



## COMMITTEE WORK SESSION FEBRUARY 7, 2011

**Committee Members Present:** Todd Bergstrom  
Don Nicolard  
Brenda Hlas-Excused  
Bill Mowery  
Ken Braman  
Mike Zita  
Scott Pelot

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

The Committee Work Session convened on Monday, February 7, 2011 at 7:01 PM, in the Council Chambers of the Safety Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Scott Pelot, President of Council. Following a salute to the flag and the Pledge of Allegiance, there was a moment of silent prayer.

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

#### **Council's Appointment to the Health Advisory Board**

Mr. Pelot stated that Ms. Cynthia Mazey has offered to serve as Council's appointment to the Norton Health Advisory Board for a one year term. Mr. Pelot noted that Ms. Mazey was present in the audience and asked her to come forward. Ms. Mazey stated she has been a resident since 2001 and a Registered Nurse for 15 years and is currently attending Kent State University. Ms. Mazey stated she works for Summa Care. Mr. Bergstrom asked about her expectations on the Board. Ms. Mazey stated she was not clear at this time. Mr. Pelot moved to add her appointment to Council's next agenda, seconded by Mr. Braman.

Roll Call: Yeas: Pelot, Braman, Bergstrom, Nicolard, Mowery, Zita  
Nays: None

Motion passed 6-0.

#### Stats & Goals of the Norton Fire Dept.

Chief Schultz gave a power point presentation on his departments accomplishments since he became Chief and future goals, (see attached). Mrs. Elaine Tompkins, a Norton resident questioned the total number of employees. Chief Schultz replied, 1 Chief, 4 Captains that are part time, and 6 Lieutenants part time, 1 full time Secretary, a total of 32 personnel that are all part time with 22 volunteers. We have 2 full time Fire Medics. Mr. Charlotte Whipkey discussed the training required and asked how much does the State require? Chief Schultz replied a minimum of 90 hours for EMS and Fire certification is mandated by the State and 18 hours each year thereafter. Ms. Gayle Brenner, a Norton resident commented about a neighbor having to call for aid when the bridge at Greenwich Road was out a while back. At that time mutual aid was sent out because our guys were all out on other calls and she questioned if this is something we need to address, do we have enough staffing? Chief Schultz stated this is becoming more common now a day its called overlapping calls and that the number of call runs keeps climbing every year. Mr. Bergstrom noted that from the data presented tonight, it looks like our calls are increasing at a rate of about 17%, is this the norm for other departments? Chief Schultz replied no its not, actually other departments are showing a decrease while we are not.

#### 4.6 Mil Levy Fire Dept. 5 Year

Mr. Nicolard stated we have all seen Chief Schultz presentation and report and asked Mr. Moss and Mr. Ryland if they would like to comment. Mr. Moss stated that we currently have four different levies in place; 2 for the Fire and 2 for EMS, and are Fund #108 and Fund #109. Mr. Moss stated that by having these 4 separate its confusing and it's hard to determine their exact costs. There was discussion as to the low carryover balances in these accounts and that next year if the trend doesn't change we will use these balances. Mr. Moss stressed that we need to maintain a healthy carryover balance and a 3 months balance at the bare minimum is recommended. Mr. Moss stated we need to look at one of two realities; you either change the money or you change what we are doing. We have cut spending where we can and we are still in the negative trend. Mr. Ryland stated that a new 4.6 mil levy is a necessary funding and would replace all of the old levies currently in place which are 15 and 23 years old with a new 5 year levy. This way it cannot get shoved under the rug like it did with past Councils. Council will have to look at this levy again in 5 years. Mr. Zita clarified that the total mils for the 4 levies add up to 4.6 mil for the new levy and Mr. Ryland concurred. Mr. Pelot stated that all of the old levies are only collecting less than 2% correct, and Mr. Ryland replied yes. Mrs. Tompkins stated keep in mind this does not address the 3-mil levy that was put in place in 2007. If nothing terrible happens we will talk again in 5 years. Nothing is going to change; this is a non-necessity and more of a convenience for the Administration and Finance Director as he previously stated. Ms. Whipkey clarified that if we go with this new 4.6 mil for 5 years, we are going to do away with the other 4 levies that are continuous, and Mr. Nicolard replied yes. Mr. Nicolard moved to place this item on Councils next agenda to place a 4.6 mil levy for 5 years on the September Primary ballot, seconded by Mr. Bergstrom. Mr. Nicolard stated this would be a first reading only. Mr. Pelot asked if there would be emergency language? Mr. Nicolard stated he felt we have the time, however if the Law Dept. feels its necessary since they are drawing this up they can decide.

4.6 Mil Levy Fire Dept. 5 Year Continued:

Roll Call: Yeas: Nicolard, Bergstrom, Mowery, Braman, Zita, Pelot  
Nays: None

Motion passed 6-0. Mr. Pelot reminded everyone that the difference on the levies is the 4 older ones are only bringing in approximately 2 mils currently. The new levy would bring in a full 4.6 mils due today's prices. Mrs. Tompkins discussed the difference with continuous and 5 years and hoped the language spells it out correctly.

Confirm Charter Review Commission Members

Mr. Pelot stated Mayor Koontz has interviewed a number of candidates and has submitted his recommendations to Council for approval. Mr. Pelot noted all of the candidates that were present with the exception of Mr. Clawson and Mr. Conte. Mr. Pelot asked the candidates were present to come forward and introduce themselves, which they did and gave a brief background of themselves. Mr. Pelot moved to place legislation confirming the Mayors appointments on Councils next agenda, waiving the second and third readings with emergency language, seconded by Mr. Braman. Mr. Dale Nelson, a Norton resident, commented about two candidates not even present to be sworn in. Mr. Pelot explained this is not their swearing in, this is to confirm their appointment. Ms. Whipkey asked about the criteria required and the number of applicants submitted? Mr. Pelot reminded Ms. Whipkey this is Communication from the Public and she should direct her concerns to the Mayor, as these were his appointments, not Councils.

Roll Call: Yeas: Pelot, Braman, Bergstrom, Nicolard, Mowery, Zita  
Nays: None

Motion Passed 6-0.

Repeal Ord #75-2000

Mr. Pelot turned this discussion over to Mr. Ryland for the details. Mr. Ryland stated this ordinance was in effect prior to the full time firefighters organizing with their union. We now have binding conciliation and we lost, so now we have to pay them 3% because of this ordinance. Mr. Ryland noted this pay out is higher than any amount we have paid to the other unions. Mr. Ryland asked that this ordinance be repealed so that the city is not faced with this bottleneck again. Mr. Pelot moved to place this on Councils next agenda with emergency language, waiving the second and third readings, seconded by Mr. Braman.

Roll Call: Yeas: Pelot, Braman, Bergstrom, Nicolard, Mowery, Zita  
Nays: None

Motion Passed 6-0.

PC Res. #1-2011 Rezoning 3069 Houston Road

Mr. Braman stated this is for the former VFW, which moved out, and the present owner Mr. Charlie Shook would like to sell sandwiches and such in the front from 4-9 PM, which would allow the use of the entire building. Mr. Braman noted there would be a public hearing held on this application on February 28, 2010 at 7:17 PM. Mr. Braman moved to add this to Councils next agenda with emergency language, seconded by Mr. Bergstrom.

Roll Call: Yeas: Braman, Bergstrom, Nicolard, Mowery, Zita, Pelot  
Nays: None

Motion passed 6-0.

Agricultural District Applications (2)

Mr. Braman stated the first one is for a renewal for Mr. Ralph Beddow for 220 acres and he has been in an agricultural district for some time. Mr. Braman noted there would be a public hearing on Monday and we have to move quickly on this so he would be waiving the second and third readings. Mr. Braman moved to add this to Councils next agenda with emergency language waiving the second and third readings, seconded by Mr. Bergstrom.

Roll Call: Yeas: Braman, Bergstrom, Nicolard, Mowery, Zita, Pelot  
Nays: None

Motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Braman stated the second application is a brand new one for Mr. Eric Beddow for 45 acres that he purchased from his father. Mr. Braman stated this also would have a public hearing on Monday and is under the same time constraints. Mr. Braman moved to place this on Councils next agenda with emergency language waiving the second and third readings, seconded by Mr. Bergstrom.

Roll Call: Yeas: Braman, Bergstrom, Nicolard, Mowery, Zita, Pelot  
Nays: None

Motion passed 6-0.

Approve Codified Updates for 2010

Mr. Pelot indicated this is something we do each year to approve the adoption of all legislation enacted throughout the year. The cost for 2010 legislation was \$2,535.45. Mr. Pelot moved to place this on Councils next agenda with emergency language, waiving the second and third readings, seconded by Mr. Braman.

Approve Codified Updates for 2010 Continued

Roll Call: Yeas: Pelot, Braman, Bergstrom, Nicolard, Mowery, Zita  
Nays: None

Motion passed 6-0.

Set date for Annual Work Shop

Mr. Pelot set the date of Saturday, March 5, 2011 from 8-12 for the Annual Workshop and invited the Norton Business Development Task Force attend and be the main topic of the workshop discussions.

**Unfinished Business:**

None

**New Business:**

None

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

Mrs. Elaine Tompkins provided her written comments relating to the 4.6 Fire levy and repealing Ord. #75-2000 (see attached).

Mr. Michael Moneypenney, a Norton resident commented about Councils moratorium on Internet café's and that the time limit to file an appeal has passed. Mr. Moneypenney stated that Summit County is not going to appeal. Mr. Moneypenney asked Council to reconsider amending its legislation or remove the moratorium at Monday's Council meeting. Mr. Pelot reminded Mr. Moneypenney this portion of the meeting is just public comment. Mr. Moneypenney urged Council to consider this because it takes 6-8 weeks for you to get this through.

Mr. Pelot read the Mayors press release regarding the State of the City address scheduled for February 17, 2011 (see attached).

**Topics for the next Work Session:**

Mr. Ryland asked for discussion relating to the full time firefighter contract. Mr. Pelot asked the Clerk to check with Mr. Kostoff to see if he is comfortable addressing lifting the moratorium on the Internet café's

**Adjourn**

There being no other business to come before the Committee Work Session, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 PM.

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Scott Pelot, President of Council

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