

**DRAFT**



## **COMMITTEE WORK SESSION DECEMBER 7, 2009**

**Committee Members Present:** Ken Braman  
Brenda Hlas  
Tom Jones-Excused  
Dennis McGlone-Excused  
Bill Mowery  
Mike Zita  
Scott Pelot

**Also Present:** Mayor David Koontz-Excused  
Rick Ryland  
John Moss  
Karla Richards  
Ann Campbell

The Committee Work Session convened on Monday, December 7, 2009 at 7:05 PM, in the Council Chambers of the Safety Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mike Zita, President of Council. Following a salute to the flag and the Pledge of Allegiance, there was a moment of silent prayer.

### **Public Comment-Agenda and Non Agenda Items:**

There was no communication from the public this evening.

### **General Topics of Discussion:**

#### **2010 Employee Health Care**

Mr. Zita advised that the Administration did not ask for this to be on the agenda this evening. Mr. Zita stated it is on the agenda because there have been concerns from some of the employees and due to the union contract negotiations conversation this evening will be very limited. Mr. Ryland stated this was absolutely correct the union negotiation door is now wide open and the health care committee has generated information/proposals. Mr. Ryland stated the Administration now has all of those proposals, he will be meeting with the union representatives and negotiators and until they either accept or reject these terms, he cannot discuss any of the details.

#### **Sale of Misc. Lahr House Merchandise**

Mr. Zita stated that Ms. Snyder of the Norton Historical Society has submitted letters to Council asking permission to purchase the air conditioning unit and furnace in the Lahr house before it is torn down. Ms. Snyder has offered to pay \$300.00 and \$100.00 respectively for those items and would be responsible for any EPA compliance relating to freon from the air condition unit. Mr. Pelot questioned the ages of these units and Mr. Ryland replied he had no record of this; other than they were purchased by the Historical Society and not the city.

Mr. Zita asked for any further questions and Mr. Ryland added that the city would need to have proof from the EPA regarding the freon extraction to be on file with the city and Ms. Snyder indicated she understood this. Mr. Zita indicated that although no legislation was required to authorize this transaction, he asked for an official roll call of the members present to approve this sale.

Roll Call: Yeas: Zita, Pelot, Hlas, Braman, Mowery  
Nays: None

Request was approved 5-0.

#### 2010 Budget

Mrs. Hlas indicated this was discussed two weeks ago and all of Council has had the opportunity to review the details and ask Mr. Moss questions or further explanation on any topics. There were no other questions or discussions and Mrs. Hlas moved to add this to Council's next agenda, waiving the second and third readings, seconded by Mr. Pelot.

Roll Call: Yeas: Hlas, Pelot, Mowery, Braman, Zita  
Nays: None

Motion passed 5-0. Mrs. Hlas amended her motion to add emergency language to this legislation, seconded by Mr. Pelot.

Roll Call: Yeas: Hlas, Pelot, Mowery, Braman, Zita  
Nays: None

Motion passed 5-0. After further review of the drafted legislation, as stated in Section 5 of this legislation, which states it "shall take effect upon the signature of the Mayor", emergency language is not necessary.

#### Res. Of Appreciation –Fred Martin Motors DARE Vehicle

Mr. Pelot stated this year Fred Martin Motors has graciously donated another D.A.R.E. vehicle to the Norton Police Dept. and we would like to show our appreciation with this resolution. Mr. Pelot moved to place this Resolution of Appreciation on Council's next agenda, seconded by Mr. Braman.

Roll Call: Yeas: Pelot, Braman, Hlas, Mowery, Zita  
Nays: None

Motion passed 5-0.

#### Res. Of Appreciation-Jones & McGlone

Mr. Pelot stated that as a formality for any outgoing Council members we present them with a Resolution of Appreciation for their service to the city. Mr. Pelot moved to place a Resolution of Appreciation for Tom Jones on Council's next agenda, seconded by Mrs. Hlas.

Roll Call: Yeas: Pelot, Hlas, Mowery, Braman, Zita  
Nays: None

Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Pelot moved to place a Resolution of Appreciation for Dennis McGlone on Councils next agenda, seconded by Mrs. Hlas.

Roll Call: Yeas: Pelot, Hlas, Mowery, Braman, Zita  
Nays: None

Motion passed 5-0.

#### Authorization to Advertise for Bid-New Fire Station

Mr. Zita turned this discussion over to Mr. Ryland for the details. Mr. Ryland indicated the plans and site review have been on file for some time now and we have several contractors knocking at our doors asking to bid. Mr. Ryland indicated he would like to go out and advertise the bids for one overall project which would include the road, site work, and the complete construction of the new fire station as soon as possible. Mr. Ryland indicated he would like the ads to run this week in the local papers, and bids being returned within thirty (30) days. Mr. Ryland indicated the city is still in the process of seeking Federal Grant-Stimulus money for this project, and is looking at January 6, 2010 as the bid opening date. Mr. Pelot raised a concern with the holidays and if this would delay that process any. Mr. Ryland replied no, as a matter of fact he has three (3) of the largest construction companies in the county ready to go there. Mr. Moss briefly discussed the borrowing aspects for this project and that it would be in the best interest of the city to seek whatever is necessary as early next year as possibly in order to get the best interest rates. Mr. Pelot inquired as to what the current rate would be and Mr. Moss replied that in today's market a twenty (20) year loan is at approximately 4.7% interest. Mr. Zita moved to place this on tonight's Special Council agenda, waiving second and third readings as an emergency, seconded by Mrs. Hlas.

Roll Call: Yeas: Zita, Hlas, Mowery, Braman, Pelot  
Nays: None

Motion passed 5-0.

#### Architectural Fees for Fire Station

Mr. Zita turned this discussion over to Mr. Moss for the details. Mr. Moss indicated that since the location has changed for the new fire station, the scope has changed for the architect fees and Mr. Klingensmith as asked for the city to reconsider his original contract and he has asked for an increase of \$45,000.00. Mr. Moss indicated that normally an architect receives 7.5% of the estimated total building cost. Mrs. Hlas reminded everyone that this is an additional \$45,000.00 above the original \$120,000.00, and Mr. Pelot added that this is not to exceed a total of \$165,000.00. Mr. Braman stated that the cost of this project has nearly doubled and Mr. Ryland clarified that it's the building costs that have doubled. Mr. Zita moved to add this to Council's next agenda, waiving second and third readings, as an emergency, seconded by Mrs. Hlas.

Roll Call: Yeas: Zita, Hlas, Mowery, Braman, Pelot  
Nays: None

Motion passed 5-0.

**Unfinished Business:**

Mr. Zita inquired as to the status of the \$16,575.00 bill from ODOT, and Mr. Ryland indicated he has no meeting date from ODOT yet and that he would be following up with ODOT on that and would advise Council. Mr. Pelot questioned the status of the employee health care contract for next year, adding that unless the unions ratified their contracts with the city by next Monday we may need to hold a Special Council meeting before the end of the year. Mr. Ryland concurred this may be the case, although no date could be determined at this time.

**New Business:**

Mr. Braman stated that with the new interest in the NES mines, he asked Mr. Ryland for an update in this project. Mr. Ryland indicated that FirstEnergy has purchased NES, which is the best thing for the city to be able to deal locally with the officials. Mr. Ryland stated that part of the problem with the other company was they had to sell 98% of the energy before they could begin production. With FirstEnergy being involved they are their own customer, and with all of the stimulus money available for renewable energy he was confident this project would move forward. Mr. Ryland indicated that next week legal counsel for both the city and FirstEnergy will be sitting down to review the contracts in order to move forward. Mr. Pelot questioned if there was a clause in the original contract for Norton residents to receive a discount on their electric and Mr. Ryland replied no, however Norton residents are already receiving discounted rates.

**Topics for the next Work Session:**

Mr. Ryland asked to have discussion for a single source trash hauler-city wide, revisit the speed cameras on I-76 and St. Rt. 21 with arrangements for a presentation made to Council, and discussions on Executive Sessions again.

**Adjourn**

There being no other business to come before the Committee Work Session, the meeting was adjourned at 7:29 PM.

---

Mike Zita, President of Council

**\*\*NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE NOT VERBATIM\*\***

**All Committee Meetings will be held at the Norton Safety Administration Building,  
unless otherwise noted.**