

**October 16, 2019**

The Norton City Council met in regular session Wednesday, October 16, 2019, at 5:30 p.m., with Mayor Jim Miller presiding. Council members present were Jerry Jones, Dennis Gilhousen, Robert Bowman, Gerald Jones, Donna Foley, and Ron Briery. Others present were Damen Andrew, Cameron Archer, Kyle Jones, Donna Liddle, Dean Liddle, Cynthia Cullumber, Gerry Cullumber, Jody Enfield, Karen Griffiths, James Moreau, and Darla Ellis. Damen Andrew gave the invocation, and then left the meeting.

Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Robert Bowman to approve the October 2, 2019, city council meeting minutes. Vote taken. Motion carried.

The following building permits were presented:

Scott Beutler - \$ 9,000 – Reroofing at 109 N. Wabash  
Ted Hull - \$ 900 – Construct deck at 509 N. State  
Brenda Sanders - \$ 2,200 – Construct deck at 506 Home  
Anise Gill - \$ 5,000 – Construct dwelling addition at 508 E. Wilton  
Valley Hope Assoc. - \$ 2,600 – Install temporary storage pods at 103 S. Wabash

Donna Liddle reported the Goodwill truck is in Norton again through October 30. She also announced a ribbon cutting will be held for Cottonwood Trail in Elmwood Park on Friday, October 25 at 6 p.m.

Fire Chief Cameron Archer reported both Unit 15 and Unit 10 were taken to Hays for pump testing and both passed.

City Attorney Karen Griffiths stated there is an outstanding loan with the City of Norton Revolving Loan Fund. According to the Plan adopted by the City Council, Norton Development Corporation administers the Revolving Loan Fund. A meeting will be held on October 18<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m. to discuss the future administration of the Revolving Loan Fund, and to get a report on the status of the delinquent loan fund.

Karen Griffiths stated a meeting with the Norton County Commissioners will be held on October 28<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. in the County Commissioner's room at the Courthouse, to discuss the Rescue Services agreement. A joint Finance and Public Safety Committee meeting was scheduled for Monday, October 21 with the Fire Chief at 4 p.m. Karen also stated she has been working with the Police Chief regarding abandoned vehicles.

City Administrator James Moreau reported the south side of the 500 block of W. Waverly has been poured. The City will start tearing out the curb and gutter on W. Washington Street between Graves & Brown in the near future. James also reported on a smoke alarm program offered through the State Fire Marshall.

Motion was made by Gerald Jones and seconded by Donna Foley to authorize staff to advertise for a journeyman lineman position in the electric distribution department. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Ron Briery asked about the Airport Board selling an airport hangar. Karen Griffiths stated it is her recommendation that it is advertised for sealed bid and sold to the highest bidder.

Jerry Jones reported the Parks Committee heard a request from the Norton Horse Council to add 2 additional pens to the arena area in the northeast corner in Elmwood Park. They will still be inside of the 250' x 250' tract of land allotted to them in their agreement with the City. Reva Benien also updated the Committee on the fund-raising status for the pool playground equipment. Another Park Committee meeting will be held October 30 at 5:00 p.m. with the Recreation Commission and baseball representatives.

Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Gerald Jones to transfer \$41,233.35 from the Special Pool Sales Tax Fund to the General Fund, to cover the deficit for the 2019 pool season.

Robert Bowman reported the Public Works Committee met and discussed trash and recyclable pick up. The Landfill is requesting that all recyclables are put in a clear or blue bag in the future. The Committee discussed whether to require a clear or blue bag or apply for a grant to purchase blue tubs for residents to use. The Committee also discussed having a City employee present when contractors put a street back after opening it for repairs, to insure that everything is put back correctly.

Currently, the term for newly elected officers begins on the second Monday in January. Senate Bill 105 authorizes a city take action to set the start date anytime on or after December 1 following certification of the election, but no later than the second Monday in January. Motion was made by Jerry Jones and seconded by Dennis Gilhousen to change the official start date to the first council meeting in January. Vote taken. Motion carried 5-1 with Ron Briery voting no.

Motion was made by Dennis Gilhousen and seconded by Robert Bowman to approve Appropriating Ordinance #20 as a whole. Vote taken. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ron Briery to adjourn. Council adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Mayor: \_\_\_\_\_  
James L. Miller