

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on Tuesday, October 1, 1996, at 7:30 p.m. with Mayor Robert Raines presiding.

Present: Roy Roberts, Jack Wallace, William Mays, Ron McCall, and Robert Raines

Also Present: E. W. Ward, City Manager and Joe Pippin, City Attorney

The invocation was given by the City Manager which was followed by the pledge of allegiance led by Mr. Fred Ramey, Assistant City Manager.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Ron McCall, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the September 17, 1996 meeting as presented.

17630

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

17631

Council had in their packets a copy of an agreement with the Department of Transportation covering a construction project in the Thackers Branch area of Wise County. The project calls for straightening and widening this road and this project conflicts with City water lines in that area. 1,080 feet of 4" water line will be affected by this. VDOT will be responsible for the relocation of this line and normally will bear all costs. However the Administration has deemed that it would be most appropriate to have this line upgraded from a 4" to a 6" as part of this project. The City's financial responsibility will be the difference in cost from a 4" to 6" line which is approximately \$2,800 or 3.2%. He is seeking Council's approval for his executing this agreement.

17632

Mr. Pippin advised that this contract is in proper order.

Upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council authorized the City Manager to execute the agreement with the Department of Transportation and the funds for the City's upgrade on this water line are to be taken from the Enterprise Fund.

The City Manager advised that the City had been notified by the Department of Housing and Community Development that it has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$402,927 for the Esserville Sewer Line Replacement Project. Mr. Ward asked Council's guidance for the procurement of engineering services.

17633

Upon a motion by Roy Roberts, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council authorized the City Manager to procure engineering services for the Esserville Sewer Project.

Mr. Ward advised he will proceed immediately.

Mr. Ward had included in Council's packet a synopsis of water, sewer, and garbage rates taken from Lenowisco's yearly survey of utility rates throughout the region. Going over these briefly with Council, Norton appeared to be average in our rates.

Mr. Ward commended Lenowisco for this tool which will be used during our budget process.

17634

Council had A Resolution from the Veterans of Foreign Wars Declaring November 9, 1996 as VFW Poppy Day in the City of Norton.

The Clerk read this resolution in its entirety and upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Roy Roberts, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt A Resolution Declaring November 9, 1996 as VFW Poppy Day in the City of Norton. (Insert)

17635

Upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel as per 2.1-344(A) (1) of the Code of Virginia, as amended.

17636

Mayor Raines declared the meeting in Executive Session.

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Roy Roberts, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to go back into regular session.

Mayor Raines declared the meeting back in regular session.

17637

The Clerk then polled each member of Council as to the Certification of Executive Meeting with each answering yes. The Clerk then read the entire Resolution of the Certification of Executive Meeting. Upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by Roy Roberts, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Executive Meeting. (Insert)

17638

Mayor Raines opened the floor for nominations to the City of Norton Tourism Board.

William Mays nominated Mr. Rick Ferree to be reappointed and Mr. Chris Jones to be appointed to the City of Norton Tourism Board for four year terms which will expire on September 30, 2000.

17639

Upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by Roy Roberts, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved that the nominations cease.

Mayor Raines declared Mr. Rick Ferree reappointed and Mr. Chris Jones appointed to the City of Norton Tourism Board for four year terms which will expire on September 30, 2000.

In his comments, the City Manager advised:

That he and the Assistant City Manager had attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for the second shell building in the Esserville Industrial Park on Monday. The City was recognized by the Wise County Industrial Development Authority for our contribution to the park for providing sewer service. This plaque was passed down through Council for their review.

17640

Reminded Council of the Wings-Over-Wise Airshow in Wise Saturday starting at 11:00. Council is encouraged to attend.

City is in the process of making some improvements at the 11th Street Park. With some monies budgeted in this year's capital budget, the City is implementing some of the recommendations of the study conducted by removing the exercise equipment that was rarely used.

We are also under contract to have the tennis courts resurfaced this year.

The Anderson Hollow/Spring Avenue Community Development Block Grant is substantially complete. We now have 2,400 linear feet of 6" water line in the ground and 2,850 linear feet of new 8" sewer line in the ground. The only remaining item, other than some minor ones, to be completed is one house in Anderson Hollow to be rehabilitated and we are under contract with Big Stone Gap Housing Authority to do this now.

On September 5, 1996, officials from the Department of Housing and Community Development were here to do a Compliance Review and on September 20th, we received a letter stating that they had signed off on this project.

There were no comments from the City Attorney or Council.

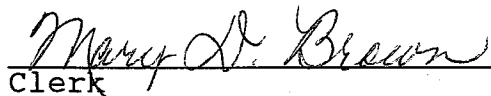
There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned.

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA



B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Mary D. Brown  
Clerk