

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, March 1, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. in the Second Floor Conference Room at the Hotel Norton with Mayor Robert Raines presiding.

Present: Jack Wallace, Robert Raines, William Mays

Absent: Joseph Hunnicutt and Joseph Fawbush

Also Present: E. W. Ward, City Manager and Bill Bradshaw, City Attorney

The invocation was given by the City Manager and was followed by the pledge of allegiance, which was led by Mr. Robert Isaac.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the February 15, 2005 meeting as presented.

21007

During the Mayor's call for visitors, Dr. John Sessoms, Superintendent of the Norton City School System, spoke briefly to Council advising that bids had been opened on Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, on the Norton Elementary School Cafeteria Project. The bid had been awarded to Quesenberry's in the amount of \$639,800, which was under the estimate of \$650,000. The project is on schedule and they are preparing a contract. Dr. Sessoms will keep Council informed as this project progresses.

21008

The City Manager advised Council that a public hearing will be held at the next Council Meeting on the issuance of debt for this project through the Virginia Public School Authority.

Council had a request from the Pro-Art Association for \$5,000, which will be matched by the Virginia Commission of the Arts, under the Local Government Challenge Grant.

At tonight's meeting representing Pro-Art were Mr. Robert Isaac and Mrs. Joyce Winston. Mr. Isaac read the letter that had been sent to Council containing this request.

21009

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

21010

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Joseph Hunnicutt, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a contribution to the Pro-Art Association in the amount of \$5,000. This contribution will be matched by the Virginia Commission for the Arts, under the Local Government Challenge Grant, for a total of \$10,000 to the Pro-Art Association.

21011

Mayor Raines thanked both Mr. Isaac and Mrs. Winston for their participation in this organization.

Council had a request from the Norton City Schools to amend their 2004-2005 budget in the amount of \$59,501.

Dr. John Sessoms, Superintendent of the Norton City Schools, advised Council that these funds were part of those received from the web-based Standards of Learning

21012

Technology Initiative for the 2003-2004 school year and are received on a reimbursement basis. As of June 30, 2004, a balance of \$59,501 is remaining to be spent and reimbursed for this allocation.

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve an amendment to the 2004-2005 budget of the Norton City Schools in the amount of \$59,501.

The City Manager presented Council with a Management Discussion and Analysis Document, which is to be included in the 2004 Financial Audit, as required by GASBY 34. This document is a narrative overview and analysis of the City for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2004.

21013

Mr. Ward briefly went over the financial highlights and did an overview of financial statements, government wide financial analysis, governmental activities, and fund financial statements.

Once the audit is finalized, Council members will be furnished with a copy. Mr. Ward advised he is willing to answer any questions Council may have.

Council had a copy of A Resolution of the City of Norton City Council Approval of Submission of Virginia Tobacco Commission Application.

Mr. Ward advised that the City is continuing work on the Storm Drainage Project for the down town area and the engineers will be present at the next meeting to discuss this project with Council. The project is going to exceed its budget and the City Administration has been looking at ways to solicit additional funds. One possibility is to apply for Virginia Tobacco Commission Funds in the amount of \$200,000. By passage of this resolution, Council will authorize the City Manager to do so.

210

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by William Mays, and passed by the following unanimous roll call: YES – Hunnicutt, Wallace, Mays, Raines, NO – None, ABSENT – Fawbush, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the City of Norton City Council Approval of Submission of Virginia Tobacco Commission Application. (Insert)

Council had been presented with a copy of a check made payable to the Norton Industrial Development Authority in the amount of \$220,000 for the waterline/water tank project in the Hawthorne area.

21015

Upon a motion by Joseph Hunnicutt, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve a check in the amount of \$220,000 made payable to the Norton Industrial Development Authority for the waterline/water tank project in the Hawthorne area.

There were no comments from the City Manager or the City Attorney.

210

Mayor Raines acknowledged the attendance at tonight's meeting of Mrs. Becky Coffey, who handled the arrangements for tonight's meeting at the Hotel Norton. Mayor Raines thanked Mrs. Coffey and advised her that Council appreciated her efforts.

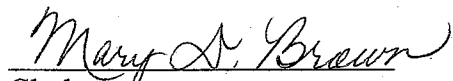
21017

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA

  
B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Clerk