



**NORTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 8, 2014**

Roll Call:	Scott Pelot	Also Present:
	Dennis McGlone	Mayor Mike Zita
	Danny Grether	Valerie Wax Carr
	Dennis Pierson-Absent	Ron Messner
	Paul Tousley	Justin Markey
	Charlotte Whipkey	Karla Richards
	Rick Rodgers	Ann Campbell

The Regular Council Meeting convened on Monday, December 8, 2014 at 7:00 PM, in the Council Chambers of the Safety Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Rick Rodgers President of Council, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent prayer.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Mr. Rodgers acknowledged Council's receipt of the November 2014 Budget Reports from Finance Director, Mr. Messner. Ms. Whipkey stated last week Mr. Messner addressed Council and had stated he expects Council to back up and support Administrative issues, and that she took offense to that. Ms. Whipkey stated she is an elected official and not what she was elected to do. This is something she feels she should be questioning issues and is supportive of the residents and their concerns.

Mr. Rodgers moved to add Ord. #111-2014 to tonight's agenda waving readings with emergency language, seconded by Mr. Pelot.

Roll Call: Yeas: Rodgers, Pelot, McGlone, Grether, Tousley, Whipkey
Nays: None

Motion passed 6-0.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC-Agenda and Non-Agenda Items

Mr. Robert Copen, 2518 Sue Lane, Norton, Ohio, spoke stating he has always been a proponent of the safety division and especially the Fire Department. Mr. Copen commented on all of the complaints about the costs of the new fire station and the building costs. If you want to blame someone for that blame the past administration for this, not the fire dept, employees. They did not ask for the new building or all of the benefits of the dispatch in the lower level of the building.

Mr. Copen asked why is Council questioning the Fire Chiefs budget when all other department regarding their budgets. Mr. Copen discussed the residents getting older and all of the code 628-Elderly assist and how often they are here to help us. Mr. Copen discussed all of the levels of EMT's and Paramedics, etc. Mr. Copen discussed the fact that you have all been told there would be a financial savings in the new structure. Mr. Copen discussed the improvements within the Fire Dept. in the response times. Mr. Copen asked how can you vote against the safety and security and don't play games with this.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of November 10, 2014, were approved as submitted.
Minutes of the Committee Work Session of November 17, 2014, were approved as submitted.
Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of November 24, 2014, were approved as submitted.
Minutes of the Committee Work Session of December 1, 2014, were deferred to 1-12-15.
Minutes of the Special Council Meeting of December 1, 2014, were approved as submitted.

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Mayor Zita had no reports.

PUBLIC HEARINGS-None

INTRODUCTION OF NEW LEGISLATION

ORD #105-2014

Mr. Rodgers offered Ord. #105-2014 for its first reading and asked the Clerk to read it:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A LETTER AGREEMENT WITH THE AUDITOR OF STATE TO PROVIDE AUDITING SERVICES TO THE CITY.

Mr. Rodgers moved to waive the second and third readings, seconded by Ms. Whipkey.

Roll Call: Yeas: Rodgers, Whipkey, Pelot, McGlone, Grether, Tousley
Nays: None

Motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Rodgers moved to adopt Ord. #105-2014, seconded by Ms. Whipkey. Ms. Whipkey noted we need this for our yearly audit and we are basically required to do this.

Roll Call: Yeas: Rodgers, Whipkey, Pelot, McGlone, Grether, Tousley
Nays: None

Motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Rodgers adjusted the agenda moving Ord. #106-2014 after Ord. #111-2014.

ORD# 107-2014

Ms. Whipkey offered Ord. #107-2014 for its first reading and asked the Clerk to read it:

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING CERTAIN CITY PROPERTIES AS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES AND AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER TO ADVERTISE THE PROPOSED SALE OF SAID PROPERTY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading only.

ORD #109-2014

Mr. Rodgers offered Ord. #109-2014 for its first reading and asked the Clerk to read it:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE TRANSFERS FROM THE GENERAL FUND FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2015 INTO VARIOUS FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Rodgers moved to waive the second and third readings, seconded by Mr. Grether. Mr. Rodgers stated this is something we have to do to transfer funds.

Roll Call: Yeas: Rodgers, Grether, Pelot, McGlone, Tousley, Whipkey
Nays: None

Motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Rodgers moved to adopt Ord. #109-2014, seconded by Mr. Grether.

Roll Call: Yeas: Rodgers, Grether, Pelot, McGlone, Tousley, Whipkey
Nays: None

Motion passed 6-0.

ORD #110-2014

Mr. Rodgers offered Ord. #110-2014 for its first reading and asked the Clerk to read it:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE ADVANCES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2015 FROM THE GENERAL FUND INTO VARIOUS FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Rodgers moved to waive the second and third readings, seconded by Mr. Pelot.

Roll Call: Yeas: Rodgers, Pelot, McGlone, Grether, Tousley, Whipkey
Nays: None

Motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Rodgers moved to adopt Ord. #110-2014, seconded by Mr. Pelot.

Roll Call: Yeas: Rodgers, Pelot, McGlone, Grether, Tousley, Whipkey
Nays: None

Motion passed 6-0.

****ADDED TO THE AGENDA**

ORD #111-2014

Mr. Rodgers offered Ord. #111-2014 for its first reading and asked the Clerk to read it:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE RENEWAL OF THE CITY'S AFSCME DENTAL LEVEL III PLAN, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Rodgers moved to waive the second and third readings, seconded by Ms. Whipkey. Mr. Rodgers stated this is the dental plan for the employees under the union contract. Mrs. Carr noted this covers all employees and should have been a part of the Health Care Plan and is something we had set aside until contract negotiations were under way.

Roll Call: Yeas: Rodgers, Whipkey, Pelot, McGlone, Grether, Tousley
Nays: None

Motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Rodgers moved to adopt Ord. #111-2014, seconded by Ms. Whipkey.

Roll Call: Yeas: Rodgers, Whipkey, Pelot, McGlone, Grether, Tousley
Nays: None

Motion passed 6-0.

INTRODUCTION OF PRIOR LEGISLATION

ORD. #101-2014

Mr. Rodgers offered Ord. #101-2014 for its third reading and asked the Clerk to read it:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH GLAUS, PYLE, SCHOMER, BURNS & DEHAVEN, INC., FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE DESIGN OF A SANITARY SEWER LINE ON CLEVELAND-MASSILLON ROAD, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Rodgers moved to adopt Ord. #101-2014, seconded by Mr. Pelot. Ms. Whipkey stated we have decided this will not really affect the residential streets and the residents will not be required to tie into these new sewer lines and Mrs. Carr concurred. Mrs. Carr noted we are looking at taking both routes, either under the railroad or along side of the street. Mr. Tousley stated he is hesitant on this but can support just a study; he just does not like putting anything down the streets. Ms. Whipkey agreed adding that she wanted to keep control.

Mr. Pelot stated that's what this study is for; it's to determine what's the best avenue to take. Ms. Whipkey stated that she has received several concerns from the residents on this issue.

Roll Call: Yeas: Rodgers, Pelot, McGlone, Grether, Tousley, Whipkey
Nays: None

Motion passed 6-0.

ORD #106-2014

Mr. Rodgers offered Ord. #106-2014 for its first reading and asked the Clerk to read it:

THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF NORTON FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2015, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Rodgers moved to waive the second and third readings, seconded by Mr. Pelot. Ms. Whipkey stated we had issues with some positions and asked if those have been removed, and Mr. Rodgers concurred that the Economic Development and Assistant Finance Direction. Ms. Whipkey stated she believed that also includes the eight (8) new full time Fire Department employees, and that we already have three (3) full time and questioned of the Assistant Fire Chief position. Mr. Markey stated the salary has been proposed and the official appointment would come to Council. Ms. Whipkey stated she has received several complaints from the residents and questioned if the eight (8) includes the Assistant Fire Chief and Mrs. Carr replied that position is part of the total ten (10). Chief Schultz arrived midway during the conversation. Mrs. Carr asked what concerns the residents are expressing and Mrs. Whipkey replied they don't want full time employees and Mrs. Carr asked even if they understood there is a savings and we are not asking for additional levy money. Ms. Whipkey stated with these eight (8) they are under part time union and then once they are hired they would be part of the full time union. Mrs. Carr stated this whole union thing is way overstated, and the concerns expressed are all things that are being negotiated currently. Ms. Whipkey asked if we have health care under the part-timers, and Mrs. Carr replied no. Chief Schultz stated the part time union will not represent the full time union. Ms. Whipkey asked if the part time union can renegotiate what the full time unions? Ms. Whipkey stated that she was worried with the pay rate change and that it could take away the savings. Mrs. Carr stated they have a binding contract and nothing can change here and they know full well what the ranges are before they sign up for the positions. Mr. McGlone stated one reason he understood we were having problems with holidays and weekends. Chief Schultz stated that was correct in addition to every day. There are some shifts we have to fill and at nights we are down to three (3) employees on one shift. Ms. Whipkey discussed the part timers are not paid overtime until they have reached their forty (40) hours and Chief Schultz replied yes. Chief Schultz explained that with three (3) guys on straight time the guy with the lowest hours gets it and the same with those already under overtime. Mr. Tousley asked what constitutes part time hours and Chief Schultz stated up to thirty-six (36) hours. Mr. Tousley asked how you get away with this being part time and they are considered volunteer and Chief Schultz stated that they do not pay into pension until they become full time.

Mrs. Carr explained under the ACA employees who work under twenty-nine (29) hours have the right to health care and right now the City has not been tested on that. We still have another year, we may fail that test and we will have to offer benefits to part timers. Chief Schultz commented about with the overtime issues even he and Capt. Copen have been called in to cover shifts. Chief Schultz stated that we do have an absenteeism policy here and this is not abused and Mr. Rodgers recalled in the past there was a situation with that where this was addressed. Mr. Tousley asked Chief to explain the new eight (8) positions. Chief Schultz stated if you have a full staff and then someone calls off, you still have six (6) and if two (2) call off you still have four (4). Chief Schultz stated Saturday was a prime example because our guys were really beat up, we had about eight (8) or nine (9) calls at one time. As of last week we have surpassed the highest call volume we ever had from 2010. Mr. Rodgers stated that with that many calls you're going to be out for one (1) or two (2) hours and Chief Schultz concurred. When we get one call, we can be sure several more are coming next. Mrs. Carr commented about the ISO ratings and Chief Schulz explained this in more detail. Chief Schultz stated that just this week he submitted a \$200,000.00 grant application to replace some of our equipment. Mrs. Carr noted that our ratings can truly affect each household. Mr. Tousley asked what insurance do you bill, homeowners or health care? Chief Schultz stated that it's billed to their medical health care. Mr. Grether asked if we bill for other communities do they also bill our residents if they respond and Chief Schultz replied yes. Mr. Rodgers asked why if we are paying the levy why do we still get billed? Chief Schultz stated if it was not for that billing the tax levy amount would be much higher. We have a good collection process here and we really don't have an issue at this time. Mr. Rodgers stated that the levy does not completely support the department and Chief Schultz concurred and noted that most every community operates this same way. Ms. Whipkey appreciated Chief Schultz for coming down as some of us have received residents concerns. Chief Schultz stated this has spent over a year and a half of crunching the numbers and we have worked very hard on this and we don't spend these funds wildly. Ms. Whipkey stated that by hiring these eight (8) full timers, they will be on a very short leash with us. Mr. Tousley noted there was an earlier comment that we are picking on the Fire Dept, We are not picking on them, their department is the one with the biggest change and we want to make sure it's done right. Mr. Grether discussed the two (2) positions being removed from this budget. Mr. Grether made it clear this does not make it any less important in moving this City forward and we need to continue to move on this. Without the right tools in place he is not sure how we can make this happen. Mr. Grether stated the community development has to happen for this community. It was said our residents keep getting older, so we will just continue to tax them more and more until we can get something moving forward. Mr. Grether commented on the lack of a succession plan and the ones that will truly suffer are those below and ultimately that's the residents. Ms. Whipkey agreed with Mr. Tousley's comments; however she noted that it's been stated until we have the sewer and water improvements, there won't be any economic development and this is like putting the cart before the horse. Mr. Rodgers stated we all pay taxes and the fire and Ems are the best things you have going for you. A lot of other communities don't have this. With a full time department you have someone available at all hours of the day or night. With adding the full time we are saving over \$114,000.00 a year and the savings here is one of the good things for the residents.

Roll Call: Yeas: Rodgers, Pelot, McGlone, Grether, Tousley, Whipkey
Nays: None

Motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Rodgers moved to adopt Ord. #106-2014, seconded by Mr. Pelot.

Roll Call: Yeas: Rodgers, Pelot, McGlone, Grether, Tousley, Whipkey
Nays: None

Motion passed 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Grether noted this is our last meeting for this year; it's been a learning experience and thanked all of Council for their help.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mrs. Carr noted all of Council should have the letters of intention from Barberton and Copley for the expense for the watershed study and the little farms. Ms. Whipkey stated she understood the Copley Trustees have signed their legislation, and questioned where is Barberton on their legislation? Mrs. Carr stated this is in the budget for Barberton and Mayor Judge has the authority to spend up to \$50,000.00. Ms. Whipkey stated that Barberton is holding a meeting this Sat. 10-2 and any Norton, Copley or Barberton resident can attend. Ms. Whipkey noted there will be petitions at this meeting and warned the residents to clearly know that if you sign this petition and they have enough signatures you will not get to vote on this. Mr. Tousley discussed the continued need for the residents to maintain septic systems and asked for links for the website.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Zita announced several announcements (see attached).

PUBLIC UPDATES

Mr. Rodgers announced that Council will be on Christmas break until the Organizational Meeting will be Monday January 5, 2015 at 6:30 PM.

ADJOURN

There being no other business to come before the Regular Council Meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Rick Rodgers, President of Council

I, Karla Richards, CMC-Clerk of Council for the City of Norton, do hereby certify that the foregoing minutes were approved at a Regular Council Meeting held on January 2, 2015.

Karla Richards, CMC-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.**



It's not the fanciest accessory.
 Nor the most expensive.
 But to someone in need of lifesaving blood,
 it's the most important.

Blood Drive Norton Community Center

Meeting Room
 4060 Columbia Woods Drive
 Norton, OH 44203

Friday, January 02, 2015
2:00 PM to 7:00 PM



Scan to schedule
 an appointment.

Please visit www.redcrossblood.org and use the Sponsor Code: Norton
 to make your appointment today!



**Come to give Dec 24 through Jan 4 for a Red Cross holiday
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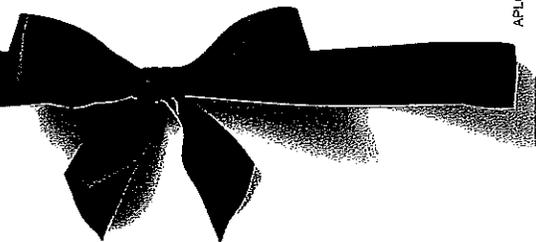
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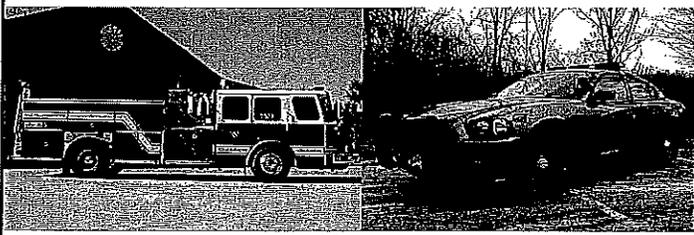


Introducing a NEW convenient way to schedule your donations
 and receive reminders: The Red Cross Blood Donor App.

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SAFETY FORCES FOOD DRIVE



NORTON POLICE & FIRE

will be collecting non-perishable
food donations for local area families.

Saturday, December 13 • 11 am to 5 pm

Sunday, December 14 • 10 am to 3 pm

Drop Items off at  Parking Lot.

I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN PRO FIRE DEPT. HAVING BEEN A MEDIC FOR 30 YEARS AND A GOOD MANY OF THEM AS A LIEUT ON OUR DEPT.

THERE HAS BEEN ALL KIND OF TALK ABOUT THE FIRE STATION. COST,, SIZE , YOU NAME IT.. IF YOU WANT TO BLAME SOMEONE ,, BLAME THE PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE DIRECTOR. AS THEY DIRECTED THE ARCHITECT.. AND CONTROLLED THE BUILDING OF IT ...

THE DEPT DIDN'T NEED A COMMAND CENTER IN CASE OF A DISASTER.--- BUT THEY GOT ONE. .. THEY DIDN'T NEED A COMMUNACATIONS CENTER-. TORONADO-DISASTER PROOF WHICH IS SELF CONTAINED. BUT AGAIN THEY GOT ONE.. THE CITY NEEDED THESE THINGS... ALL AT THE COST OF THE FIRE DEPT LEVY AND THE FIRE DEPT. SO DON'T BLAME THEM FOR THINGS THE CITY DID IN THEIR NAME.

I QUESTION.... WHY YOU QUESTION THE CHIEF'S BUDGET,... THE FINANCE DIRECTOR WENT OVER IT, THE SAME AS HE DID ALL DEPTS ,, YET YOU ONLY QUESTION THEIR BUDGET

I QUESTION YOU AND YOUR CONCERN OF WHAT YOUR CONSTITUANTS WANT..... THEY WANT TO FEEL SAFE AND SECURE..?

THE FIRE DEPT HAS FIGURED OUT HOW TO DO THIS BETTER AND STILL BE WITHIN THEIR BUDGET, AND STILL SAVE MONEY OVER PRIVOUS YEARS...

AS SOME OF YOU STATED WE ARE ALL GETTING OLDER. SOME NEEDING EMS QUITE OFTEN FOR ASSISTANCE..... I REMEMBER THE DEPT WITH 4 MEDICS TOTAL.. MOST CALLS GOT STRAIGHT EMT'A'S NO MEDIC... IF THEY NEEDED A MEDIC THEY HAD TO CALL FOR ONE, AND HOPE ONE COULD RESPOND. NOW YOU GET A LEAST ONE EVERY TIME AS ONLY 3 MEN ON THE DEPT ARE NONE MEDICS....

UNDER THE PRESENT SYSTEM YOU HAVE BEEN TOLD ITS NOT WORKING...

THE FIRE SERVICE HAD CHANGED DRASTICLY. I REMEMBER RESPONDING WITH ONE MAN ON THE PUMP AND ONE MAN ON THE HOSE WITH MORE COMING.. NOW DUE TO STANDARDS BEING RAISED IT TAKES 4 MEN TO RESPOND , BUT NOT TO GO INSIDE OF A FIRE . MR RODGERS CAN TELL YOU,, YOU DON'T FIGHT FIRES FROM OUTSIDE OR AT A DISTANCE ...A RICK TEAM MUST BE ON HAND TO ENTER A STRUCTURE.. OUR DEPT VIOLATES THIS STANDARD WHEN EVER IT HAS TO TO SERVICE THIS CITY AND OUR PEOPLE TO THE BEST OF THEIR ABILITY.....

..

THE DEPT HAS EVOLVED INTO ONE OF THE BEST, WELL TRAINED DEPTS IN THE STATE WITH A VERY LOW RESPONES TIME.....

HOW CAN ANY OF YOU VOTE AGAINST OUR SAFETY AND SECURITY,, AND STILL SAY YOUR VOTING THE CONCERNS OF YOUR CONSTITUANTS..... I DON'T THINK ANY OF THEM WANT LESS SERVICEESPECIALY WHEN THIS. COULD BE DONE WITH NO INCREASE IN COST TO THEM..

I HOPE THE NEWS MEDIA GETS IT RIGHT IN THEIR PAPER OF THOSE
WHO VOTE AGAINST OUR SAFETY AND SECURITY... AND THOSE WHO
REALLY CARE ABOUT THE PEOPLE.

WHEN SOME OF YOU STOOD ON THIS SIDE OF THE RAILING YOU
REMINDED COUNCIL THAT THEY WERE VOTED INTO THEIR JOB..AND
COULD BE REPLACED... I NOW REMIND YOU OF THE SAME THING...
. DON'T PLAY GAMES WITH OUR SAFETY AND SECURITY