



## COMMITTEE WORK SESSION MARCH 18, 2013

Committee Members Present: Dennis McGlone  
Charlotte Whipkey  
Scott Pelot  
Bill Mowery  
John Conklin  
Todd Bergstrom-Excused  
Don Nicolard

Also Present: Mayor Mike Zita  
Rick Ryland-Excused  
Laura Starosta  
Karla Richards  
Ann Campbell

The Committee Work Session convened on Monday, March 18, 2013 at 7:00 PM, in the Council Chambers of the Safety Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Don Nicolard, President of Council. Following a salute to the flag and the Pledge of Allegiance, there was a moment of silent reflection.

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

#### Janitorial Contract for City Buildings

Ms. Whipkey stated this is going back to the proposed Ord. #23-2013 that is back on for discussion due to more information. Ms. Whipkey stated she would like to just do away with this and go back to where we were and give this man a chance. Mr. Pelot noted that the owner, Mr. Roman was present and asked him to speak. Mr. Pelot asked about the comment he made last week that he has never been put on notice that there were issues. Mr. Roman stated his bookkeeper was also present and she handles all of the phone calls and has had no complaints. They knew nothing about it. Ms. Whipkey indicated she had discussions with Mr. Ryland and he told her that the only time he had contact with Mr. Roman was back in March of 2011 and he did not have any documentation as to any other discussions. Ms. Whipkey stated she wants to do away with this legislation. Mr. Nicolard asked if Mr. Roman if he has contacted the Administration since last week and Mr. Roman replied no. Mr. Mowery asked if all of the statements made in the paper last week were false. Mr. Roman stated that those statements were all incorrect and this places a bad image on his company. Mr. Mowery suggested there be a retraction or an apology from the Administration. Mr. Mowery stated we as Council and Administration need to make this right for this company. Mr. Roman stated that we are trying to find out what is wrong and how to correct that if there are any issues.

Mr. Roman stated that in 2011 we decreased our contract fee by 12%. Ms. Whipkey asked if they have replaced employees since this situation has come about and Mr. Roman replied yes, the regular lady that cleaned your buildings has quit, she reported to him on what was about to take place and she stated she could not take it any more. Mr. McGlone asked if he was still interested in upholding the contract and Mr. Roman replied yes. Mr. Pelot noted that Mr. Nicolard and Ms. Whipkey had a recent tour of the facilities and asked how that went. Ms. Whipkey stated she did notice some minor issues with dust, which can occur anywhere. Ms. Whipkey stated that what she cannot support is canceling a contract without this company having a due process. Mr. Pelot suggested to Mayor Zita that you need to have a performance contract of some type so both sides know what is to be expected. Mr. Pelot noted that he felt Mr. Roman should have been out here last week and met with Administration to work out the details. Mayor Zita stated he would like to review the contract and see exactly where we are, but was not sure a performance contract is necessary. Mayor Zita noted that as short staffed as we are in Administration we may not have the time to do a checklist like is done at the Community Center before and after rentals, but could do one perhaps quarterly. Mr. Nicolard stated he also toured the facilities with Mr. Ryland and agreed there might be some issues that are not up to standards. Mr. Nicolard stated he did not feel that Mr. Roman received a fair shake here to correct any problems. Mayor Zita suggested that the owner and/or supervisor come to the buildings to see what is occurring. Mr. Roman agreed that a sit down to review the contract would be beneficial. Ms. Whipkey recalled the contract stated that there is a stipulation if there are issues it needs to be done in writing. Ms. Patricia Reese, 4052 Wadsworth Road, Norton, Ohio, stated she didn't think that we were all at the same meeting last week, it sounded like you are all for bringing in Four Corners Cleaning. Ms. Reese also commented that Mr. Mowery even recused himself in this issue as an Acme employee and knows the person that owns Four Corners through Acme. Ms. Reese pointed out the Four Corners connection with Acme and that the Mayor, City Administrator, and Mr. Mowery all worked for Acme for thirty years. Ms. Reese stated she blamed Mr. Bergstrom and Mr. Pelot for this mess because you both overrode Ms. Whipkey's concerns. Ms. Reese stated that you threw Romaster under the bus because you wanted Four Corners Cleaning and she felt it was a conflict of interest. Mrs. Reese stated she felt you all owe Mr. Roman a big apology in all of the papers.

Jason Sams, 3782 Long Drive, Norton, Ohio, stated he believed that Mr. Ryland was not involved in the vote with the Board of Control. Mr. Sams stated that is a big problem in that you have this business owner take his time to come down here and have to defend himself. Mr. Sams stated that this company has donated to our Clean Up Norton Day in the past. Mr. Sams stated that the former employee of Romaster is also a Norton resident and has children in the Norton Schools. Why would you in Administration allow things to get so out of control that you have the Council President get involved and tour the facility? Mr. Sams stated that we are at a point here to help this gentleman and his business and get back to more important issues.

Mrs. Elaine Tompkins, 3848 Cleveland-Massillon Road, Norton, Ohio, commented on the recent term of "micro-management" and she takes offense to that.

Mrs. Tompkins stated that comment means the person stating is needs micro-managed themselves. Mrs. Tompkins urged Council and the Administration not to use that word in the future because she would come forward and object to that every time. Mrs. Tompkins stated that the City definitely needs to apologize to the Romaster Company, if nothing else run a full-page ad. Ms. Whipkey stated she wants to remove this ordinance all together and keep things as they are, to work on better communication in settling this issue if Mr. Roman is still willing to work for us. If we have a problem in the future we should make it known to him instead of waiting two (2) years. Mr. Nicolard noted that he voted no on this issue in the Board of Control. Mr. Nicolard asked the Clerk of Council about the proper parliamentary procedure here. Mrs. Richards indicated you couldn't do anything tonight this is a Committee Meeting. The legislation had its first reading last week and would appear on Monday's agenda for a second reading. Mrs. Richards stated that if Ms. Whipkey desired she could move to remove it from consideration all together or move to table it indefinitely which effectively it kills the legislation and it could not be brought back up again. Ms. Whipkey stated it she moved to remove it, and that would mean it could come back to haunt us, but if she tables it then it just dies. Mrs. Richards stated that once it dies you would have to start all over with a new piece of legislation, to Committee first then on to Council. Mr. Nicolard asked if we needed to vote on this tonight and Mrs. Richards indicated a motion and roll call now would be appropriate and this would need to be tabled on Monday.

#### Salary Issues-Non Bargaining Employees

Mayor Zita requested that this issue be removed until a later date and to hold an executive session next week. Mr. Nicolard suggested we do this on Monday after roll call. Mr. Mowery reminded everyone that the main issue we are dealing with is for Karla because she does not have a bargaining unit and she has no union and neither do a few other employees. Mr. Mowery noted that there are five (5) positions that have been eliminated in the past and he feels that those salaries are there and this is not new money that we are asking for. Mr. Mowery stated he believes that money is still there and should be distributed out to the non-bargaining employees since they have no union to fight for them. Mr. Nicolard asked what would be proper procedure and Mrs. Richards indicated if you are wanting to place this on the next Council agenda a voice vote would be appropriate. Mr. Mowery moved to place this on the agenda under Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Pelot.

Roll Call: Yeas: Mowery, Pelot, McGlone. Whipkey, Conklin, Nicolard  
Nays: None

Motion passed 6-0.

Ms. Whipkey stated that she thought there were two (2) people already hired in the Finance Department, and questioned if we replaced those positions? Mrs. Starosta indicated she has one new full time that will replace a retiring clerk at the end of the month. Mr. Mowery stated the positions he was referring to were: John Moss-Planning, Susan McCall-Senior Clerk in Finance, Sharon Smith-Police Dept. Secretary,

Pat Ryan-Zoning Inspector, Cindy Hughes-Front Desk. Mr. Mowery indicated that none of these have been replaced and Mayor Zita agreed. Mayor Zita also noted that Ted. Weinsheimer has retired, and the Foreman is currently filling his position, so there will still be an open position there. Ms. Whipkey noted that she understands that the Foreman, Ernie Reynolds will also be retiring soon so that's another open position. Ms. Whipkey asked if this includes Administration or is this just for the clerical workers? Mr. Mowery indicated he could supply Council with a list of all non-bargaining workers that this would involve, so we know who we are speaking of and from what departments.

Roll Call: Yeas: Mowery, Pelot, McGlone, Whipkey, Conklin, Nicolard  
Nays: None

Motion passed 6-0.

#### Dispose of Unusable City Inventory

Ms. Whipkey stated Mrs. Starosta invited here to have a tour today and was shown all of the office equipment, printers, adding machines, particleboard desks, etc. These are things that are outdated. We then toured the Service Garage and offices to view the equipment requested for disposal. There are metal filing cabinets; old trucks than need to be disposed of. Ms. Whipkey reminded everyone we had a Charter change in 2009 that the people approved giving Council the power to get rid of this in the best way we could. Ms. Whipkey suggested we put some of that money into a separate fund, which could be several thousand dollars and use that to buy tires, equipment that they may need, as opposed to the General Fund. Ms. Starosta explained that the Service Fund is mainly transfers from the General Fund and no matter where you put it, that money goes to Service Department either way. Ms. Whipkey stated she is not worried about how money is used, she wants to have a fund that is for them so when they need something, this seed money is there. Mrs. Starosta stated that creating a separate fund for this one time use may not be necessary, we could put it directly into their Service Dep. Fund #102 so they don't have to come to Council and ask for a budget adjustment. Ms. Whipkey stated she is trying to get away from appropriating money from the General Fund and likes the idea that this is their money and no one else gets to touch it. Ms. Whipkey moved to place legislation for disposing of the City property that is unusable by us on Councils next agenda, seconded by Mr. Conklin.

Roll Call: Yeas: Whipkey, Conklin, McGlone, Pelot, Mowery, Nicolard  
Nays: None

Motion passed 6-0.

#### Unfinished Business:

Ms. Whipkey stated that next week we are looking at the MOU with the county and she has some questions. Ms. Whipkey asked how binding is this because it sounds like we are buying this right then and there? It is her understanding that once the MOU is approved by all that Summit County will be expecting us to buy a sewer system, is that correct?

The Mayor and Mr. Nicolard concurred. Ms. Whipkey stated that if we are agreeing to this and there is no changes, we are almost binding ourselves to buying it. Mr. Nicolard stated that's not true, this is not a purchase agreement, it's to explore the potential to buy it and it will allow us to investigate the value and the worth of the product. Mayor Zita stated it is his understanding that if everything should be to everyone's liking at that point we need to buy the system if we move forward. Mr. Nicolard stated this step is just to vote on the language on the memorandum of understanding. Ms. Whipkey added that it is to be put forth to the County and that's her point if they say it's all good we have already approved it and it's like we have said we are buying it. Mr. Conklin stated the MOU is designed to allow us to look at Summit County's bookkeeping as to what they have already invested in the system. It's to put all of this under the microscope to see what is it we are considering, and his concern is that we have no idea what are the mechanical conditions of the package plants and the MOU will us to find that condition. Mr. Conklin stated that if we decided to move forward on this and all of the sudden we find out that now we need to invest over \$100,000.00 in the package plants because they were not properly maintained by the County. This MOU would allow us the opportunity to know the conditions of those facilities and their books. Mr. Conklin stated that before we could move ahead to purchase the Summit County Council must also go through their legislative process. Mr. Conklin stated he does not see that with Council approving the MOU that we are rubber stamping this as a purchase from Summit County. He considers it the opportunity to examine the books, physical plant and take a very good look at what we are getting involved with. Ms. Whipkey asked if this past presentation by Mr. Demboski out of the water because we don't know about the maintenance on it? Mr. Conklin stated he believed that presentation was based on projections on the current figures and information available to Mr. Demboski at that time and some of those projections were made when he was the Summit County Department of Environmental Services head so it would based on information was currently available. Mr. Conklin stated that Mr. Kostoff would be the one to really answer. Mr. Nicolard stated he believed the comments made by Mr. Demboski were based on what Summit County said, and our discovery period may come to a point where we find out that may not be the case and Mr. Conklin added so that is the purpose of the MOU. Ms. Patricia Reese questioned if Mr. Kostoff had previously stated that he and Mr. Ryland negotiated a price just short of \$2,000,000.00 and if you already know what it's going to cost, then someone up there is already poised to purchase it. Mr. McGlone stated that he believed Summit County would need to draw up contract next, and that would be a vote. Ms. Whipkey stated she understands this will give us the permission to go and look at this stuff very closely, and then a contract would be drawn up which would then be either a yea or nay vote. . Mr. Conklin stated that it's like looking at a house for sale, but we have not done a walk through. Mr. Mowery stated its like a home inspection, we need to hire some firm to go in and scope those lines and that can be costly. Mr. Jack Gainer, asked about this issue and the unusable property. Mr. Gainer sated he had the opportunity of disposing of property for municipalities for the Akron Public Schools in the past, and he believed those proceeds have to go into the General Fund and is disbursed as normal. Mayor Zita stated the idea is to get rid of this stuff because it's nothing more than junk. We can look at this as Ms. Whipkey has asked to be in a specific fund and we could address that. Ms.

Whipkey stated this is taking up a lot of space at the Service Garage and in Administration. Mr. Gainer commented about the MOU and that he is sure no one in Administration is qualified to inspect package plants, lines, etc. and questioned if we would be contracting with an expert or an engineering firm to have them brought in to know exactly what we are getting into. Mr. Nicolard stated that is exactly what the MOU would allow us to do. Mr. Gainer stated he is 100% behind owning the sewers and not giving it to the County. Mr. Gainer also noted that the flag at the flag-pole needs to be replaced, it's worn and tattered. Mr. Conklin noted some of you might have been seeing a blue Summit County truck in the area is their scoping truck and was on Cleveland Massillon Road and may have been here to scope the lines. Mr. Dennis Pierson, 3793 Easton Road, Norton, Ohio, discussed Mr. Demboski's presentation and that his company could administrate this if we purchase this. Mr. Pierson also noted that Mr. Demboski stated that if there were problems in the lines they could be relined. You need to bring in someone else other than Mr. Demboski's firm as they have already made over \$635,000.00. Ms. Tompkins stated that an independent contractor would be best that has absolutely no ties with Summit County, or DOES, maybe Cuyahoga County or in the Cleveland area. Mrs. Tompkins stated she understood that the County could find no records that indicate the conditions of these lines. Mr. Mowery discussed the potential the City of Cleveland has a lot of contacts for companies that do this kind of work. Mr. Mowery stated that he understands the process is to blow the lines to see that they are clear, and then they have a condition that is called bellying were these lines over time could really back up. Mr. Mowery asked Ms. Whipkey about a retraction or an apology for Mr. Romaster, due to the statements made against him in the papers. Ms. Whipkey stated we definitely owe him an apology and it's really not up to us, that ball is up to him as to what he would accept. Ms. Whipkey stated that we need to go over the details make things more clear and reinstate exactly that if there is a problem in the future somebody needs to be made aware of it. Ms. Whipkey stated you just don't come to me and say that you want to take a contract away when two (2) years go by without saying anything. Ms. Whipkey stated that something could be documented in an email and there would be documented proof that both sides are made aware of any problems. Mr. Roman stated this is the first time anything like this has happened to him and they have received numerous calls about this to his office. Ms. Whipkey stated we should at least something in the paper be enough, not something little in a corner, if we have to pay for an ad, so be it. Mr. Conklin stated that obviously the Administration could do whatever they want, he is hearing that Council wants to do a resolution of apology. Mr. Conklin suggested that at the next Council meeting Council we do a resolution of apology. Mr. Rick Rodgers, 4034 Wadsworth Road, Norton, Ohio, stated he missed the last meeting and it was not Council that made the claim it was Mr. Ryland and the Mayor that brought this up. Mayor Zita stated he received his complaints from Mr. Mowery about the Community Center and from Mr. Nicolard and also from Ms. Whipkey. Ms Whipkey then interjected and stated she made no complaints but had referred to Mr. Mowery's issue. Mr. Rodgers stated this is the distrust that we are talking about, and this is just part of it. Mr. Rodgers stated after that meeting the impression was that this cleaning company was not doing their job. But now it seems like they were doing their job and we are going to apologize to them.

This is just another black eye on this City, and you need to be honest about all of this, just like with the sewer project. Mayor Zita stated Mr. Ryland had contacted this company back in 2011, and it's been established that at one point or another the buildings have not been properly cleaned. Mayor Zita discussed the trust issue and we said the buildings were dirty because they were dirty and Council members also complained from time to time; maybe currently, maybe we did not go and talk to the company the way it should have been. Mr. Rogers pointed out it was said it was made a public record on the business and Mayor Zita stated he himself did not. Mr. Nicolard stated that Mr. Roman's company will continue to clean, he is obviously going to get a Resolution of Apology and we have discussed this long enough. Mayor Zita stated for the record that Mr. Roman's staff was here this weekend and a number of hours were spent in the building trying to rectify the problem and he appreciated that. Paul Tousley stated that he believed it was stated on the record that Mr. Ryland stated he has had several conversations with the owner who did nothing about it and the owner says he spoke to no one. Someone is not telling the truth here and suggested the Mayor needs to look into here because the truth needs to come out. MS. Alice Wagner, 4168 Hawaii Avenue, Norton, Ohio, stated that she has to agree with the Mayor that if there is a lot of extra work that needs done, they should be paid extra. Ms. Whipkey explained for special services that would require notification and extra pay but normal cleaning should be done in the required amount of time. Mrs. Starosta stated this past Saturday she did not authorize for any extra cleaning. Mr. Richard Gardner, 4556 Roop Avenue, agreed that Council needs to give an apology to this business owner. Mr. Gardner stated that you need to put an ad in the paper because no one would see it. That article sounded like they were not doing their job properly and had received numerous complaints. Mr. Gardner stated he agreed with Ms. Whipkey to be specific in the contract, like cleaning windows, so he knows exactly what is to be done, what's expected and it needs to be in writing and if there is a problem. Mr. Gardner stated this notice needs to be printed in all newspapers because all of them commented on this and some of them had rather large articles about it.

**New Business:**

None

**Topics for the next Work Session:**

None

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

Mr. Jack Gainer, 3920 Wadsworth Road, Norton, Ohio addressed the issue with live television of the Council meetings. Mr. Gainer read a short statement (see attached) about the difference of web casting and not broadcasting on TV. Mr. Gainer stated he would like Council to rethink their vote and provide live television as the electorate voted for. Mr. Gainer suggested everyone in favor of this light up the phones at City hall and suggested the City spend over \$40,000.00 and get this done right. Mr. Gainer stated he wanted to see the speakers at the podium and the people in the audience on camera.

Ms. Whipkey stated the legislation we passed did not state it was web only, and this could still be done. Mr. Gainer stated if you spent \$5,000.00 to implement the webcast and spend the \$40,000.00, and do both.

Mr. Tom Kornas 3771 Brookside Drive, Norton, Ohio, mentioned the disposal of equipment and suggested we have a yard sale for this and do what ever you need to with the money. Mr. Kornas stated a few weeks he was here and someone mentioned the Clean Water Act of 1972 and tried to ask a few questions and he was admonished, its like a quarterback rule you just make up. Mr. Kornas asked Mayor Zita if he has set up a task force to discuss sewers? Mayor Zita stated he has not established a task force involving the residents. Mr. Kornas asked if Mr. Ryland has done anything about funding options? Mayor Zita stated Mr. Ryland was not present and could not answer for him. Mr. Kornas asked if we are to rely on the good old boy network of engineers, construction firms or will we get someone new to tell us how to spend the money. They all seem to be from the same group, political action group. Mr. Kornas commented on the comments in the paper regarding the petitions. Did any of you work with us, to help us out? Mr. Kornas suggested we have another town hall meeting and get all of these engineering groups, construction companies. Mayor Zita asked what is Mr. Kornas looking to find out? Mr. Kornas stated he wants to see checks and balances here. Mr. Kornas stated that there is one engineering group that has over \$100,000,000.00 involved and he wants to know what all is going on and you all should know what is going on. The City of Norton has to listen to the people, and you need to take his admonishment very seriously.

Dennis Kornacki, 3008 Dutt Road, Norton, Ohio, spoke about asked what exactly going on with off-site discharge permits. Mr. Kornacki asked how many families are involved? Mr. Kornacki stated that he knows for a fact that in 1985 the City has instituted a requirement of 150' ft of frontage and asked how is the City issuing permits then? Mr. Kornacki asked how many families are already on sewers and not septic systems? You are telling us that everyone is having this problem and that cannot be correct. It can only apply to any pre-existing discharging systems and have been doing so since 1985 and must have had a permit. The City itself is subject to EPA violations because you have not cleaned catch basins or storm sewers. Had you been doing your job we would not have this problem you cannot blame this on everyone else. Next question is whether or not people are getting variances and that is coming from the City. Mr. Nicolard stated that City does not issue any permits, that is done by Summit County Health Department.

Audrey Kornacki, 3008 Dutt Road, Norton, Ohio, stated that last summer you tabled the sewer system. We thought this was tabled because we needed to get answers on funding, total costs, etc. We now find out from the White House that they are cutting all kinds of funding and that will be coming to little communities like Norton. Ms. Kornacki discussed the statement of you are living in a fairyland and that you cannot afford to pay for all of this, Ms. Kornacki discussed the past issues with requesting to have a work order put in to clean their ditches. This is the first time she has ever heard of this requirement. Ms. Kornacki again repeated that over 27 years since she lived here the ditch in front of her home has never been cleaned.

If you are working with Summit County you can find out who these people are that are in violation, they should be forced to fix it. That is what brought all of this on is the failing septic system. If the problem is fixed and clear water is coming out, and ditches are cleaned properly, you should not be in violation. In that time you can figure out how to build your own post office, get your own zip code and then we can get grant money for this issue.

Mrs. Elaine Tompkins, 3848 Cleveland-Massillon Road, Norton, 8:38 read her statement about various concerns (see attached). Mrs. Tompkins asked if anyone has looked into this? Mayor Zita stated he has not, but he understands that you first must have the revenue, and Mrs. Tompkins stated that you do have revenue. Ms. Tompkins asked what other suggestions the elected officials and State Representatives have replied with, and Mr. Nicolard stated that we have had emails sent back thanking us for inviting us to your City. Mr. Renaci suggested we abandon the federal aid quest and fund it ourselves and that we were pretty much out there all by ourselves. Mrs. Tompkins made comments concerning the Law Directors behavior addressed towards a private citizen following the Council meeting last week. Mrs. Tompkins stated that Mr. Kostoff has cost the City \$400,000.00 plus since he has been here. Mrs. Tompkins stated Mr. Kostoff needed to be admonished on his behavior. Mrs. Tompkins asked if the Planning Director position has been filled and if not when? Mayor stated this has not been filled.

Ms. Patricia Reese, 4052 Wadsworth Road, Norton, Ohio, stated that stated she also witnessed Mr. Kostoff's behavior and felt this was unprofessional and suggested a complaint be filed in Columbus Ohio Ethics Board. Ms. Reese stated she was astounded with this behavior and was uncalled for.

Mr. Dennis Pierson 3793 Easton Road, Norton, Ohio, clarified a few statements made by Mr. Ryland recently. The first one being that no one has been assessed in the City of Norton for the sewer project. Mr. Pierson displayed a copy of a residential sewer bill for \$1,622.15, for the first half, with \$18,000.00 plus with 2.5 percent of interest for twenty (20) years so people on Greenwich are being assessed. In that same conversation Mr. Ryland had stated to Mr. Kornas that yes, septic systems in this City are failing at a rate of seventy (70) percent. Mr. Pierson found that astonishing because he signed one of the contracts with that Board of Health and he ought to remember signing that. Mr. Pierson stated that contract was done with a Ms. Laura Travers and she stated in an email back to him stating that no septic systems in the City of Norton were tested by the Cuyahoga County Health Department or in Summit County in 2005. Mr. Pierson stated he has no idea where Mr. Ryland is coming up with that one. Mr. Pierson stated that twenty-five (25) percent have either Summit County or Barberton for their sanitation sewers with the other seventy (70) percent do have septic systems. As far as residents with off site or on site systems, the Summit County Health Department sent letters out in 2010 advising them to update their systems. Even with them dumping into ditches an off site its amazing using the numbers stated several times by the City Manager that the fallout rates have went down in the last four (4) years.

Mr. Pierson noted there is a resident in Sherman area on Johnson & Hametown Roads that owns seven (7) acres and he wanted to do an on site system and he was forced to go off site, as insisted by the former Mayor. You need to talk to the Summit County Engineers because that can do it cheaper, and we are only looking at one way. Mr. Pierson discussed the various engineering firms in the area and suggested you pull up the records at the Summit County Board of Elections and check the financial cite of the candidates who donated to a specific campaign and draw your own conclusions. Mr. Pierson stated as far as the legal representatives comments last week, well if it upsets people that he his speaking the truth and point it out to people for where to go and look, he will continue to do that. And yes he will follow up with another action to take care of the situation. Mr. Nicolard asked for clarification on the candidates and Mr. Pierson indicated that is for all elected officials, in the State of Ohio, and this is public record, as he pointed out to Mr. Kostoff last week. If you put an initial on City of Norton letterhead, that becomes a public record and can be obtained by any citizen through the Sunshine Law of the State of Ohio. Mr. Pierson stated after that request you have ten (10) days to reply to that or in a prescribed business time you must submit the information.

Mr. Jason Sams, 3782 Long Drive, Norton, Ohio, talked about the situation of Romaster and he does not feel we should just let it go because it's an important business in the City. Mr. Sams stated that if someone made a comment about your business, he would hope that your customers, citizens and other business owners would come to your defense. It is very important that this is not over looked. Mr. Sams stated that he wanted to know who is responsible for bringing this up in the forefront? Mr. Sams publicly apologized to Romaster as a resident of this City, and we support them for what they had to go through. Mr. Sams stated that he knows to be man enough to know that people say things that are not true, but it takes a better person to admit that a mistake was made. Mr. Sams noted that Mayor Zita made a great statement that he is already looking into better ways to help manage this company, that is a right decision. Please do not let this die and let the ordinance itself die, he is all in favor of that. Mr. Sams stated he wants to know who voted for or against this in the Board of Control so that way the citizens will understand where everything fell. We all need to support our local companies and we need to everything we can to support the business.

### Adjourn

There being no other business to come before the Committee Work Session, the meeting was adjourned at 8:51 PM.

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Don Nicolard, President of Council

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