

The rescheduled meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Wednesday, October 5, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor William Mays presiding.

Present: Mark Caruso, William Mays, Joseph Fawbush, and Terry Roop

Absent: Joseph Hunnicutt

Also Present: E. W. Ward, City Manager and Bill Bradshaw, City Attorney

The invocation was given by Father Tim Drake and was followed by the pledge of allegiance led by Councilman Terry Roop.

Upon a motion by Councilman Roop, seconded by Councilman Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the September 20, 2011 meeting as presented.

25181

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

25182

Mr. Ward advised Council that the City has a combined total capacity of 86.4 million gallons of water as of September 29th. He advised that we had purchased 21.4 million gallons of water from the Wise County Public Service Authority and that the amount paid for this water will be reimbursed by USDA-Rural Development.

Recent pictures were shown of the work done on the Upper Norton Dam Reservoir Project and Mr. Ward advised there had been good productivity. The spillway is progressing and the retaining walls on the sides are going up. The project is proceeding and the Administration is very pleased with the progress.

25183

Council had a request by Norton Community Hospital and Mountain States Health Alliance to approve a resolution for the issuance of bonds to refund prior debt and finance new health care improvements.

Mr. Mark Leonard, CEO of Norton Community Hospital, spoke briefly to Council seeking Council's permission to refinance bonds and to give Council an update on various projects at the hospital. He advised Council he will answer any questions they may have.

25184

There being no questions from Council for Mr. Leonard, he recognized Mr. Steve Salyer, Chief Financial Officer of Norton Community Hospital, who advised Council that the present fixed rate on the bonds in question is 5-1/2%. If they refinance, the rate will be 1.2% saving them \$500,000 to \$600,000 annually.

The City Attorney advised he had reviewed the documents and that they are simple refinancing documents, and, in his opinion, it is a great deal for the hospital. He further advised that these bonds will be issued with the City's support and they pose no liability to the City.

Upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilman Roop, and passed by the following unanimous roll call vote: YES – Caruso, Fawbush, Roop, Mays, NO – None, ABSENT – Hunnicutt, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Norton, Virginia supporting the Smith County Industrial Development

Authority's reissuance of bonds on behalf of the Norton Community Hospital and Mountain States Health Alliance as discussed. (Insert)

The next agenda item was a request by the Wise County Board of Supervisors to approve an Agreement Assigning Wastewater Transmission to the Wise County PSA.

25185

The City Manager respectfully requested that Council table this item until the last meeting in November.

It was the consensus of Council to table this item as requested by the City Manager.

Upon a motion by Councilman Fawbush, seconded by Councilman Caruso, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to go into closed meeting to discuss personnel as per Section No. 2.2-3711 (A) (1) of the Code of Virginia, as amended.

25186

Mayor Mays declared Council in closed meeting.

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

25187

Mayor Mays declared Council back in open meeting.

The Clerk polled each member of Council as to the Certification of Closed Meeting with each answering yes.

The Clerk read A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting.

Upon a motion by Councilman Fawbush, seconded by Councilman Caruso, and passed by the following unanimous vote: YES – Caruso, Fawbush, Roop, Mays, NO – None, ABSENT – Hunnicutt, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. (Insert)

25188

Mayor Mays opened the floor for nominations to the Southwest Virginia Community Corrections Board as required by Section No. 9.1-178 of the Code of Virginia, as amended.

Upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilman Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to approve the following appointments to this Board: The Honorable Elizabeth S. Wills, The Honorable Henry A. Vanover, the Honorable Sage B. Johnson, Mrs. Allison Steele, Chief William H. Price, Ruth Hale, Sheriff David Bradley, Roy Evans, Steve Clear, Kevin Tiller, and Sharon Alderson.

25189

Mayor Mays declared the above individuals approved for appointment to the Southwest Virginia Community Corrections Board.

In comments from the City Manager, Mr. Ward advised that Friday, October 7th, is the third annual Walk to School Day. Participants will leave the City Park on 11th Street at 7:30 a.m. and walk to the Norton Elementary and Middle School. Council members are invited to attend and participate in this annual event.

25190

There were no comments from the City Attorney.

25191

In comments from City Council, Mayor Mays advised that there will be approximately \$20,000 remaining after the work is completed on the tennis courts at the 11th Street Park.

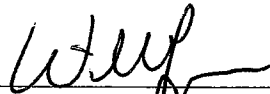
Since City employees have not had a raise in two years, he would like to see this money, or at least a portion of this money, used to give an extra stipend to employees with their Christmas Bonuses.

Vice Mayor Fawbush advised he had been working with the Assistant City Manager on a Parks and Recreation activity and had hoped to use a portion of these funds for that. He stated that he plans on bringing this information and costs to Council at the next meeting. He further stated that there may be enough funds to do both the project and the stipend.

25192

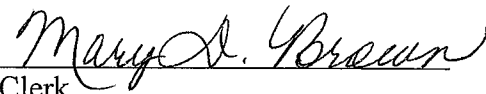
There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned.

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA



William J. Mays, Mayor

ATTEST:



Clerk