

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held in the Municipal Council Chambers on Tuesday, February 19, 1991, at 7:30 p.m. with Mayor Robert Raines presiding.

Present: Linda Sturgill, Robert Raines, William Mays, and Ron McCall

Absent: Jack Wallace

Also Present: E. W. Ward, City Manager and Kenneth Asbury, City Attorney

The invocation was given by City Manager Ward. Prior to the Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Raines asked that we all be mindful of the decisions to be made by our troops in Saudi Arabia and around the world. Following this, the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Social Services Director Bill Stokes.

Upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the February 5, 1991 meeting as presented.

15009

During the Mayor's call for visitors, Ms. Suzanne Collier and Ms. Gerry Matthews of Norton presented to Council several petitions opposing the rate increases from Century Cable Corporation effective March 1, 1991.

The City Attorney advised that at this time we had no control over these rates; however he advised that a bill may be passed this year allowing some agency to regulate these rates.

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Linda Sturgill, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to pass a resolution opposing the rate increase and urging passage of the bill for control of these rate increases with copies to go to our legislators and the local cable company accompanied with copies of the petitions presented here tonight.

15010

Mr. Gary Martin, Apt. 206, Regency Towers, Norton, appeared before Council regarding the local cable company and also regarding the reinstatement of certain food items given away by the Department of Social Services.

Mr. Bill Stokes, Director of Social Services, advised that this program would be reinstated again in June of this year.

Mayor Raines advised the agenda would be amended under Item No. E. Item E-1 will be added as A Resolution Providing for the Issuance, Sale and Award of a \$720,753 Taxable Sewer Revenue Bond, Series of 1991, of the City of Norton, Virginia, Heretofore Authorized, and Providing for the Form, Details, and Payment Thereof.

15011

A public hearing was held to consider a proposed Community Development Block Grant Application to be submitted to the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development.

Mr. Ward advised this was the last public hearing to be held on this item. At the last public hearing, there were no public comments made and Council discussed the possibility of four different projects which were:

1. Chestnut Street Storm Drainage
2. Josephine Sewer Line
3. Extension of Sewage Lines to Certain Residences within the City on the fringe of the present sewage service area.
4. Replacement of the Primary Water Main from Ramsey along Route 74 into the Central Portion of the City.

15012

Mr. Ward further advised both Mr. Ron Flanary and Mr. Bruce Robinette of Lenowisco were present to answer any questions Council may have.

The Mayor opened the floor for public comments.

Mr. Hubert Clark and Mr. Jeffrey Bates of the Josephine area spoke to

Council and advised they would like to have City sewer extended into the Josephine area. They further stated approximately 85% of the community would also like to have the sewer. There being no further public comments, the Mayor closed the public hearing. Ron Flanary of Lenowisco spoke to Council at this time and advised them that the two projects which had the greatest merit were the Chestnut Street and the Josephine Projects. He further advised that it was the joint recommendation of both he and the City Manager that the Josephine Project is the best project.

Following much discussion and upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Linda Sturgill, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to accept the recommendation of the Josephine Sewer Project as the project for the Community Development Block Grant Application and to have the City Manager bring a resolution to the next meeting for passage on this.

Mrs. Sturgill asked that the City Manager look at one area to see if it is included in this project.

Dr. Joanna Owens of the Lenowisco Health Department presented Council with an annual report which ended June 30, 1990 and also with a copy of the State Health Department Commissioner's Annual Report. Dr. Owens then presented Ms. Donese Kern, Chairman of the Wise County-City of Norton Advisory Board who spoke to Council briefly and commended Council for participating in the Dental Program.

15013

Following a brief discussion, Mayor Raines thanked both Dr. Owens and Ms. Kern for their presentations and their efforts.

Mr. Ward advised Council he had been contacted by the Highway Department regarding a piece of property 70'x400' located across from the high school to see if the City would be interested in accepting this property for City use. Mr. Ward talked with Dr. Armentrout, City of Norton School Superintendent, who felt that this property could be used by the high school for an overflow parking lot. Mr. Ward further advised if the City is interested in this property, he needs to write a letter to the Highway Department advising same.

15014

Following a brief discussion, it was the consensus of Council that the City Manager write a letter to the Highway Department and pursue this matter further.

Council had been presented in their packets A Resolution Amending an Agreement with the C-N-W Regional Wastewater Authority.

Mr. Ward advised Council that in order for the C-N-W Regional Wastewater Authority to be able to handle the City's portion of the sewer project going to Blackwood and the \$500,000 grant (which was authorized by resolution at the last council meeting), they need to have the approval of all three entities. That is the purpose of the resolution before Council tonight.

15015

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by William Mays, and passed by the following roll call vote: Sturgill - NO, Raines, Mays, and McCall - YES, Council moved to adopt a Resolution Amending An Agreement Among Coeburn-Norton-Wise Regional Wastewater Treatment Authority, Its Member Localities and Wise County Concerning Financing, Construction and Operation of a Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant and Associated Facilities. (Insert)

Mr. Ward advised Council that the three year contract with Thrower and Thrower for audit services has expired and that it can be extended for a two year period without having to go through the procurement process.

15016

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by Ron McCall, seconded by William Mays, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to authorize the extension of the Audit Contract with Thrower and Thrower through the audit of 1992.

In Council's packet was a list of current charges and proposed increased charges for various items coming under the direction of the Parks and Recreation Department.

15017

Following a brief discussion, Council asked that more information be

assembled and this item brought back to them at another time.

Mr. Ward presented Council with information from Hunton and Williams, bond counsel for the \$720,753 Taxable Sewer Revenue Bond which covers the I&I Abatement Program at 0% financing. This was approved by Council by ordinance in December. With the passage of this bond resolution, it allows the City to proceed with the process and get this closed as the contractors are ready to start work.

15018

Following a brief discussion and upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Ron McCall, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to pass A Resolution Providing for the Issuance, Sale and Award of a \$720,753 Taxable Sewer Revenue Bond, Series of 1991, of the City of Norton, Virginia, Heretofore Authorized, and Providing for the Form, Details and Payment Thereof subject to the City Attorney's approval. (Insert)

Upon a motion by Linda Sturgill, seconded by Ron McCall, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to go into Executive Session as per 2.1-344(A) (1) of the Code of Virginia, as amended to discuss an appointment to the Housing Appeals Board.

15019

The Mayor declared the meeting in Executive Session.

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

The Mayor declared the meeting back in regular session.

15020

The Clerk then polled each member of Council as to the Certification of Executive Session with each member answering aye. The Clerk then read the entire Resolution of the Certification of Executive Meeting. Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Linda Sturgill, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Executive Meeting. (Insert)

15021

Mayor Raines opened the floor for nominations to the Housing Appeals Board for a five year term which will expire February 18, 1996.

Upon a motion by William Mays, seconded by Ron McCall, and passed by unanimous vote, Council reappointed Mrs. Barbara Collins to the Housing Appeals Board for a five year term with said term to expire February 18, 1996.

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

15022

Mayor Raines declared Mrs. Barbara Collins reappointed to the Housing Appeals Board for a five year term with said term to expire February 18, 1996.

In his comments, the City Manager advised that the Planning Commission has met twice on the Zoning Ordinance and this should be coming to Council within the next two months. Also the Planning Commission is recommending approval of rezoning in Hoot Owl Hollow. This is now in the hands of the City Attorney and will be brought to Council for approval.

15023

Mr. Ward advised that Contract IV of the C-N-W Regional Sewer Project is well under way and a lot of work has been done in the West Main Avenue area. He stressed his appreciation to the residents of that area for their patience. The next phase, which runs in Hagy Alley, from the Baptist Church to 12th Street, is ready to begin. This alley will be closed for two to three months. The City is in the process of notifying property owners in that area of the inconvenience.

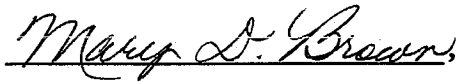
There were no comments from the City Attorney.

Councilwoman Sturgill advised all present to save their grocery receipts 15024 from Piggly Wiggly due to a program underway where a certain dollar amount of receipts can be used to buy software, computers, etc. These receipts should be turned into the local schools.

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

  
B. Robert Raines, Mayor

ATTEST:

 Clerk