

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on Tuesday, September 5, 1995 at 7:30 p.m. with Mayor Raines presiding.

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

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

The invocation was given by the City Manager and was followed by the pledge of allegiance which was led by the Police Chief, Sam A. Mongle.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the August 15, 1995 meeting as presented.

17287

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

17288

Council had in their packets a copy of the Water/Sewer Connection Policy which was discussed at the last meeting.

Mayor Raines stated he felt we had three options. These being:
1. Let policy stand as is. 2. Make concessions. 3. Revise the policy.

Mr. Bill Bevins, who brought this policy before Council at that last meeting was present at this meeting.

17289

During a discussion, the City Attorney advised that there was enough flexibility in this plan and that he saw no reason to revise it. Following this discussion and upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Roy Roberts, and passed by unanimous vote, Council stated the policy would stand as is and they will look at it again during the Capitol Improvement Projects Meeting in the spring.

Mr. Ward spoke to Council regarding the Upper Dam situation. He advised that both the City Administration and City engineers feel fairly comfortable with the situation as it now stands; however repairs need to be made immediately. After the rainy season begins, the situation cannot be controlled. As of today, there is an estimated 20 million gallons of water in this upper dam.

Present at tonight's meeting is Mr. Pat Murphy, Project Engineer, Thompson and Litton Engineering, and Mr. Steve Conner, an engineer with Schnabel and Associates. Mr. Murphy will discuss with Council how to make these repairs and the anticipated cost of these repairs.

17290

Mr. Murphy gave handouts to members of Council covering maps of the dam site and a preliminary statement of probable project cost and a preliminary project schedule and discussed each with Council. He stated that after the repairs were made there would be a safety factor of between 1.5 and 1.6 and closer to 1.6. The minimum safety standard for dams is 1.5. The total cost for the repairs is \$206,900. If Council declares this an emergency and authorizes the City Administration and engineers to proceed, bids will be received on September 12th and awarded on September 13th. Hopefully, completion date will be November 3rd.

Mr. Murphy and Mr. Conner answered questions from the members of Council.

The City Manager advised that the City Administration, the engineers, and the representative of the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation all agree the repairs as discussed with Council tonight are the way to correct this situation.

Following a lengthy discussion and upon a motion by Roy Roberts, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council declared the Upper Dam Saturation Problem an emergency and authorized the City Manager to procure services.

As to financing, the City Manager advised he had talked with an individual from the U. S. Army Corp of Engineers and a representative from there will be here tomorrow to discuss possible funding. He has talked with representatives today from RECD (old Farmers Home Program) and talked about possible sources of funding and a meeting is scheduled for Wednesday evening with Senator Wampler to talk about possible sources of state funding.

He further advised we do not have enough funds in our Enterprise Fund to pay these costs.

The best offer we have received is from RECD people. They advised if the Federal Budget is passed around October 1st and money is appropriated at the state level to this program, we would be moved to the top of the list to receive a loan to do this project on a reimbursable basis for a long period of time at an interest rate of 4-1/2%. He is still looking for grant money even though it is hard to find.

Upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by Roy Roberts, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council authorized the City Manager to move money from General Fund Reserves or to secure interim financing as he deems necessary for this particular project on a short term basis.

Mayor Raines expressed Council's appreciation to Mr. Murphy and Mr. Conner for their work on this project.

Mr. Paul Kuczko, Director of the Lonesome Pine Office on Youth, presented their annual report to Council. He briefly went over this report and advised Council that he would be happy to answer any questions they may have.

17291

Mayor Raines thanked Mr. Kuczko for this report.

Mr. Joe Stallard, City Treasurer, gave Council his yearly report and went over this information with them.

Council thanked Mr. Stallard for his presentation and advised of their appreciation for the work his office has done.

17292

Council had a request for a sewer tap in the Wise County Plaza Shopping Center by Mr. Jack Wallace, dba, Sears Authorized Retail Dealer.

Councilman Wallace, at this time, stated he would be abstaining from the discussion and vote on this item.

17293

Upon a motion by Roy Roberts, seconded by Ron McCall, and passed by the following vote: Roberts, Mays, McCall, Raines - YES, Wallace - ABSTAIN, Council authorized a sewer tap in the Wise County Shopping Plaza for Mr. Jack Wallace, dba, Sears Authorized Retail Dealer.

Council had a request for a water and sewer tap in the Josephine

section of Wise County for Mr. Douglas Kern. Mr. Ward advised water was available at this location; however sewer is not. 17294

Following a brief discussion, Council decided to table this item until they have more information. Mr. Ward will bring this item back to City Council.

Council had a check in the amount of \$160,000 made payable to the Norton City Schools. Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Ron McCall, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a check in the amount of \$160,000 made payable to the Norton City Schools. 17295

Upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel as per 2.1-344(A) (1) of the Code of Virginia, as amended and the discussion of a potential contract requiring the advice of legal counsel as per 2.1-344(A) (7) of the Code of Virginia, as amended. 17296

Mayor Raines declared the meeting in Executive Session.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Ron McCall, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to go back into regular session. Mayor Raines declared the meeting back in regular session. 17297

The Clerk then polled each member of Council as to the Certification of Executive Meeting with each answering aye.

The Clerk then read the entire Resolution of the Certification of Executive Meeting. Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Roy Roberts, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Executive Meeting. (Insert) 17298

Mayor Raines advised no action had been taken in the Executive Session. 17299

In his comments, the City Manager advised:

The City Picnic is to be held on Thursday, September 7th at Flag Rock from 6:00 - 8:00 and he hopes Council members and their families will be able to attend.

The By-Pass Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will be held on Friday, September 8th at 1:00 p.m. 17300

He has met with the Virginia Department of Transportation on the Second Street Bridge in Round Town and design work is 65% complete.

The Super Service Garage Deal was closed on August 31st in the City Attorney's office.


There were no comments from the City Attorney. 17301

In comments from Council, Councilman McCall advised he had been reading a booklet the City Manager gave to Council members with statistical data on governing bodies all over the State. He thought that maybe Council should mention to the School Board to consider compensation for their members and also that Council would want to consider a raise for the Mayor since so much of this individual's time 17302


is consumed with City activities and also a raise in compensation for Council members. It was the consensus of Council to have these feelings conveyed to the School Board since at this time they receive no compensation. As for salaries of City Council, it will be discussed at the CIP meeting in the Spring.

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA


B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:


Clerk