

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, April 16, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Council Chambers with Mayor William Mays presiding.

Present: Mark Caruso, William Mays, and Joseph Fawbush

Absent: Joseph Hunnicutt and Terry Roop

The invocation was given by the City Manager and was followed by the pledge of allegiance led by Councilman Mark Caruso.

Upon a motion by Councilman Fawbush, seconded by Councilman Caruso, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the April 2, 2013 meeting as presented.

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During the Mayor's call for visitors, Mr. Bob Isaac, Nosler Street, spoke to Council regarding a garbage problem in the Craig Street area which leads up to his home. He then presented pictures to Council showing where residents on Craig Street put their garbage cans out on the week-end and their pick-up is not until Wednesday. He asked Council to consider adoption of an ordinance to stipulate that garbage is not to be put out until the night before it is to be picked up and cans taken back to the property the day of pick-up. He advised Council that he would appreciate anything they could do.

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Mayor Mays asked the City Manager and City Attorney to look into the possibility of his request.

Sherry Adams, representing the 2013 Prom Committee of J. I. Burton High School requested \$1,500 to go toward this activity. She advised that the School Board had contributed this amount and businesses had not donated as in the past due to economic conditions.

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Mr. Ramey advised Council that he had not received this request until Friday after packets had gone out.

Upon a motion by Councilman Fawbush, seconded by Councilman Caruso, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to allocate up to \$1,500 to go toward the J. I. Burton High School After Prom Party with said funds to come from Contingency.

At this time, Mr. Ramey stated he had especially invited a City employee to tonight's meeting. This employee was Mr. Lonzo Williams, who will be retiring the end of this month after nearly 40 years of service to the City. Twenty seven of those years, he served as the Transmission and Distribution Foreman.

Mr. Williams came forward and Mayor Mays presented him, on behalf of Council, with a plaque honoring his years of service and dedication to the City. The City Manager took pictures of Mr. Williams with Council and asked his family to come forward to be included in a picture.

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Mr. Williams was given a standing ovation and received applause and thanked for his years of service.

At this time, Mayor Mays recognized Rev. Ken Taylor at tonight's meeting.

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Ms. Amy Bond, Director of the Lonesome Pine Regional Library, was present to give Council an update on the library system. Also present was Brenda Johnson, the City's representative, whose term expires on June 30, 2013. Ms. Bond expressed that the City has been well represented by Ms. Johnson, who is not eligible for another term on this board due to by-laws.

Ms. Bond then advised that there were 9 libraries in the system and that it is the second largest system in the state. She proceeded to show the many various activities that have been held in the City during the past year. They had been in attendance and held activities at the Farmers Market, High Rise, Wet & Wild Wednesdays at the City Park, Story Time in the Park, Halloween Bash in the Park, and attended various open houses and activities at the Norton City Schools. Over 532,000 items are available for loan.

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

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A statistical data presentation was also presented to Council and Ms. Bond stated she was willing to answer any questions from Council.

Ms. Johnson spoke briefly to Council and thanked them for appointing her to this Board by Council. She stated that it was a good bargain for the citizens of Norton and that Ms. Bond is a good director who stays up-to-date.

Mayor Mays then presented Ms. Johnson with a plaque honoring her years of service and dedication to the Library Board on behalf of the City.

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Councilman Caruso stated he was happy to see more activities going on within the City for our citizens and youth.

Dr. Jeff Comer, Superintendent of the Norton City Schools, was present to seek Council's support on an additional \$500,000 debt for an Energy Performance Contract for work to be done at both schools. This project, once completed by the Siemens Company, should show total energy savings annually of \$84,763; however the debt will be an addition to the City's current debt.

After Dr. Comer spoke on this project, two representatives of the Siemens Company, spoke to Council. One representative showed some slides from Dr. Comer's PowerPoint presentation and all were willing to answer questions from Council. Also briefly commenting were Sherry Adams and Mark Leonard, members of the Norton School Board.

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The urgency in seeking Council's support and their acquiring this debt, which the School Board stated they would repay, is they wish to start the process in April and complete it by the time school starts in August.

When asked by Council what they would require tonight, Dr. Comer suggested Council could give a consensus of support for this project.

Mr. Ramey advised that Council may want to visit issuing a Memorandum of Understanding which would contain certain regulations and stipulations as they have done previously with other organizations involving loans and so that each will know their responsibilities.

The City Attorney advised that this will be a financial obligation to the City and will affect the City's ability to borrow. He advised Council that they need to discuss this.

Following a lengthy discussion, Mayor Mays suggested having a special called meeting on Tuesday, April 23, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in order that the City Attorney can work on a Memorandum of Understanding and also allow Cancel to have time to study the information given to them tonight.

Dr. Comer thanked Council for their time on this topic.

In their packets, Council had one check and one transfer for approval. The first check was to Summers Taylor, Inc. in the amount of \$111,614.63 and the second is a transfer to the Norton City Schools in the amount of \$265,000.

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Upon a motion by Councilman Hunnicutt, seconded by Councilman Caruso, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve one check and one transfer as stipulated above.

Upon a motion by Councilman Hunnicutt, seconded by Councilman Caruso, 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.

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Mayor Mays declared Council in closed meeting.

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

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

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Mayor Mays opened the floor for an appointment to the Wise County/City of Norton Youth Services Board for a four year term which will expire on May 2, 2013.

Councilman Caruso nominated Stan Wilson to be reappointed to this Board.

Upon a motion by Councilman Hunnicutt, seconded by Councilman Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved that the nominations cease.

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Mayor Mays declared Stan Wilson reappointed to the Wise County/City of Norton Youth Services Board for a four year term which will expire on May 2, 2017.

Mayor Mays opened the floor for an appointment to the C-N-W Regional Wastewater Treatment Authority for a four year term which will expire on May 15, 2013.

Councilman Fawbush nominated Joseph "Huck" Hunnicutt to be reappointed to this Authority.

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Upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilman Fawbush, and passed by the following vote: YES – Caruso, Fawbush, Mays, NO – None, ABSENT – Roop, ABSTAIN – Joseph "Huck" Hunnicutt, Council moved that the nominations cease.

Mayor Mays declared Joseph "Huck" Hunnicutt reappointed to the C-N-W Regional Wastewater Authority for a four year term which will expire on May 15, 2017.

In comments from the City Manager, Mr. Ramey advised that:

The Treasurer has advised that tax tickets will be mailed on or before this Friday, April 19th.

The posting of the Upper Reservoir Parking Area as a non-shooting area occurred on Friday, April 12th. There are a total of five signs that have been installed and he showed Council what the signs looked like.

Flag Rock Recreation Area opened on Thursday, April 11th.

The Norton Reservoir opened for fishing on Saturday, April 13th, and there was a good turnout.

As part of the Phase II Water Improvement Project, there will be a planned water outage in the northeastern area of the City on Thursday, April 18th from 10 pm to 6 am. The City staff has used the following sources to spread the word to citizens and businesses that will be impacted by this: Ad in the Paper, Social Media, Webpage, Going Door to Door, and Placing Flyers at Each Residence and Business.

A Prescription Drug Take Back Day is planned for Saturday, April 27th and the Norton Police Department is a co-sponsor of the event.

The Metering Supplement to the Waste Flow Agreement with Wise County that Council approved at the last meeting has now been approved by both The Wise County Board of Supervisors and the Wise County PSA. He has three originals for the Mayor to sign tonight.

There were no comments from the City Attorney.

In comments from Council, Mayor Mays advised that Councilman Roop was not in attendance at tonight's meeting due to his mother experiencing complications from surgery; therefore he suggested postponing the budget work session until after the special called meeting on Tuesday, April 23rd, if it would not interfere with the budget process and timeline Mr. Ramey advised that it would not; therefore it was the consensus of Council to postpone the budget work session until the 23rd of April following a special called meeting of Council.

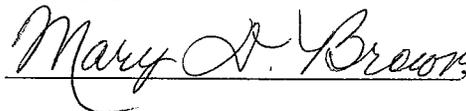
There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned.

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA



William J. Mays, Mayor

ATTEST:



Mary A. Brown, Clerk