



COMMITTEE WORK SESSION JUNE 17, 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
Laura Starosta
Karla Richards
Ann Campbell

The Committee Work Session convened on Monday, June 17, 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:

Public Broadcasting Opportunity

Ms. Whipkey introduced Mr. Perkins of Perkins Broadcasting and turned the discussion over to Mr. Perkins. Mr. Perkins explained that we are a small family corporation as of May 2000. Mr. Perkins noted that back in 2000 Norton was in the forefront of video on demand. Mr. Perkins stated that he was project manager of Channels 45/49 and worked with the Norton High School and Middle School. Mr. Perkins described P TV (Public Television) and how they had been in business since 2009. Mr. Perkins provided a power point presentation (see attached). Mr. Perkins described what they air in the way of public TV and anyone can submit videos for being aired. Mr. Perkins described the process involved with his company becoming Norton's Broadcast Originator and that a letter would need to be submitted to Time Warner from the City authorizing Perkins Broadcasting as our originator. Ms. Whipkey clarified that we do not need to have fiber optics like we would have to have now for Time Warner and Mr. Perkins concurred. Mrs. Whipkey questioned the cost of \$25.00 per meeting and a limit of time of 28 minutes. Mr. Perkins clarified that for government there really is no time limit. Mr. Pelot asked about the costs for a streamline server and Mr. Perkins replied between this would be in two (2) components one is the server for about \$300.00 and the other is the laptop computer at around \$400.00.

Mr. Ryland asked if your company has an agreement with Time Warner and Mr. Perkins replied no, however you should already have rights to that Channel 15. Mr. Paluch asked if you have anything that would allow us to broadcast meetings without using Time Warner Cable or without using a satellite that would be free. That's what the people want, and that's what we are looking for. Mr. Perkins stated no, what you are asking for is a digital broadcasting and that requires a special license, an ABC and CBS would be the only ones he could think of that have that kind of license. Mr. Jack Gainer, asked about the submission of other videos, and clarified this channel would be available live 24/7, could the City do something like an emergency storm warning and interrupt whatever is broadcasting? Mr. Perkins stated no, we don't have that capability right now, but it would not be that difficult to allow the City to flip a switch to let that happen. Mr. Gainer asked would the City pre-empt something else already airing or scheduled to air? Mr. Perkins asked about how much notice would be provided and Mr. Gainer stated he was not sure. Mr. Perkins stated the system is all automated, and this should not be an issue, and we are trying to fill the time slots with various submissions. Mr. Perkins explained there are several clients that have paid for specific times, but they do try and accommodate everyone. Mr. Gainer mentioned the religious viewing and asked if that is permissible for a government channel to do? Mr. Perkins stated that we are a Public Access Channel, there are also PEG (Public Educational Government) channels and that means we are free speech so you can talk about and air what you want. Mr. Gainer stated the previous information the City had received from Time Warner and that we had the opportunity to either purchase or maintain our PEG channel and we did not do that. Consequently, it was then quoted to the City at a cost of \$40,000.00 and asked if Mr. Perkins knew about this. Mr. Perkins speculated that \$40,000.00 was most likely for a fiber optics and some lead encoders. Mr. Gainer asked for clarification from Mr. Perkins that we would not need that \$40,000.00 expense and his company could do all of this for his estimated cost of \$1,000.00? Mr. Perkins replied yes, there is no substitute for a big fiber optic cable, it's the best way to get a signal from point A to B, lacking that we use the Internet based system. We have also done video arraignment for local governments. If we have decent Internet connections, the product would be very good. Mr. Gainer clarified that the video submission for \$25 was a single fee for several airings of the same video and Mr. Perkins concurred. Mr. Dennis Pierson, 3793 Easton, Norton, Ohio clarified that you were working with Trumble County and asked about performance contracts and Mr. Perkins stated there are no contract and we have been working with those Mayors since 2009. Mr. Pierson asked if the City of Norton were to enter into an agreement, could those other entities submit letters ~~in~~ of reference and Mr. Perkins replied yes. Mr. Conklin asked if in order to receive previous recordings you would need to be a subscriber to Time Warner Channel 15 and Mr. Perkins replied yes but Perkins does not offer on demand it would need to be recorded by the viewer. Ms. Whipkey stated she felt if we are streaming live now couldn't we just send that live stream as it is over to you as opposed to a video? Mr. Perkins stated no, he has tried that and the quality is not very clear we need to up the quality some for a TV screening. Ms. Whipkey stated she disagreed with some of statements made on the clarity of our current system as the quality of our meetings are not clear now, are difficult to hear and she has received numerous complaints.

Ms. Whipkey questioned how would we be assured our meetings would air live considering our various schedules, in addition to offering twice weekly what was already aired live? Mr. Perkins stated we have pre-empted events like a Presidential address and we normally know when that is coming. The only thing we cannot pre-empt would be a live broadcast when school is out generally Mondays-Fridays around 4 PM which provides for live tutors helping students with homework. Mrs. Starosta asked about Special Council meetings with 24-hour notice and asked if that was sufficient notification and Mr. Perkins replied yes, although 24 hours would be tight. Mrs. Starosta asked if we would still have to purchase Channel 15? Mr. Perkins stated he felt you already own it in essence. If there are bars showing up now, it might just need to be turned on and could be as simple as flipping a switch down in Canton. Mr. Pelot asked about local businesses advertising, and Mr. Perkins noted they do not advertise as they are a commercial free program, but they can be a sponsor for no more than 30 seconds for every half-hour. It would sound like “like today’s program is being brought to you by.....”. Mr. Pelot asked how they make their money with only charging \$25.00 per video? Mr. Perkins stated the costs are not that extreme, and it’s been rewarding working with the schools, and other faith based organization. Mr. Ryland asked if the City can switch the Time Warner channel #15 back on and your company is the broadcast provider, what exactly does that mean? Mr. Perkins stated it means that Time Warner will take our signal and broadcast that in your city. Mr. Ryland stated that the scheduling would then be 100 percent at your discretion and Mr. Perkins concurred. Ms. Ellen Wolfe, 4275 South Hametown Road, Norton, Ohio, asked why do the live broadcasts seem to be so important? If anyone has an issue you can contact your representatives. Mr. Nicolard stated that requirement is in the recent Charter amendment which was passed by the voters and is now written in stone. Mr. Nicolard called for a short recess for Mr. Perkins to collect his equipment. Ms. Whipkey stated she indicated to Mr. Perkins we would likely be contacting him in the future and she is very interested in looking into this further.

Cleveland-Massillon Road Widening Legislation

Mr. Mowery stated that Mr. Bergstrom has been very involved with Mr. Ryland on this and he turned this discussion over to Mr. Ryland. Mr. Ryland explained that since 2009 we have talked about this project as being at \$1.4 million and that is a 90/10 match. We are now looking into the various phases and we are still at a 90/10 match and the only changes in the future could be in the environmental area and right away issues. We are still looking at April 2016 for construction and Mrs. Starosta stated this also covers design contract up to the right of way. This would give us authorization to move into stage 3. Mr. Ryland stated we have some right of way issues we need to work through, which was anticipated. Mr. Ryland stated this would carry us past that point, and Mrs. Starosta clarified that this takes up to the right of way and would require a new contract after that point. Mr. Ryland noted that the local share is \$146,165.38, and the total contact is \$1.4 million. Mr. Mowery moved to place this on Councils next agenda, seconded by Mr. Pelot. Mr. Conklin clarified that the City of Barberton’s portion starts in 2015. Ms. Whipkey asked where is all of this information you are spouting off, and Mr. Ryland replied it would be included in your packet on Friday and worded within the legislation.

Ms. Whipkey asked if this is supposed to move quickly and Mr. Ryland replied yes, this it's been discussed since 2009.

Roll Call: Yeas: Mowery, Pelot, McGlone, Conklin, Nicolard
Nays: Whipkey.

Motion passed 5-1. Mr. Rodgers asked for clarification on our cost of \$1.6 million dollars for the project. Mr. Ryland that when it was originally estimated at a \$16 plus million dollar project and \$1.6 million is our share. That was a projected cost in 2009, which has since then come down to roughly \$1.4 million for our share for the entire project. Mrs. Starosta stated the design phase cost is \$1.4 million is being shared at 90/10 split.

Accept/Decline Funding for Nash Heights Phase I

Mr. Conklin explained that Mr. Ryland noted at the last meeting he was looking for guidance from Council for this OPWC grant at zero interest and turned the discussion over to Mr. Ryland for the details. Mr. Ryland stated that the \$1.25 million zero interest loan is a result of the grant application or loan and they have asked our direction. Mr. Ryland stated you can accept this money and sit on this or if you have no intention of moving forward with the sewer you need to send it back. You could sit on this for about one (1) year and it can only be used for this specific project. At some point in time you either use it or return it for other communities to use. Mr. Mowery stated a lot of answers relating to Nash Heights would be answered in the next few months. Mr. Ryland stated if we reject this now we would have to re apply for it later on. Ms. Whipkey asked about having an answer by June 28, 2013 and Mr. Ryland stated that deadline is if you were to decline it but we could just sit on it for now. Ms. Whipkey stated we could just sit there and do nothing for a time and Mr. Ryland replied yes or a period of time. Mr. Ryland stated we have been sitting on the Newpark Drive money for over a year now and later this year we will have to return that. Ms. Whipkey asked what you are also saying is we have to remove the moratorium and Mr. Ryland concurred. Mr. McGlone asked if this harms the city with future how we score on grant applications and Mr. Ryland replied its truly on the points system in applying for grants. Mrs. Starosta clarified that this acceptance stipulates a requirement that the assessment to the residents must be at least thirty percent of the project and Mr. Ryland concurred. Mayor Zita clarified that if we accept this and in August the Charter amendment passes then we have no choice but to return it. Mr. Nicolard noted that Issue #1 is the only issue on the Special Election ballot in all of Summit County. Mr. Nicolard noted what City services would be affected with that passage, such as: snow plowing, lack of salt, road programs, mowing in the parks, etc.. If the Charter amendment is passed we will be faced with Police layoffs, Clerical staffing, Parks Personnel. Mr. Nicolard stated that he has been approached by several residents asking where Council stands on this. Mr. Nicolard stated that he voted no on the legislation for the proposed amendment. Mr. Nicolard asked each Council member where they stand on this proposed Charter amendment, if they were for it or against it. Mr. McGlone stated he was not in favor of this and he thought that anything that comes to us we have no choice but to vote to send it to the ballot, so that's why he felt he had to vote yes.

Mr. Nicolard clarified that if all of Council would have voted no, and that would have triggered a Mandamus action by the petitioners and would likely still be in court. Mr. Pelot agreed with Mr. McGlone's statement, adding that ever since he has been on Council that was his understanding too. Mr. Nicolard stated that any time you vote as an official, you have three choices: yes, no, or abstain. Mr. Nicolard stated he knew the issue was going to the Board of Elections and he was in a good position to say no. Mr. Nicolard stated he would like the public to know where Council stands. Mr. Mowery stated we have two (2) town hall meetings and a PAC's meeting this week and all of these issues would be addressed. Mr. Mowery suggested by these 3 meetings we can clear the air, and suggested each committee or group attend all of these meetings. There cannot be two (2) rights here, we need to inform the public exactly what is exactly going to happen. Mayor Zita stated that the General Fund supports all services. If this passes and we have to make payments it will come from this fund. We will then be using resident's money to turn around and give it back for assessments, etc. Summit County would then be brought in and ordered by the Summit County Dept. of Health and EPA and we will be forced to install sewers at 100% cost to the residents. Mr. Mowery stated from what he has heard this is not true and everything is in limbo here. Someone has to be right here and someone has to be wrong. Ms. Whipkey discussed the 1/2 percent tax credit reduction for those who worked outside of the City and that \$500,000.00/year should still be there in that fund. Mayor Zita agreed but we will be using that money to help pay for improvements, increasing the size of pump stations, over sizing of a pump station, etc. to promote development down the road, and it would all be coming from that tax credit account. Mayor Zita noted that every residential property is considered one (1) benefit that has been estimated to be between \$10,000 and \$15,000; we will know better when it goes out to bid. Ms. Whipkey asked if we own the pump stations and Mayor Zita replied, no and clarified the difference from a package plant and pump station. Ms. Whipkey clarified that we have not been using money from that tax credit fund, and Mrs. Starosta clarified that the majority of those collections are still there. There was more discussion on the offset or increased costs between an 8 inch line going up to a 16 inch or 24 inch line, because of those funds you would still only pay the costs of an 8 inch line. Mr. Nicolard clarified that instead of the 32% assessment if the County does an assessment that would be at 100% to the property owners. Mayor Zita stated every project we do with OPWC a portion has to be assessed. Ms. Whipkey stated there have been comments as to who pays for what and no matter how you look at it, it's always the citizens that really pay for it. Mayor Zita stated it's all the citizen's money, and if there is not enough money in the General Fund then the residents will pay more. Mr. Nicolard stated this is all of your money, we don't make it and we don't grow it. We all pay the taxes, the money comes in and we disburse it as necessary. Mr. Conklin asked what is our bond obligations, and Mrs. Starosta replied if the Charter amendment were to pass we have special assessment bonds outstanding to the tune of about \$3.3 million. Mr. Conklin stated in addition to Police Department, road repairs, we also have to pull that \$3.3 million out of the General Fund. Ms. Whipkey asked if the outstanding bonds were geared for sewer and water; Mrs. Starosta stated they were special assessments and she believed they all were sewer and water. Mr. Conklin asked about cost estimates for pump station upgrades and enlarge the lines.

Mr. Ryland stated we have costs, and it's not included in the assessment, which are in his office. Mr. Conklin asked if \$500,000 would do it or several times that amount, and Mr. Ryland replied it's in the range of 1.2 million for the pump station and the tax credit reduction money was earmarked for trunk lines and such. Mr. Conklin asked if the County comes in to do Nash Heights that money from the loan on the agenda tonight could not be used to offset the costs to the residents? Mr. Ryland replied the OPWC money is geared only for Norton for Nash Heights, and we cannot transfer that funding over to the County and we have to do the project to use the funds. Mr. Pelot stated we already have limited services and our tax dollars are stretched thin. Where is the money going to come from, if we have to pay back 3.3 million from the General Fund, its got to be pulled from somewhere. Think about residents that already paid for water and sewer when they bought their homes, now you are telling them to pay again for someone else? Ms. Whipkey asked about the costs of the bonds and if that was a payment and what was it; Ms. Starosta replied it could be \$200,000.00/year. Ms. Whipkey stated there have been other issues with dollar amounts and that we have trouble finding \$200,000.00 and we talked about using that same amount for buying an old sewer line from the County. It's not like she is jumping for joy over the Charter Amendment as she has problems with, but she has a real problem when we were willing to spend \$200,000 for a line and now we are worried about \$200,000. Mr. Ryland clarified with the purchase of the county lines there would be a revenue stream coming in. Mr. Ryland stated that with a (ROI) Return of Investment, you at least get something back in. Ms. Whipkey pointed out we would also have the maintenance fee. Mayor Zita explained we pay them now and some residents that pay a maintenance fee, it goes to Summit County to be used wherever. Mayor Zita stated at least with the purchase we are keeping our own money within our City. Mr. Nicolard asked if the Charter amendment would pass, how does that affect our Bond Ratings? Ms. Starosta stated she could not say. Mr. Nicolard called again on how Council stands on this issue. Mr. McGlone stated that he is not in favor of this however, he understood that we had no choice on that legislation but to vote for putting it on the ballot. Mr. Pelot stated he opposes this amendment. Mr. Mowery stated he has three (3) upcoming meetings to go to and wants to see what the people have to say first. Mr. Conklin stated he is also with Mr. Mowery and there are a lot of questions to be asked and answered and this is a bit on the premature side. Mr. Nicolard stated he did speak with Mr. Bergstrom about this issue today and he is also opposed to Issue #1. Ms. Whipkey stated that she is not about to say either way., You stated that we would need \$200,000.00 annually to pay off the balance of the assessments, yet you want to spend \$200,000.00 on purchasing sewers, and she does not believe money is as desperately bad as what is portrayed she has seen these tactics used before. Mayor Zita stated that at the end of the day, you have been warned. Mr. Conklin asked how many projects and how long we would be paying on this? Mrs. Starosta replied that would be for all but they cover many years. Mr. Rick Rodgers, stated that he is tired of hearing these threats, and asked Mayor Zita if he really intends to cut out all of these services. Mayor Zita stated we will do whatever we have to do to make it work. Mr. Rodgers asked if the Fire dept. would be cut and Mayor Zita replied no because they are funded by a separate levy they are not paid out of the General Fund. Mr. Rodgers asked what did you do to the citizens of Norton to get that levy passed? You cancelled the night service.

Mr. Rodgers questioned how many Firefighters would have responded then if a call came out, the safety forces always respond. Mayor Zita stated they do not live here. Mr. Rodgers asked how many pump stations do we have now? Mr. Ryland stated that we don't own any. Mr. Rodgers asked if this issue passes, what pump stations will we be paying for since we don't have any? Are you going to start building the sewers if you don't even have enough money to run this City? There was discussion about the MS4 permit requirement and the mandate by the EPA. Mr. Rodgers and Mr. Ryland exchanged heated arguments as to what the order is and what is required for compliance. Mr. Rodgers pointed out the last line in the order it stated "repair or replace" but sewer lines were preferred. Mr. Ryland stated on lot systems can be put in, but not off lot discharging systems. Mr. Rodgers stated he saw a permit for an off lot septic system approved today for a church without a leach bed. Mr. Rodgers stated that Mr. Nicolard's comments are shameful as the only monies affected by the Charter Amendment is anything to do with the sewer issue and if we are not building sewers or borrowing money now we have no obligation now. As representatives you should fight this as long as possible. There are people in this community that will lose their homes if this passes, and Mayor Zita stated there is a distinct possibility of losing their homes if this passes. Mr. Rodgers stated that you all know what this is all about and this will pass and come November most of you will be gone. Mr. Pierson pointed out that ballot measures are presented to you and are required to place that on the ballot and Mr. McGlone's statement was correct. Mr. Pierson noted that in the Ohio Constitution Section 18.05 regarding sewer line purchases you do not have the right to use the emergency clause and it shall be subject to a referendum so you do not have the final say so. Mr. Pierson discussed what is the responsibility of 8 inch lines and that the resident is required for that cost. Mr. Pierson discussed the increase of a 16 inch line and Mayor Zita stated that extra size is responsibility of the City. Mr. Pierson replied that's not true, because that is what you are putting on the taxpayers. Mr. Pierson discussed the meeting their attorneys had with Mr. Pruitt and Mr. Pruitt stated not to blame him, the City was pushing it and maybe it would come out in a class action suit. Mr. Pierson asked who is paying for the package plants with the purchase from Summit County. Mr. Ryland stated we have nothing to do with the summit county fees on the monthly bills, we get nothing and we charge nothing. Mr. Pierson stated if we purchased this we would have to pay \$500,000.00 per year for several years until we get sewers in the Summit Road area. Mr. Pierson stated we are not under any order from the EPA to clean this up. Mr. Ryland clarified we are under an order to clean up the MS4 for surface water. Mr. Pierson stated you all allowed to permit substandard systems to be installed in the last few years. Mr. Ryland clarified the City did not allow this; those permits are issued by the County, not the City. Mr. Pierson stated that the County is contracted by the City of Norton. Mr. Ryland asked if the Summit County Health District told you that the City has asked them to allow for these temporary fixes. There was discussion about maintenance on septic systems and some residents that have not been maintaining them throughout the years. Mr. Ryland stated the best thing that could happen is for Council to sit back and do nothing and just wait until the EPA comes in and takes over and it will happen, then who will be at the podium. There was discussion about a drip system and now that is off the table Mr. Pierson questioned why?

Mr. Ryland replied this is a very expensive system and that requires monthly inspection at additional costs. Mr. Ryland stated that we had one resident that had applied for a permit and pulled back after finding out this expense. Mr. Nicolard reminded everyone we are only at Item C, and that this podium will not be used for political gain. Mr. Steve Fannin, discussed comments made by someone on Council earlier that this is how this process is to supposed to happen, to which he disagreed. Mr. Fannin asked what have you done since this issue has come about? You collectively have lengthy history on this issue and this is disingenuous and extortion to threaten these cuts and force this will upon the people. You act like this was forced on you, and we promised you if something was not done we would take it upon ourselves and do something with it. Mr. Fannin asked again, what have you done? Mr. William Paluch thanked Ms. Whipkey for having the nerve to bring in someone to get public television to the residents. Mr. Nicolard reminded Mr. Paluch that we are on subject about funding of Nash Heights not televised meetings. Mr. Paluch stated it seems like we have two (2) people here running like a Gestapo here. Mr. Paluch stated he has asked time and time about applying for grants and how much money has been brought in. Mr. Ryland stated that Mr. Paluch has been proven several times that we have applied for grant money and Mr. Ryland stated he has a real problem with Mr. Pierson and others standing there speaking half truths. When you stand there and openly lie he is not going to sit here and take that crap. Ms. Whipkey called a point of order and that the citizens have the right to speak and when he is done then you can yell at him. Mr. Ryland excused himself from the remainder of the meeting. Mr. Conklin recommended that since we can hold this funding for about a year without obligation, it's not in the best interest decline it, moved to accept the funding, seconded by Mr. Pelot.

Roll Call: Yeas: Conklin, Pelot, McGlone, Whipkey, Mowery, Nicolard
Nays: Whipkey

Motion passed 5-1.

MOU-Wadsworth & Summit Road Sewer Extension

Mr. Conklin asked to move to the next work session because Mr. Ryland has the details.

Dispose of City Property-Itemized Listing

Ms. Whipkey explained that we now have a detailed listing of all of the obsolete and unused items for destruction. This listing contains a lot of items in several departments that we have no use for and need to get rid of them. Some items can just be trashed and some items can be sold. Mr. Nicolard asked how we would get rid of this, on Ebay, or how? Mrs. Starosta stated she believed this would be clarified in wording of the legislation. Ms. Whipkey moved to place legislation on Councils next agenda, seconded by Mr. Pelot.

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

Motion passed 6-0.

Replacement Notes-Various Purposes

Mr. Nicolard turned this discussion over to Mrs. Starosta for the details. Mrs. Starosta stated that we have four (4) various notes that need to be renewed and turned the discussion over to Mrs. Starosta. Mrs. Starosta explained that these are due to mature on August 22, 2013, and that in order to give bond counsel enough time she is requesting we waive second and third readings and pass as an emergency and adopt this on June 24, 2013. Mrs. Starosta explained that each note would require a separate piece of legislation. Mr. Nicolard moved to place separate legislation on Councils next agenda for all four (4) notes with emergency language and waiving readings, seconded by Mr. Pelot.

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

Motion passed 6-0.

Unfinished Business:

Mr. Mowery wanted to clarify item C is being sent to Councils full agenda. Even if the money is there he wants to make sure that we are no strings attached to this.

New Business:

Mr. Mowery reminded everyone about the next two (2) town hall meetings and the Administration's PAC meeting is on Wednesday. Mr. Nicolard clarified this legally registered PAC is not the Administrations, however if they chose to attend, that is a plus. Ms. Whipkey noted that the Norton Health Advisory Board will also be having a meeting, same location and time. Mayor Zita read a press release about the closing of Van Hyning Bridge and other items (see attached) Mr. McGlone asked if these business owners have been notified, and Mayor Zita replied he was not sure since we just got the notice today.

Topics for the next Work Session:

Nothing at this time

Public Comment-Agenda and Non Agenda Items:

Mr. Rick Rodgers, 4034 Wadsworth Road, Norton, Ohio, asked if Mr. Ryland is required to attend this meeting and Mayor Zita replied he is normally here to answer questions. Mr. Rodgers stated that since Mr. Ryland left the meeting, he has impeded the action of Council by Mr. Conklin. Mr. Rodgers asked about the statements made by Mr. Ryland that he has applied for grants and would like to have a copy of what's been applied for. Mr. Rodgers asked for the Mayor to stop threatening the elderly citizens because that is not the case. If you cannot do your job then you should just step aside and let someone else take over. Mayor Zita stated that the reason he warned everyone is because when it does come for these cuts, he did not want to heart the residents say "well you did not tell us about the cuts".

Mr. Tom Kornas, 3771 Brookside Drive, Norton, Ohio, asked the Mayor about appointing a task force for the sewers. Mayor Zita stated he has no intention of setting up a task force at this time. Mr. Kornas asked why not, don't you think this would be a wise thing to do at this time? Mr. Kornas asked isn't someone else interested in stepping up and looking for all of these other opportunities. Mr. Kornas asked about replacing the position of Director of Community Development. Mayor Zita stated regardless of who we hire and how much we spend, without businesses being here, this is just setting us up for failure. Mr. Kornas asked then why did we hire him in the first place? Mayor Zita replied at that time we had the funds to support this position and the work involved. Mr. Kornas stated you don't have the money to do this, he does not have the money to do sewers? Mr. Kornas called this nothing more than blackmail with scaring the residents to death with the loss of safety forces, that is not the first thing you do. Mr. Nicolard asked if you have any idea how many employees have been laid off in the last four years. This Administration building and the Service Department are like a ghost town. We have been fiduciary responsible here we have laid off all of the people we can lay off. We are at the end here not at the beginning. We have not replaced people when they retire, and the Street Department is barely functioning.

Mr. Dennis Pierson, 3793 Easton Road, Norton, Ohio, commented about what happened in 9th District Court and that Mr. Paluch was denied his Mandamus action. Mr. Pierson noted that was not a lawsuit. Mr. Pierson discussed Mr. Funk's 22 page filing and those costs of about \$22,000.00 and the costs for streaming and we will spend more if this goes to the Supreme Court. Mr. Pierson stated we should just consider cutting our losses here and putting this on television. You really should seriously consider this presentation this evening.

Mr. Larry Perkins, 3844 S. Neitz Drive, Norton, Ohio, commented about Issue 1 (see attached).

Mr. Paluch, 3740 Shellhart Road, Norton, Ohio, stated his concern is you have a sewer project going on in a residential area. What you need to focus on is industrial areas to being in sewers. Mr. Paluch asked if anyone could use the park at Williams Park and put signs or banners there? Mr. Nicolard noted it any if the parks can be rented and used for weddings, reunions, etc. Mr. Nicolard stated you can't use political banners on City property. Mr. Paluch stated we waste so much money on legal fees, and we just sent out another check for \$16,000.00. Mr. Nicolard asked if the City sued Mr. Paluch, because he did not think so. Mr. Paluch stated that is what all of the residents wanted with the televised meetings.

Mr. Jason Sams, 3782 Long Drive, Norton, Ohio, stated that he is glad we do have citizens in this community who care. However we do have two (2) sides here, and he hopes that he would get his \$10,000.00 back he paid for sewers. Mr. Sams commented on the statements Mr. Ryland made to the press about laying off nine (9) Norton Police Officers, and that one of these officers is sitting here in this room.

Mr. Sams stated that he has concerns about a 25-year veteran serving this community and the potential of losing this employee. Mr. Sams stated the Norton Police Department has no opponent in this fight, we are here to serve the citizens of Norton. Mr. Sams stated we need to move forward and stop fighting within this City. We need to move on developing the seventy percent of this community that is underdeveloped.

Adjourn

There being no other business to come before the Committee Work Session, the meeting was adjourned at 9:39 AM

Don Nicolard, President of Council

NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE NOT VERBATIM

****ORIGINAL SIGNED AND APPROVED MINUTES ARE ON FILE WITH THE
CLERK OF COUNCIL****

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