

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, April 4, 2006 in Council Chambers at 7:30 p.m. with Vice Mayor William Mays presiding.

Present: Joseph Hunnicutt, Jack Wallace, and William Mays

Absent: Robert Raines and Joseph Fawbush

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 Dr. John Sessoms, Superintendent of the Norton City School System.

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to approve the minutes of the March 21, 1006 meeting as presented. 21335

There was no response to the Vice Mayor's call for visitors. 21336

Council had a request for an amendment to the Norton City Schools' 2005-2006 budget in the amount of \$42,877.

Mr. Ward advised that Dr. Sessoms, Superintendent of the Norton City Schools, was present to answer any questions that Council may have.

Mr. Ward advised that copies of the letters from Dr. Sessoms were included in Council's packets. Of the total amount of \$42,877, \$21,180 reflects an increase in the Reading First Grant. The balance of \$21,696.93 reflects E-rate funds.

Dr. Sessoms spoke briefly to Council regarding these funds. 21337

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a budget amendment to the 2005-2006 Norton City Schools' budget in the amount of \$42,877.

Council had been presented with a request for an amendment to the 2005-2006 City General Fund in the amount of \$35,550. 21338

At this time, Councilman Fawbush took his seat on Council. 21339

Mr. Ward advised that this amount comes from two sources: The first, in the amount of \$11,000, is from a DMV Grant that assists the City with overtime costs. The balance of \$24,550 covers a grant from the Department of Criminal Justice Services for a grant to purchase electronic monitoring equipment. This grant is administered by the Appalachian Juvenile Commission. The City serves as the fiscal agent on this grant, which means the funds will flow through the City treasury. 21340

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a budget amendment to the 2005-2006 City of Norton General Fund Budget in the amount of \$35,550.

Included in Council's packet was a copy of the Management, Discussion, and Analysis (MDA) which is to be included in the 2005-2006 financial audit of the City. Mr. Ward advised that this is a narrative overview and analysis, from the City Administration's view, of the City for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2005.

Mr. Ward, using a PowerPoint presentation, briefly went over several financial highlights. He further advised that the City had received an unqualified opinion, which is the best rating that can be received on an audit. Also, he stated that the City's percent of levy collected on real estate taxes for the year was 98.52%. He further advised that each council member had a copy of the financial audit at their seats and that he, Jeff Shupe, or Brian Blanton would be happy to answer any questions Council may have regarding this audit.

21341

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Fawbush, 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.

21342

Vice Mayor Mays declared Council in closed meeting.

Upon a motion by Joseph Fawbush, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to go back in open meeting.

21343

Vice Mayor Mays declared Council back in open meeting.

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 Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by the following unanimous vote: YES – Hunnicutt, Wallace, Mays, Fawbush, NO – None, ABSENT – Raines, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. (Insert)

21344

In comments from the City Manager, Mr. Ward reminded Council that the next Council meeting will be held on April 25th rather than April 18th. At that time, the School Board will present their budget to Council and a work session will be held following that meeting on the City's budget.

21345

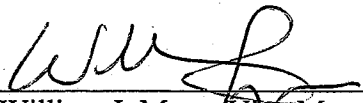
Mr. Ward also took this time to discuss with Council the Water Improvement Fee, which was enacted by Council on July 1, 2002. This fee ranges from \$2.50 to \$12.50 per month. The City Manger advised Council that he had been asked several times what this fee was and where the revenue from it was being used. To date, \$558,000 has been collected in Water Improvement Fees.

21346

Mr. Ward supplied Council with a list of ten water improvement projects that have taken place since the implementation of this fee. He further advised that this list is not all-inclusive. Funds were also spent on minor water line replacement, fire hydrant upgrades, and other smaller projects. He also advised that the list provided does not consider any of the expenditures associated with the improvements that are to be made to the Upper Norton Dam.

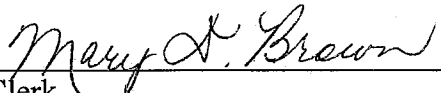
There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned.

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA



William J. Mays, Vice Mayor

ATTEST:



Clerk