

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, October 2, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Council Chambers with Mayor Robert Raines presiding.

Present: Jack Wallace, Robert Raines, William Mays, and Joseph Fawbush

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 the Chairman of the Norton City School Board, Ron McCall.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the September 18, 2007 meeting as presented.

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Mayor Raines welcomed all those in attendance at tonight's meeting.

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

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Council had been presented with A Resolution Authorizing the Norton City Schools to apply for a Literary Fund Loan for the Norton Elementary School Project.

Mayor Raines advised that, in May of this year, Council appropriated \$25,000 for pre-engineering work to see which approach would be best to take on this project. Bill Thompson of Thompson and Litton gave Council a PowerPoint presentation, which gave the existing facility a fully equipped gymnasium and also provided additional safety as far as entering the building. Mr. Thompson also advised that, with the upgrades in air conditioning, electrical, etc., the life of the school will be good for the next 30 years.

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At this time, Councilman Hunnicutt took his seat on Council.

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A timeline was then given by the Mayor. This timeline would begin this month and finish in August of 2009. Financing of this project will be secured through a Literary Loan; however there is a waiting period of 18 – 24 months and interim financing will have to be secured. The total project cost is anticipated not to exceed \$7,500,000.

There were no questions or comments from Council following this update by Mayor Raines.

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Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by the following unanimous roll call vote: YES - Hunnicutt, Wallace, Mays, Fawbush, Raines NO – None, ABSENT – None, Council moved to adopt A Resolution Authorizing the Norton City Schools to Apply for a Literary Loan for the Norton Elementary School Project. (Insert)

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council authorized the City Manager to procure interim financing and bond counsel on the Norton Elementary School Project.

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Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to authorize the City Manager to advertise a public hearing to appropriate \$333,000 for engineering design with said funds to come from the proceeds of the interim financing.

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Council had a request for one water tap for Spenco2, Incorporated located at 5523 Guest River Road, which is in the county.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to approve one water tap to Spenco2, Incorporated at 5523 Guest River Road.

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Council briefly discussed the dates of upcoming City Council meetings. The next regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>. Several members of Council and the City Administration will be out of town attending the Virginia Municipal League Conference in Williamsburg. The first meeting in November is November 6<sup>th</sup> and that will be Election Day.

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Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to cancel the October 16<sup>th</sup> and November 6<sup>th</sup> meetings and schedule a meeting to be held on October 30<sup>th</sup>, the fifth Tuesday in October. This will allow the City Manager ample time to advertise a public hearing.

Council was given a brief update on the City's water situation. As of today, the City has a combined capacity in both reservoirs of 60.025 million gallons; which, based on current usage, is approximately 125 days supply. The City is purchasing a substantial amount of water, approximately 500,000 gallons per day, from the Wise County Public Service Authority. Council is asking citizens to conserve water.

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The City Administration gave Council an update on the Big Stone Gap Water Interconnect and explained why the City is not able to purchase water from Big Stone Gap. A problem that has been corrected was the significant delay in getting electrical power to Big Stone Gap's water pump station. Another problem is the need for a water tank. This tank was in the original plan, but was eliminated. The City is still working with Big Stone Gap and engineers to get this tank installed. Mr. Ward advised that the City is still paying one-half of the cost on this interconnect. Mayor Raines advised that this issue needs to be resolved.

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Mr. Ward advised that he had given each member of Council a water report prepared by Tommy Roberts, Water Plant Superintendent. There were no questions or comments from Council regarding this report.

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Mayor Raines expressed Council's appreciation to Mr. Roberts and his employees for the job they are doing.

Council had been given a copy of a check in the amount of \$310,000 made payable to the Norton City Schools.

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Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a check in the amount of \$310,000 made payable to the Norton City Schools. 21740

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to go into closed meeting as per Section No. 2.2-3711 (A) (1) of the Code of Virginia, as amended. 21741  
Mayor Raines declared Council in closed meeting.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to go back into open meeting. 21742  
Mayor Raines 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 then read A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, and passed by the following unanimous vote: YES – Hunnicutt, Wallace, Raines, Mays, Fawbush, NO – None, ABSENT – None, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. (Insert) 21743

Mayor Raines opened the floor for nominations to the Disability Services Board for a three year term which will expire on August 31, 2010. 21744  
Joseph Hunnicutt nominated Mary Beth Adkins.

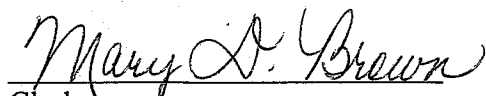
Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved that the nominations cease.  
Mayor Raines declared Mary Beth Adkins appointed to the Disability Services Board for a three year term which will expire on August 31, 2010.

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA

  
B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Clerk