

## **GALAX CITY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes**

**January 28, 2008**

The Galax City Council convened in Council Chambers on January 28, 2008 at 7:30pm. The meeting was called to order by the mayor with all councilpersons being present and they are as listed: Robert Lazo, Robert Kirby, John Garner, C. M. Mitchell, Willie Greene, Derrrick Davis and Helen Kyle.

Councilwoman Kyle prayed the opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance followed the prayer.

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

Councilman Garner motioned to set February 11, 2008 as the date for a public hearing to receive comments on an ARC Grant application for \$26,000 to purchase police vehicles. Councilman Davis seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

City Manager Holland announced that the City has received a new Enterprise Zone designation, which encompasses a larger boundary than the original zone. The boundaries now include industrial and commercial property, which can also benefit from the incentives offered through this designation. Mr. Holland outlined some of the state and local incentives and stated that this new zone is important to economic development in the city.

Mr. Holland advised that the interviews for the Chestnut Creek School of the Arts director are progressing and he is looking forward to having the director employed by the end of February.

Assistant City Manager Barker gave a detailed update on the Regional Broadband Project "the Wired Road". A discussion ensued following his presentation.

Mr. Barker discussed the Downtown Revitalization Façade Improvement project. He advised that eleven applications have been received. Following a preliminary inspection on the buildings, the applications will be forwarded to the project architect and then the work and budget process for each project will begin. He is hopeful that the projects will be underway within the next two to three months.

Councilman Garner asked for an update on the propane gas tank barrier project. Mr. Barker advised that the project is going well with very good cooperation.

City Manager Holland advised that he had received a request from the judges and clerk of court for the city's General District Court to have a courtroom security assessment done with no charge to the city. Councilman Kirby motioned to approve the court security

assessment. Councilman Greene offered a second and the motion was unanimously approved.

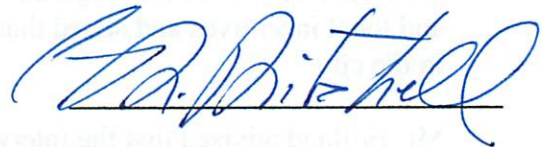
Police Chief Clark presented his annual report and introduced each police officer individually. Following his presentation, Mayor Mitchell thanked him and all the officers for the very professional manner in which they represent the department and the city.

At 8:45pm, Councilman Davis motioned to go into executive session as authorized in the Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3711A.1 to discuss candidates for employment; the assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, discipline, salaries, compensation or resignation of employees and Section 2.2-3711 A.3 – Acquisition of real property for public purpose; the disposition of government owned property where public discussion would jeopardize the County's or Town's bargaining or negotiating position Councilman Kirby seconded the motion.

Councilman Garner motioned to return to regular session. Councilwoman Kyle seconded the motion. A Certificate of Executive Session is made a part of these minutes.

No action was taken.

With no further business to come before Council, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:55 pm.



Mayor



Clerk

**CERTIFICATION RESOLUTION  
CLOSED MEETING**

**WHEREAS, this Board convened in a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote on the motion to close the meeting to discuss prospective or expansion of business or industry where no previous public announcement has been made in accordance with Section 2.2-3711(A)(3) and Section 2.2-3711A.1 to discuss candidates for employment; the assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, discipline, salaries, compensation or resignation of employees of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act;**

**WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the City Council that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;**

**NOW, therefore be it resolved that City Council hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were heard, discussed or considered in the closed meeting to which this certification applies; and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting to which this certification applies.**

Upon motion by Councilmember Davis seconded by Councilmember Kirby.

Before a vote is taken on this resolution, is there any member who believes that there was a departure from the requirements of number (1) or Number (2)? If so, identify yourself and state the substance of the matter and why in your judgment it was a departure.

Subject matter \_\_\_\_\_

Departure \_\_\_\_\_

Hearing no statement or statements, I call the question.

Ayes: Councilpersons Lazo, Kirby, Garner, Mitchell, Greene, Davis and Kyle

Nays: None

This Certification Resolution was adopted January 28, 2008.

Clerk/City Manager

