly to Council giving them an annual report via a PowerPoint presentation on his department.

He advised that his Board is again active and regular meetings are being held. He has a total staff of 15 employees. He then proceeded to give a brief synopsis on the various programs administered by Social Services. The largest expense is the Medicaid Program,

which in 2009, expended \$5,406,106. He advised, with the economy the way it is, applications are going up and they are losing revenue for administration.

Mr. Ramey thanked Council for all of their financial and moral support through the year and advised he would be happy to answer any questions Council may have.

Mayor Mays thanked Mr. Ramey and his employees for the job they do.

Council had been provided with a Resolution Approving the Planning District One Community Services Board Performance Contract.

Mr. Ward advised that adoption of this resolution is done annually for this Board which deals with mental illnesses, mental retardation, and alcohol or other drug abuse or dependence. The City's representative on this Board is Ms. Sarah Davis. The City Manager stated he would answer any questions that Council may have.

Upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilman Roop, and passed by the following unanimous vote: YES – Caruso, Roop, Mays, NO – None, ABSENT – Hunnicutt, Fawbush, Council moved to adopt A Resolution Approving the Planning District One Community Services Board Performance Contract. (Insert)

In their packets, Council was presented with A Proclamation Recognizing Virginia Cycling and Pedestrian Awareness Week September 13 -20.

Mr. Ward stated that more individuals are walking and biking and the Governor has proclaimed the week of September 13-20 as Virginia Cycling and Pedestrian Awareness Week. He further advised that the second annual Walk to School will be in October. Councilman Caruso stated that the Benges Revenge Bicycle Challenge will be held on September 19, 2010.

Upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilman Roop, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt A Proclamation Recognizing Virginia Cycling and Pedestrian Awareness Week September 13 – 20. (Insert)

Council had been provided with a copy of a transfer in the amount of \$110,000 to the Norton City Schools to cover payroll and fringes and a check made payable to the Norton Industrial Development Authority in the amount of \$122,004.25 to cover a commercial development loan payment on the Norton Commons Project.

Upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilman Roop, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve the transfer and check as specified above. (Insert – Councilman Roop's Disclosure Form)

Upon a motion by Councilman Roop, seconded by Councilman Caruso, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to go into closed meeting to discuss personnel as per Code section No. 2.2-3711 (A) (1) of the Code of Virginia, as amended and Consultation with Legal Counsel Pertaining to Actual Litigation as per Section No. 2.2-3711 (A) (7) of the Code of Virginia as amended.

Mayor Mays declared Council in closed meeting.

During the Closed Meeting, Councilman Hunnicutt took his seat on Council and joined in the closed meeting.

Upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilman Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to go back into open meeting.
Mayor Mays declared Council back in open meeting.

24819

The Clerk then polled each member of Council as to the Certification of Closed Meeting with each answering yes. The Clerk then read A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. Upon a motion by Councilman Hunnicutt, seconded by Councilman Caruso, and passed by the following unanimous vote: YES – Caruso, Hunnicutt, Roop, Mays, NO – None, ABSENT – Fawbush, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. (Insert)

24820

Mayor Mays opened the floor for nominations to the Disability Services Board for a three year term which will expire on August 31, 2013.

Councilman Hunnicutt nominated Mary Beth Adkins to be reappointed to this Board.

Upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilman Roop, Council moved that the nominations cease.

24821

Mayor Mays declared Mary Beth Adkins reappointed to the Disability Services Board for a three year term which will expire on August 31, 2013.

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

The Pro-Art Association has sent the City two complimentary passes for the upcoming year. Should any member of Council like to use these passes, please contact Mrs. Brown.

A ceremony was held on August 31st to rename the local Wise County/City of Norton VFW Post in honor of D. C. "Shifty" Powers. The Post presented the City with a framed charter and a framed list of members and asked that they be hung in the Municipal Building. Mayor Mays, who also attended, advised them the City would be proud to do so.

24822

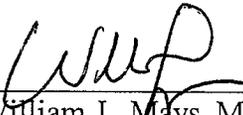
At Council's next meeting on September 21st, a public hearing will be held on the Issuance of Debt for the Upper Norton Dam Project. Council will be supplied with more info at this meeting.

In comments from Council, Councilman Caruso stated he had received several phone calls from citizens stating that they would like for the City to start stocking catfish in the reservoir along with concerns about restroom facilities for women. He also advised that there are new rules for fishing and they are not posted. He would like to see these posted close to the boat launch.

24823

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA



William J. Mays, Mayor

ATTEST:



Clerk