

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on Tuesday, February 15, 1994 at 7:30 p.m. with Mayor Raines presiding.

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

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

Citing this is the Centennial Year for the City and the actual Charter Day, Dr. Miller Liston gave the invocation which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by the Assistant City Manager, Fred Ramey.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Jack Wallace, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the February 1, 1994 meeting as presented.

15928

A public hearing was held to solicit public input on local community development and housing needs in relation to the Community Development Block Grant Program.

Mr. Ward advised the deadline for submitting an application was March 11, 1994 and that two public hearings would need to be held if we did decide to participate. The City Administration recommends we submit the same project as last year, the Anderson Hollow and Spring Avenue area with sewer service and upgrade the water system in the Spring Avenue area.

Mayor Raines opened the public hearing.

15929

There were no public comments and the public hearing was closed.

Mr. Ward advised also that the City would be applying for a Planning Grant in the amount of \$25,000.

Following a brief discussion, it was the consensus of Council that the City Manager advertise another public hearing covering the Anderson Hollow and Spring Avenue Project at the next meeting.

Mr. Ward introduced Ms. Welthy H. Soni and Mr. Robert Goldsmith of People, Inc., Abingdon, Virginia, who spoke to Council regarding the City participating a Microenterprise Program.

They explained this Microenterprise Program is a new economic development program which supplies loans and training to individuals wanting to start a small business. They asked Council to participate in a grant application to be submitted for a Community Development Block Grant with Russell County in the amount of \$160,000. Said funds would be divided between the two entities in a yet to be determined manner at a later date if the grant is awarded. Also, if Council does approve, then a representative from the City will be need to be appointed to the Multi-Jurisdictional Oversight Committee.

15930

Following a lengthy discussion in which Ms. Soni and Mr. Goldsmith answered questions from Council, it was the consensus of Council that the City Manager advertise this item for a public hearing at our next meeting and that a decision would be made at that time. Mr. Goldsmith gave Council some additional information on this item and also supplied them with a Feasibility Study that had been done.

Sister Margaret Flynn represented Mr. Dennis Horton of the Wise County FEMA Board and Emergency Food and Shelter Program in requesting that the City participate in and on this Board in order that the City will receive \$6,499 which will be used for emergency fuel assistance.

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to participate in the Wise County Fema Board Emergency Food and Shelter Program and appointed Mr. E. W. Ward, City Manager, to serve on this Board.

15931

Upon a motion by Jack Wallace, seconded by Roy Roberts, 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, Actual or Probable Litigation as per 2.1-344(A) (3) of the Code of Virginia, as amended, and acquisition of real property as per 2.1-344(A) (3) of the Code of Virginia, as amended.

15932

Mayor Raines declared the meeting in Executive Session.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Ron McCall, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to go back into regular session.

15933

Mayor Raines declared the meeting back in regular session.

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 William Mays, seconded by Ron McCall, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Executive Meeting. (Insert)

15934

Mayor Raines announced regarding probable litigation against Helen Bolling had reached an agreement and all junk cars will be picked up and hauled off.

15935

In his comments, the City Manager advised:

A group of individuals from the Wise Skill Center known as Opportunity Knocks has assisted the City in constructing a trail at Flag Rock from the upper campground to the upper reservoir. The City supplied the material and the individuals from the Skill Center supplied the labor and it will be open this spring.

15936

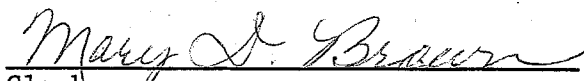
Mayor Raines read to those present from the 1894 Acts of the Assembly where the Town of Norton was granted a charter on February 15, 1894 and advised of the activities that have been held in the past week for the Centennial.

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA


B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:


Clerk