



**NORTON CITY COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE WORK SESSION  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2018 at 7:00 PM**

The Committee Work Session convened on Monday, October 15, 2018 at 7:01 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Safety Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Scott Pelot, President of Council, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, and a moment of silent prayer.

ROLL CALL:	Jack Gainer	Also Present:
	Dennis McGlone	Mayor Mike Zita
	Dan Karant	Robert Fowler
	Paul Tousley	Ron Messner
	Charlotte Whipkey	Justin Markey
	Joe Kernan (Excused)	Kerry Macomber
	Scott Pelot	

**General Topics of Discussion**

**2019 Tax Certification Resolution**

Mr. Pelot explained that this is the annual resolution that must be approved and confirmed by Council to agree with the Tax rates as set by the Tax Commission the 2019 taxes. It will need to be sent to the Summit County Tax Commission ASAP so will ask to waive readings. Mr. Pelot moved to add Resolution #109-2018 to the next Council agenda with emergency language, waiving second and third readings, seconded by Ms. Whipkey.

Roll Call:     Yes:   Pelot, Whipkey  
                  No:    None

Motion passed unanimously.

**Resolution for Advance of 2018 Taxes**

Mr. Pelot explained that this is the annual resolution that must be approved by Council and sent to the Summit County Tax Commission to release the 2018 collections of taxes. It is time sensitive. Mr. Pelot moved to add Resolution #110-2018 to the next Council agenda with emergency language waiving second and third readings, seconded by Ms. Whipkey.

Roll Call:     Yes:   Pelot, Whipkey  
                  No:    None

Motion passed unanimously.

**Auditor of State Fee MOU**

Mr. Pelot noted a new State Auditor may raise future fees for this service as Mr. Yost has termed out. He noted that this contract will set the rate for this service \$18,750 for the next two

years. Mr. Messner said this \$18,750 rate has been the same for the last five years and this contract will guarantee this fee for two more years. It needs to be approved by October 26, 2018. Mr. Pelot moved to add Resolution #111-2018 to the next Council agenda with emergency language and waiving second and third readings, seconded by Ms. Whipkey.

Mr. Tousley asked if this is to be paid year by year and Mr. Messner agreed and clarified there are two auditing fees: one is for the contract tonight for the Local Government Services (LGS) Division auditors to prepare the City of Norton Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and the other is for the state auditors to audit the CAFR and that rate fluctuates depending on how long the audit will take.

Roll Call: Yes: Pelot, Whipkey  
No: None

Motion passed unanimously

#### Wooster Rd Design GPD Contract

Mr. Karant said we have the opportunity to accelerate this project with Medina Line and bid in July 2019 as opposed to the 2020 date. Mr. Fowler reported that if it is designed by July because that is the new fiscal year. GPD can design and bid both Medina Line Road and Wooster Road at the same time. Mr. Pelot noted that both projects are AMATS funded and the 20% will come from the permissive tax fund. Mr. Fowler said that the County money will be used to pave these two roads, along with AMATS and the permissive tax fund. Mr. Karant asked about the time and Mr. Fowler stated it could go a couple of readings, but we would like to use this year's money budgeted for the project so we need it this year. Mr. Tousley said his concerns on Wooster Road and the water conditions and drainage. Mr. Fowler said there is some survey work to be done to fix the water concerns. Mr. Hess believes that the design will help move the water off the road. Mayor Zita noted the road will need to be crowned. Mr. Pelot noted they will also make sure the base is constructed properly. Mr. Karant moved to add Ord #112-2018 to the next Council agenda with emergency language, seconded by Mr. Gainer. Ms. Whipkey asked if the \$16,500 was coming out of the 80/20 and it was decided it was not.

Roll Call: Yes: Karant, Gainer, Tousley  
No: None

Motion passed unanimously

#### Healthcare for Employees

Mr. Tousley noted that there is a new healthcare proposal which reflects a 10% increase. Mr. Fowler said they explored several options with the healthcare and this is the best option. It is a one-time fee over a two-year period, actually 23 months and we were very limited as to what we could do. Mr. Tousley asked if he had other comparisons from insurance companies and Mr. Fowler said they explored other options with brokers and companies and it is currently a month-to-month so we have time to consider adjustments. Mr. Tousley said the 10% increase is for two years, but it is paid month to month. Mr. Karant stated that prescriptions are part of that and could supply information on a carve out of the Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM). He believes we are being fleeced from over billing by insurance companies. PBM can be beneficial and can be used as a bargaining chip. He said that they will say if you are paying for extra

things, it will cost you less and it makes no sense. All large employers and cities should be looking at this. He encouraged the Administration to look at this carefully before signing this contract. Express Scripts and Caremark have been identified and he believes they are providers for the city. Mr. Gainer stated he did read an article about this and asked if there wasn't a state law being considered. Mr. Karant said a federal bill was just signed by President Trump that eliminated a gag order so pharmacists can now talk to the patients and employers. Mr. Tousley asked about the urgency. Mr. Fowler said the contract takes affect December 1, 2018. Mr. Fowler said this is a traditional insurance not self-insurance and would agree with Mr. Karant if we were self-insured. This is a program regardless of usage; this is the fee we pay. Most large employers are self-insured and this may impact them more. Mr. Karant asked about the 10% and felt there was something in there. Mr. Fowler said we are paying into a consortium and so we are paying for others with what we do not use as car insurers do. Mr. Karant offered to meet with Administration and share some of the information that has been shared in Columbus and Washington. Mr. Tousley moved to add Ord #113-2018 to the next Council agenda with emergency language, seconded by Mr. Karant.

Roll Call: Yes: Tousley, Karant, Gainer  
No: None

Motion passed unanimously

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** Ms. Whipkey noted for the public's information that Ordinance 103-2018 had some questions last week and we will own the Tasers out right at the end of five years and we do not have to destroy them at the end of five years outside of the three we already had and received a discount on; we did receive an email confirming this. Ms. Whipkey asked the Ordinance be changed to read Lease Purchase not just Purchase. Mr. Pelot noted since it has had its first read last week, it will need to be amended. Mr. Gainer stated all of his questions have been satisfied.

Mr. Pelot asked about the fences on the pump station on Golf Course Drive. Mr. Fowler will forward the email from Mr. Demboski that goes over the plans.

Mr. Pelot asked about the engine breaks on the highway. Mr. Fowler said we have limited authority on the interstate highways. We could have it on state highway 21. Mr. McGlone said Copley has it on SR 21. Mr. Fowler explained why it was similar to the Traffic Photo signs. Mr. Gainer said he has spoken with a resident that does not understand why truckers would use a Jake break any place on 21 except for extreme emergency. He said SR 261 eastbound has only a slight decline. Mr. Gainer said we should erect signs on both SR 21 and SR 261. He says he hears them every day and night.

**TOPICS FOR NEXT WORK SESSION** – Monday, November 5, 2018

2019 Budget for Committee of the Whole – Mr. Pelot encouraged Council members to review and discuss questions with Mr. Messner so that we can expedite the meetings.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – Mayor Zita announced the Women's Craft Show on Saturday, October 20, 2018 from 9AM to 3PM at the Norton Elementary School. Strollers are allowed, food for purchase, and the \$2 entrance donation helps area children.

Mr. Karant said the Summit County Health Commissioner is going to copy Council on her newsletter. He also alerted that there were several Summit County residents that were eating mushrooms out of the backyard and have experienced serious health concerns. He urged residents not to eat wild mushrooms.

**ADJOURN** - There being no other business to come before the Committee Work Session, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

  
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Scott Pelot, President of Council

I, Kerry Macomber, Clerk of Council for the City of Norton, do hereby certify that the foregoing minutes were approved at a Regular Council Meeting held on October 22, 2018.

  
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Kerry Macomber, Clerk of Council

***\*\*Note: These minutes are not verbatim-  
Original signed and approved minutes are on file  
with the Clerk of Council\*\****

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