

# AGENDA

Norton City Council

April 7, 2015

6:00 P.M.

1. Roll Call
2. Invocation – Father Tim Drake
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Approval of Minutes
  1. Meeting of March 17, 2015
5. Audience for Visitors
6. New Business
  - A. Update on the Norton Police Department Explorer Program.
  - B. Mountain Empire Community College Update by Dr. Scott Hamilton, President.
  - C. Lonesome Pine Regional Library Update by Amy Bond, Director.
  - D. Presentation by the Heart of Appalachia Tourism Authority.
  - E. A Proclamation Declaring the Week of April 12<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> as National Public Safety 911 Telecommunicators Week in the City of Norton.
  - F. Confirmation of a Check(s)/Transfer(s) in Excess of \$100,000.

G. Closed Meeting to Discuss Personnel as Per Section 2.2-3711 (A)  
(1) of the Code of Virginia, as Amended.

1. Appointment to the Norton Industrial Development Authority for a Four (4) Year Term; Currently Barbara Caruso Whose Term Ends 5/10/2015.

To 5/10/2019

2. Appointment to the Norton Industrial Development Authority for a Four (4) Year Term; Currently Barbara Caruso Whose Term Ends 5/10/2015.

To 5/10/2019

3. Appointment to the Highway Safety Commission to Fill the Unexpired Term of J. T. Caruso.

To 1/31/2016

7. Comments by the City Manager, City Attorney, and City Council.

8. Adjournment.

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, March 17, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Council Chambers with Mayor William Mays presiding.

Present: Mark Caruso, Robert Fultz, William Mays., Joseph Fawbush, and Delores Belcher

Also Present: Fred L. Ramey, Jr., City Manager and Bill Bradshaw, City Attorney

The invocation was given by the City Manager and was followed by the pledge of allegiance led by Police Chief James C. Lane.

Upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilwoman Belcher, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the March 3, 2015 meeting as presented. 25444

At this time, Mayor Mays recognized four visitors from the Forward Wise County Class. Those in attendance were Christine Blair, the City's Social Services Director, who introduced Kristen Hincer, Stephanie Sprinkle, and Sonya Farmer. 25445

There was no response to the Mayor's call for visitors. 25446

Council had received a request by the Norton City Schools to consider a budget amendment.

Dr. Keith Perrigan, Superintendent of the Norton City School System, spoke briefly to Council advising that they had found a disparity in the distribution of state sales tax revenue and will be receiving an additional \$123,000 for this budget year and hopefully receive it again in 2016. Since this is more than one percent of their budget, they will have to hold a public hearing on this. He stated they plan to purchase a new bus and visitors bleachers with these funds. He advised he will be back at Council's April 2<sup>1st</sup> meeting, after they conduct their public hearing, asking for Council to approve this budget amendment. 25447

Following a brief discussion, Council asked Mr. Ramey to advertise a public hearing on this at the April 2<sup>1st</sup> meeting.

Councilman Caruso commended Dr. Perrigan and the School Board for their research in finding this disparity.

Dr. Perrigan also advised the School Board would like to hold a budget workshop with Council and after brief deliberations, Mayor Mays suggested March 31st at 6:30 p.m. Dr. Perrigan asked that any agenda items should be sent to Mr. Ramey and if Council requires any information from them, please advise him. He then extended thanks to Mr. Ramey for all the assistance he had been to him.

Mrs. Carol Caruso, Chairman of the City of Norton Tourism Committee, gave Council an update of their activities for 2014 and the first three months of 2015. She expressed the Committee's appreciation to the City Manager for his work with their group.

She then presented a PowerPoint presentation showing a month by month list of activities in which they had participated. She then showed Council a list of their priority projects. One of these was the purchase of a Woodbooger statute which is being done at this time. Councilman Fawbush is handling a campaign for donations by the public (both business and private) for this purchase. This statute will be placed near the rock sign going toward Flag Rock.

2544<sup>9</sup>

Michele Knox, Parks and Recreation Director for the City, advised there have been several groups of college students who have come in to work on the trails in the Flag Rock Recreational Area during their spring breaks.

Mrs. Caruso stated she would be happy to answer any questions from Council.

Councilman Fawbush advised this Committee has been very active, has worked hard, and he would like to commend them for all of their efforts.

Mr. Ramey advised they are doing a great job.

Council also commended Mr. Ramey, Michele Knox, and Rebecca Coffey for their work in assisting this committee.

In their packets, Council had A Resolution Declaring April Marks Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Social Services Director Christine Blair spoke briefly to Council regarding this topic and gave them some statistics on child abuse and neglect.

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Councilman Fawbush, seconded by Councilman Fultz, and passed by the following unanimous vote: YES – Caruso, Fultz, Fawbush, Belcher, Mays, NO – None, ABSENT – None. Council moved to adopt A Resolution Declaring April Marks Child Abuse Prevention Month. (Insert)

Ms. Blair also invited Council Members to a brief ceremony and reception to be held on April 3, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. in the courtyard in front of City Hall for this occasion. This event is sponsored by the City of Norton Department of Social Services, Lonesome Pine Office on Youth, and Commonwealth Catholic Charities. Pinwheels will be placed around the cannon.

2544'

Ms. Blair was advised by Mayor Mays that Council appreciates the job she and her department are doing for the City and its citizens.

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

We are current in the time of year known as "Pothole Season". City personnel is getting asphalt when they can and trying to fill the holes as quickly as possible; however, he asks that the citizens be patient with us and repairs will be made as soon as they can. Citizens are asked to call City Hall and there will be a list to on which these potholes will be listed for repairs.

The second Capital Improvement Workshop will be held this Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, beginning at 8:30 a.m. and Council photos will be taken prior to the meeting.

He has placed the latest Sales Tax Report on each member's desk.

He has placed a copy of a Heart of Appalachia brochure in which the City tourism Committee placed an ad.

Upcoming events include an Easter Egg Hunt at the 11<sup>th</sup> Street Park on March 29, 2015 at 4:00 p.m., Pinwheel Event, as discussed by Christine Blair earlier in the meeting,

25450

will be held on April 3, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. in front of Council Chambers, and the Chamber of Commerce Gala is set for April 12<sup>th</sup> at UVA-Wise. If any member of Council wishes to attend, please advise him and he will get tickets for them.

There were no comments from the City Attorney.

25451

In comments from Council:

Councilman Caruso thanked the School Board for investigating and finding the additional funding that was due them.

The Tourism Committee is moving forward and this will be an enhancement to our economy.

25452

The latest Sales Tax Report is up and he hopes it continues to do so.

Thanked the City staff for the work done in the bad weather event.

Councilman Fultz again extended his thanks to City staff for the work done during the recent flooding for keeping our citizens safe.

25453

He commended Dr. Perrigan and the School Board for the money found and being able to take two projects off there CIP list.

He commended the Tourism Committee for the job they are doing. Tourism needs to be capitalized on.

Commended Ms. Blair, Social Services Director and her staff for their efforts every day.

Councilwoman Belcher advised she had attended the last Tourism Committee meeting and stated they were dedicated people working together for the City.

25454

She expressed thanks to the Social Services Department for the great job they do every day.

Councilman Fawbush advised he had received \$800 to go toward the purchased Woodbooger statue with another \$800 to be picked up. He advised these donations were coming from the local businesses/groups. He further stated he has been told there should be another statue located in the downtown area. If possible, he will try to get funds for it.

25455

They are working on setting the date for the second Woodbooger Event held at Flag Rock and they are working with the School System so as to not overlap with any school activities.

Mayor Mays extended thanks to all City departments and citizens for their understanding and patience during the recent storms.

25456

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

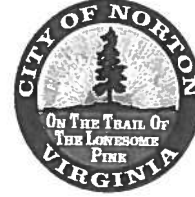
CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA

\_\_\_\_\_  
William J. Mays, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

# Inter-Office Memo



6-A

To: Mayor and City Council  
From: Fred L. Ramey, Jr., City Manager *FR*  
CC:  
Date: March 24, 2015  
Re: Explorer Program

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At our April 7<sup>th</sup> Council meeting, Chief James Lane, plans to introduce the advisors and members of the Police Department Explore Program and recognize their results at the recent competition held in Gatlinburg, TN.

Thank You.

# Inter-Office Memo



6-B

To: Mayor and City Council  
From: Fred L. Ramey, Jr., City Manager *FR*  
CC:  
Date: March 24, 2015  
Re: Update on Mountain Empire Community College

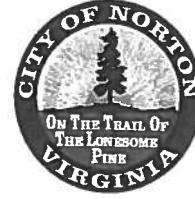
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At our April 7<sup>th</sup> Council meeting, Dr. Scott Hamilton President of the Mountain Empire Community College will provide an update on the College.

Thank You.



# Inter-Office Memo



6-C

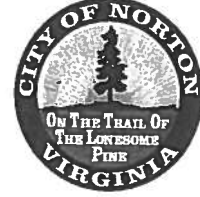
To: Mayor and City Council  
From: Fred L. Ramey, Jr., City Manager **FR**  
CC:  
Date: March 24, 2015  
Re: Update on Lonesome Pine Regional Library

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At our April 7<sup>th</sup> Council meeting, Amy Bond, Director of the Lonesome Pine Regional Library will provide an update on the Library.

Thank You.

# Inter-Office Memo



6-D

To: Mayor and City Council  
From: Fred L. Ramey, Jr., City Manager **FR**  
CC:  
Date: March 24, 2015  
Re: Presentation by the Heart of Appalachia Tourism Authority

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At our April 7<sup>th</sup> Council meeting, Erin Riedhammer, Executive Director of the Heart of Appalachia Tourism Authority will provide an update on tourism authority activities.

Thank You.

6-E

# PROCLAMATION

## NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY – 9-1-1 - TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK April 12-18, 2015

**WHEREAS**, thousands of dedicated public safety telecommunications personnel daily serve the citizens of the United States by answering their telephone calls for police, fire and emergency medical services and dispatching the appropriate assistance as quickly as possible; and

**WHEREAS**, the critical functions performed by professional public safety telecommunications personnel directly affect the lives and property of the public and assist in the safety of the police officers, firefighters and paramedics as they respond to the emergency situations; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Norton E-911 Center answered 3,427 - 911 calls and 34,059 non-emergency calls in 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, the President of the United States, Barack H. Obama, has set aside the second full week of April in recognition of those dedicated professional public safety telecommunications personnel and their crucial role in protecting life and property.

**NOW, THEREFORE, The Norton City Council** does hereby proclaim the week of April 12-18, 2015 as “National Public Safety – 9-1-1 - Telecommunicators Week” in the City of Norton in honor and recognition of our public safety telecommunications personnel and the vital contributions they make to the safety of our citizens.

ADOPTED this 7<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2015.

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA

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William Mays, Mayor

135839

03-25-2015

Wise County Treasurer  
FY 2013-2014 City Share  
Courthouse and Law Enforcement Expenses  
0-001-000020-2272

\$227,108.68

6-F

V-4974

**CITY OF NORTON**  
**GENERAL OPERATING FUND**  
NORTON, VA 24273

THE FIRST BANK & TRUST  
NORTON, VA

135839

68-448 514  
10

\*\*\*\*\*Two Hundred Twenty-Seven Thousand One Hundred Eight Dollars and Sixty-Eight Cents\*\*\*\*\*  
PAY TO THE ORDER OF:

DATE

AMOUNT

03-25-2015

\$227,108.68

Wise County Treasurer  
C/O Wise County Administrator  
PO Box 570  
Wise, VA. 24293

  
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

⑈ 135839 ⑈ ⑆ 051404464 ⑆ 100002346 ⑈