

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Norton City Council was held on Tuesday, November 21, 2017, at 6:00 p.m., in the Municipal Council Chambers with Mayor William Mays presiding.

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

Absent: Robert Fultz, Jr.

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

The invocation was given by Pastor Gary Hill and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Police Chief James Lane.

Upon a motion by Councilman Fawbush, seconded by Councilwoman Belcher, and passed by the following vote: YES – Caruso, Fawbush, Belcher, Mays, NO – None, ABSENT – Fultz, Council moved to adopt the minutes of the November 7, 2017, meeting as presented.

262506

There was no response to the Mayor's Call for Visitors.

262507

Council was presented a Resolution for Compliance as required by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) regarding the 2017 downtown revitalization project.

Mr. Ramey said the city is currently in the pre-contract phase of the grant which includes mandatory workshops and the adoption of the following resolutions required by DHCD to meet grant guidelines: Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan; Local Business and Employment Plan; 504 Grievance Procedure and Review; Non-Discrimination Policy; Self-Evaluation Site Accessibility Checklist; Fair Housing Certification; Resolution to Appropriate Funds; and Certification of Signatures and Address.

262508

After review of each of the documents and upon a motion by Councilman Fawbush, seconded by Councilwoman Belcher, and passed by the following unanimous roll call vote: YES – Fawbush, Belcher, Mays, NO – None, ABSENT – Fultz, ABSTAIN – Caruso, Council moved to adopt the Resolution for Compliance as Required by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development Regarding the 2017 Downtown Revitalization Project. (Insert)

Included in council's packets was a draft Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) Memorandum of Agreement with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) – Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division (EFLHD), the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), and the City of Norton.

Mr. Ramey said city administration has been working with the Federal Highway Administration on a FLAP grant that will be beneficial to the city by making pedestrian and Route 619 enhancements. If the grant is awarded, it will be a multi-phased project over several years with environmental assessments and architectural and engineering services started the first year, then construction of trails on city property, along with

262509

improvements to the road, and pedestrian improvements along Route 619 will be completed thereafter. The grant agreement will be finalized soon and city administration requests Council's consent to authorize the Mayor to enter into a grant agreement with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) – Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division (EFLHD), the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), and the City of Norton.

Upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilwoman Belcher, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) Memorandum of Agreement with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) – Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division (EFLHD), the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), and the City of Norton.

In their packets, Council had a request from the Wise County Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team, of 5724 Commodore Drive, for a sewer tap and waiver of the tap fee.

Mr. Ramey said the request is outside city limits in Esserville near Contura Energy and that sewer is available. He said the response team's original building was destroyed by an ice storm a couple of years ago and that he had invited Fire Chief Todd Lagow to discuss the request with Council since he is involved with the response team.

Chief Lagow stated the regional hazmat team is a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization that is made up of volunteers who are paid when deployed. He said the state funds all hazardous response teams across the state \$30,000 for the upcoming fiscal year and that 90 percent of the state funding will be allocated to insurance and equipment maintenance for the team. Chief Lagow stated the insurance settlement is not enough to cover the complete cost to rebuild the storage facility for the team's equipment and that the Wise County Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team does not bill municipalities when deployed. He said the response team is also asking Council to consider waiving the sewer tap fee if the connection is approved.

262510

Upon a motion by Councilman Fawbush, seconded by Councilwoman Belcher, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to approve the installation of one outside sewer tap request for the Wise County Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team, of 5724 Commodore Drive, and to waive the one-time \$350 outside sewer connection fee.

In their packets, Council had one check to confirm. The check was to Carter Bank & Trust, dated October 19, 2017, in the amount of \$500,833.33, to pay off line of credit.

Upon a motion by Councilman Fawbush, seconded by Councilman Caruso, and passed by the following unanimous roll call vote: YES – Caruso, Fawbush, Belcher, Mays, NO – None, ABSENT – Fultz, Council moved to confirm the check to Carter Bank & Trust as stated above.

262511

Upon a motion by Councilwoman Belcher, seconded by Councilman Caruso, and passed by unanimous roll call vote, Council moved to go into closed meeting to discuss personnel as per Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1) of the Code of Virginia, as amended, and discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publically held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would

262512

adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body as per Section 2.2-3711 (A) (3) of the Code of Virginia, as amended.

Mayor Mays declared Council in closed meeting.

The city attorney left at this time.

262513

Upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilman Fawbush, and passed by unanimous vote, Council moved to go back into open meeting.

262514

Mayor Mays declared Council back in open meeting.

The Clerk polled each member of Council as to the Certification of Closed Meeting with each answering yes. The Clerk then read a Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting.

262515

Upon a motion by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Councilman Fawbush, and passed by the following unanimous roll call vote: YES – Caruso, Fawbush, Belcher, Mays, NO – None, ABSENT – Fultz, Council moved to adopt A Resolution of the Certification of Closed Meeting. (Insert)

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

The Fiscal Year 2017 audit is nearly completed by Thrower, Blanton and Associates and Tamara Greear may present the city's audit at the December 19th meeting.

The buildings and campsites in Flag Rock Recreation Area have been winterized for the season, but the park will remain open as weather permits.

Mr. Ramey handed out a copy of a resolution that will appear on the December 5th council agenda that will formally allow the Scott County Economic Development Authority to become the formal successor of the Duffield Development Authority (DDA) as it was originally intended when the DDA was dissolved.

262516

He was contacted by a representative of United Way and this organization wishes to make a presentation to City Council.

He has invited Susan Howell, organizer of the Cloudsplitter 100 Ultra Trail Race, to the December 5th meeting to discuss this year's race.

He placed at each member's desk the November Retail Sales Report.

Mr. Ramey said the third annual Dairy Queen Turkey Day 5k will be held at 9:00 a.m., Thursday, November 23rd, and the city's Christmas parade is scheduled for 6:00 p.m., Sunday, December 3rd.

In comments from Council:

Councilwoman Belcher had no comments.

262517

Councilman Caruso had no comments.

262518

Councilman Fawbush had no comments.

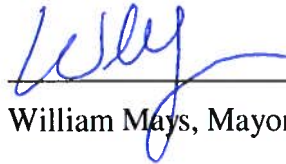
262519

Mayor Mays wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and asked members to consider if they wanted to dispense with the December 19th or the January 2nd meeting.

262520

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

CITY OF NORTON, VIRGINIA



William Mays, Mayor

ATTEST:



Clerk of Council