

The regular meeting of the City Council was held in the Municipal Court Room on February 17, 1970 at 7:30 P.M. with Mayor Flanary presiding.

Present: V.O. Flanary, G.E. Hunnicutt, S.H. Neeley, W.G. Stallard, Robert Leonard

Also Present: Evan Norton, City Manager

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Ralph Wilson appeared before council requesting refund on 1970 license.

On motion by G.E. Hunnicutt, seconded by W.G. Stallard and carried by unanimous vote council moved that such amount of money as he has overpaid for the total value of business that he has done be refunded, such amount to be computed by Commissioner of Revenue.

5071

Mr. Norton read letter from Mr. Elbert Cox, Director, Commission of Outdoor Recreation regarding Norton's plan for City of Norton program for 1970-76. Council discussed this matter with the City Manager.

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Mr. Norton advised council they were still pursuing FHA Loan.

On motion by G.E. Hunnicutt, seconded by W.G. Stallard and carried by unanimous vote council moved that the following resolution be passed:

Whereas, the City of Norton is presently engaged in a very ambitious program of expansion, and

Whereas, a substantial portion of this expansion consists of a vital waterworks plan, and

Whereas, the City has seen the need to arrange temporary financing through Wise County National Bank and First National Exchange Bank, and

Whereas, Mr. Bill Clement of Wise County National Bank and Mr. E.A. King of First National Exchange Bank have not only arranged said finances for the City of Norton, but have further demonstrated an extremely favorable attitude of cooperation for the common good,

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Norton, that the heartfelt gratitude of this council be expressed to these individuals and institutions, and that a copy hereof be delivered to these two individuals.

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Mr. Norton discussed briefly Public Housing, advising they were awaiting further word from Philadelphia regarding acceptance of proposal.

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On motion by G.E. Hunnicutt, seconded by S.H. Neeley and carried by unanimous roll call vote council moved that city send to Virginia Municipal League \$88.00 as city's share in cost of railroad assessment case before the Supreme Court.

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Mr. Norton discussed with council need for resolution to be passed regarding Neighborhood Facilities Program.

On motion by Robert Leonard, seconded by S.H. Neeley and carried by unanimous vote council moved that the City Manager be empowered to file application with HUD for Neighborhood Facilities and that the City's one-fourth share be in kind and no cash involved.

5076

Mr. Norton advised council it was time to begin considering the 1970-1971 budget.

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Council discussed at length annexation.

On motion by G.E. Hunnicutt, seconded by W.G. Stallard and carried by unanimous vote council moved that the city manager be instructed to proceed along council guide lines in expediting this general annexation.

5078

The council has determined that the following be considered in proceeding with this action for annexation:

1. That this annexation is efficiently necessary to carry forward the functions of the city government to most effectively serve the people of the area by providing city services to them in the most advantageous manner and providing sufficient area and scope for planning and development now lacking within the present confines of the city almost to the point of strangulation.

2. That the city will continue to entertain discussions with the Town of Wise concerning any mutual interest, operations or programs toward working these out to most effectively, efficiently and economically serve the people of our entire area and to include possible ultimate consolidation of Norton and Wise into one governmental unit.

3. That the door be open to Wise County for discussions in any areas of mutual concern and a possible systems analysis of functions and programs and determination of the most effective, efficient and economical means that might be established to best serve the people in our entire area.

Council discussed commercial development on Park Avenue between 10th and 9th Streets. No action taken.

5079

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

Hannon C. Flanagan
Mayor

[Signature]
Clerk