

The regular meeting of the Norton City Council was held in the Municipal Court Room on July 19, 1983 at 7:30 P.M. with Mayor Hunnicutt presiding.

Present: George Hunnicutt, W.F. McElroy, Cliff Daniels, Vice Jones, Roy Roberts

Also Present: C.R. Brown, City Manager

On motion by W.F. McElroy, seconded by Roy Roberts and carried by unanimous vote, Council moved that the minutes of the July 5, 1983 meeting be approved as presented. 10928

Mrs. Ruby Edwards was present representing her mother, Mrs. Helen Leho, with an Application Pursuant to 15.1-364 of the Code of Virginia for the City to Vacate a Portion of 8th Street. A public hearing took place with Mrs. Edwards being advised by Mayor Hunnicutt when any City Street dedicated before 1935 is vacated by the City, the land goes back to the grantor or their heirs which, in this case, is the Fleming Land Company. 10929

Mr. Robert Fleming & Mrs. Randy Fleming Kilgore, representing Fleming Land Company were present and presented Council for their use a map showing this property. Mrs. Fleming advised Council that they could vacate the land, but it would not be sold to Mrs. Leho.

After a brief discussion and finding out that the City would allow, with certain requirements, them to use this section of 8th Street for the moving of their home, Mrs. Edwards, on behalf of her mother, Mrs. Helen Leho, withdrew her request and will work with the City Manager's administration on the requirements for using this section of a City street for the moving of their home.

Mr. John Taylor, General Manager of Century Virginia Cable, introduced Mr. Walt Kinash, Operations Manager of Century Cable, Brunswick, Georgia, who presented to Council a request for Century to increase their rates \$1.50 per month and \$.50 per additional outlet. In return for these increases, Century plans on upgrading the cable system, improving reliability, and also adding ESPN. He advised that there had been no rate increase in Norton since 1979 and that Century Virginia had been operating at a loss since June of 1981. 10930

Councilman Roberts inquired why the cable company was reluctant to furnish municipalities with a copy of their financial statement since the franchise calls for them to do so. Mr. Kinash said he would furnish the information requested as long as it was kept confidential.

After much discussion, Mr. Kinash said he would furnish the City Manager a copy of the financial statement Wednesday, July 20, 1983, and that Mr. Brown could go over the statement with each member of Council individually therefore insuring the confidentiality.

On motion by Vic Jones, seconded by Cliff Daniels, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved that the matter of the increase be tabled for further study.

The City Manager presented a Resolution to the City Council of the City of Norton Appropriating the Coal Severance Tax Money for the Fiscal Year 1981 and 1982 in the amount of \$2,851.38, said funds are to be used primarily on Park Avenue. On motion by Cliff Daniels, seconded by Vic Jones, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council passed the Resolution Appropriating \$2851.38 Coal Severance Tax Money for 1981 and 1982 to be used primarily on Park Avenue. (Insert) 10931

The City Attorney furnished Council with a new Ordinance on Exemption of Taxes on Property of Certain Elderly Persons in the City of Norton, Virginia. This new ordinance differed from the ordinance already passed by Council by having different amounts of the total income, net worth, and also includes mobile homes. 10932

After brief discussion, Council decided to keep the ordinance which is already passed.

A Resolution was presented to the Council authorizing the City Manager to apply for a Litter Control Grant in the amount of \$3,000. On motion by W.F. McElroy, seconded by Roy Roberts, and passed by unanimous vote, Council authorized the City Manager to apply for a Litter Control Grant in the amount of \$3,000. (Insert) 10933

A Resolution was presented to the Council for Abating and Writing Off \$10,738.25 Due from the School Board of the City of Norton, Virginia, covering two years delinquent water, sewer, and garbage bills. The City Manager advised Dr. Culbertson of the School Board requested this abatement and advised that in the current School Board budget line items covering the water, sewer, and garbage had been added.

A motion was made by Cliff Daniels, seconded by Vic Jones, and passed by the following roll call vote: Roberts, Hunnicutt, Jones and Daniels, YES; McElroy, NO - that the City of Norton Abate and Write Off \$10,738.25 due from the School Board of the City of Norton. (Insert) 10934

A request for \$35,430 to come from the 1982-1983 Coal Haul Road Tax Receipts was made by the City Manager for repairs to the intersection of Routes 23 and 74. After discussion, the City Manager was advised to pursue with Wise County for financial assistance on this and to have the road fixed on a permanent basis with concrete slab and also to seek technical assistance on the repairs, and report back to Council. 10935

The City Manager presented to Council three bids for paving for the current fiscal year and recommended Council accept the low bid of Adams Construction in the amount of \$95,175. On motion by Cliff Daniels, seconded by Roy Roberts, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to accept the bid of Adams Construction Company in the amount of \$95,175.00.

Councilman McElroy asked the City Manager to check with the railroads about repairing their respective crossings and if they don't to check with the City Attorney about what action can be taken. Mr. Brown and City Attorney Asbury are to research this out and start on this before the next scheduled council meeting. 10936

The City Manager reported on the City's water reserves stating that the upper lake is full and the lower lake is down  $7\frac{1}{2}$ '. This report was done on July 15, 1983. Mayor Hunnicutt advised the City should curtail the use of City water by Lenowisco for the purpose of street cleaning. The City Manager is to talk with Lenowisco and also to advise Council of the amount they use and the cost of same. 10937

Councilman Jones inquired as to the status of the City having an engineering firm coming in and helping with water accountability. The City Manager advised he had talked with Mr. Jim Ferrell of TVA and he will be working with the City on this on a no-charge basis. 10938

Councilman Daniels stated he would like to receive the water reports on a weekly basis. This was agreed to by the City Manager and will be sent out each Friday. 10939

On motion by Cliff Daniels, seconded by Vic Jones, and carried by unanimous vote, Council moved to go into Executive session as per Section 2.1-344 of the Code of Virginia to discuss personnel. 10940

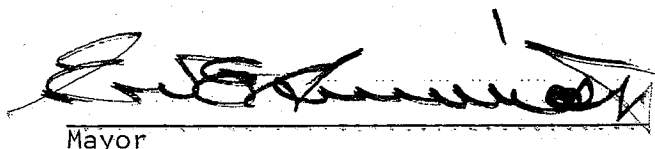
On motion by Cliff Daniels, seconded by Vic Jones and carried by unanimous vote, Council moved to go back into regular session.

Mayor Hunnicutt advised that the City Manager and he would be the City's representatives to work with the Town of Wise and Wise County to work out a proposal on the annexation and possible sharing of the Wise County Shopping Center as requested by Mr. Jim Brown. 10941

The Mayor also advised that an appointment would be made at the first meeting in August to the Mountain Empire Older Citizens.

Councilman W.F. McElroy inquired as to whether people selling new merchandise at the Wednesday Flea Market are purchasing City Licenses. The City Manager reported that he would check on this as he is currently working on a proposal to define items relating to the flea market for Council's review. 10942

There being no further business to come before the council, same adjourned.



Mayor

Clerk

