

**GALAX CITY COUNCIL**

**Minutes**

**April 9, 2007**

The Galax City Council convened in regular session on April 9, 2007 at 7:30pm. The meeting was called to order in the courtroom of the WHS Public Safety Building with all councilpersons being present and they are as listed: Robert Lazo, Robert Kirby, John Garner, C. M. Mitchell, Willie Greene, Derrick Davis and Helen Kyle.

Councilman Greene prayed the opening prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Councilman Garner motioned to approve the minutes as written and to dispense with the reading of said minutes. Councilman Greene seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

This was the date and time duly advertised for a joint public hearing with the Planning Commission to receive comments on a rezoning request, from the RAGA Corporation, for a parcel of land at 205 Cranberry Road (Tax Parcel 20-9). The request is to change the zoning from B-1 to B-2 to allow for the construction of a hotel.

Ron Catron, chairman of the Planning Commission, outlined the requirements necessary to make the change and advised that the applicant offers a proffer to the application which states that the sole purpose of the request is for hotel construction and if for some reason the hotel isn't built then the zoning will revert back to B-1.

Nick Patel from the RAGA Corporation gave an overview of the project and advised that construction is scheduled to begin in August and completion will take 10-12 months.

The public hearing was declared open with the following Planning Commission members being present and they are as listed: Ron Catron, Roger Martin, Jim Adams and Derrick Davis. Anne Vaughan, Allan Funk and Ruth Hall were absent from the meeting.

Jessica Wilson, an adjoining property owner, expressed her concerns as they relate to safety issues (ingress and egress), drainage and the height of the building.

Mr. Patel stated that he is aware of the concerns and that each of her concerns is being addressed.

With no additional comments, the hearing was declared closed.

Mr. Martin motioned to approve the rezoning request from B-1 to B-2 and to include the proffer. Mr. Adams offered a second to the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Following a discussion, Councilman Greene motioned to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation to rezone the land at 205 Cranberry Road to B-2 for the construction of a hotel. Councilwoman Kyle seconded the motion. Councilman Garner

asked for clarification on street ownership. That being answered, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mrs. Irene Turner, secretary of the Electoral Board, addressed Council with a request for a resolution to a request to move the May local election to the November general election. On April 14, 2003 a motion was made and approved by Galax City Council to develop an ordinance for adoption to enact the change. The ordinance apparently was not developed.

Stacey Reavis, General Registrar, discussed the process in making the changes if it is decided that the changes are in the best interest of the City.

Following a discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of enacting the changes, Councilman Garner motioned to rescind the previous act of Council as related to moving the local election to November. Councilman Greene seconded the motion. A yea vote was tendered by Councilpersons Lazo, Garner, Mitchell, Greene and Kyle. Councilpersons Davis and Kirby tendered a nay vote.

Susan Clark, Director of Social Services, was present at tonight's meeting to discuss Child Abuse and to present a proclamation recognizing April as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Councilman Davis motioned to adopt said proclamation. Councilman Kirby offered a second to the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Council members set April 16 at 7pm for a joint meeting with the School Board.


Councilman Kirby motioned to advertise a public hearing for April 23 to receive comments on the 2007-08 Galax City School Budget. Councilwoman Kyle seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

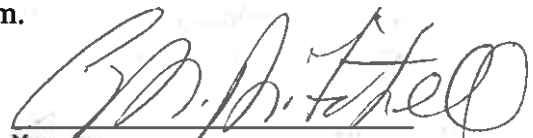
Councilman Kirby motioned to advertise a public hearing for April 23 to consider acceptance of proposal for bridge financing for the Galax High School renovations.

A Council work session on strategic planning was set for April 26, 6pm.

Mayor Mitchell announced plans for a reception in honor of City Manager Holland and his family on April 27, 2007.

With no further business to come before Council, the meeting was unanimously adjourned on a motion by Councilman Lazo at 8:40pm.

  
Clerk

  
Mayor