

Galax City Council

Minutes

July 11, 2016

Galax City Council convened in regular session in City Council Chambers on July 11, 2016, at 7:30 pm.

At 7:30 p.m. Mayor Mitchell called the meeting to order with the following Council persons present and they are as listed: Mayor Mitchell, Vice Mayor Greene, Councilman Garner, Councilwoman Crouse, Councilwoman Plichta, Councilman Davis, and Councilman Helmick.

Councilman Garner prayed the opening prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Judge J. D. Bolt presented the oath of office to re-elected Council members, Sharon Plichta, William L. Davis, Jr. and newly elected Council member, Ches Helmick. Mayor Mitchell thanked Judge Bolt for taking part in the Council meeting and congratulated the Council members.

Keith Barker announced that every two years after a May election, council members elect and vote for the position of Mayor and Vice Mayor. Mr. Barker called for nominations from Council for the appointment of Mayor. Councilman Davis made the motion to appoint C.M. Mitchell to another term as mayor. Councilman Helmick made the motion to appoint Willie Greene as Mayor. Councilman Garner seconded Councilman Davis' motion to appoint Mr. Mitchell as Mayor. Councilwoman Crouse seconded Councilman Helmick's motion to appoint Mr. Greene as Mayor. Mayor Mitchell was re-appointed after receiving the following votes: Councilwoman Crouse, Councilman Davis, Councilman Garner, Councilwoman Plichta, and Mayor Mitchell. The votes for Vice Mayor Greene included: Councilman Helmick, and Vice Mayor Greene.

Mayor Mitchell called for nominations from Council for the appointment of Vice Mayor. Councilman Garner made the motion to appoint Vice Mayor Greene. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion. Vice Mayor Greene was re-appointed after receiving the following votes: Mayor Mitchell, Vice Mayor Greene, Councilman Garner, Councilwoman Crouse, Councilwoman Plichta, Councilman Davis, and Councilman Helmick.

Councilwoman Crouse made the motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on June 13, 2016, Vice Mayor Greene seconded the motion. Vice Mayor Greene made the motion to approve the minutes for the called meeting on June 28, 2016, Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and both were unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Davis – yea, and Councilman Helmick – yea.

Mayor Mitchell announced this was the date for the Public Hearing for the FY2016 Budget Amendment. Judy Taylor-Gallimore said while we were closing out the current budget, there were revenue and expenditure line items that needed to be adjusted to reflect overall changes in the budget. She said the changes represented an amount greater than 1% of the current budget, the

reason the public hearing was required and proceeded to give an explanation of the changes. Mayor Mitchell opened the floor for public comments. There were none. Mayor Mitchell declared the public hearing closed. Councilman Helmick made the motion to approve the budget amendment. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Davis – yea, and Councilman Helmick – yea.

Mayor Mitchell announced this was the date for the Public Hearing for a zoning request for 1123 E. Stuart Drive. Mayor Mitchell explained that owner Brad Lineberry had submitted a zoning request to change the zoning for 1123 E. Stuart Drive from R-1 Low Density Residential to B-2 General Business. The intent was to relocate Access Home Health Care and Rehabilitation to this location. The Planning Commission had a public hearing on July 5, 2016 and recommended that City Council approve the rezoning as requested. Mayor Mitchell opened the floor for public comments. Brad Lineberry spoke briefly about his plans for the home health business and how he hoped for the business to be a positive impact on our community. He said the business had brought 39 jobs to the area in two years. Mayor Mitchell declared the public hearing closed when there were no other comments. Councilwoman Plichta made the motion to approve the zoning request for Mr. Lineberry. Vice Mayor Greene seconded the motion and it was approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, and Councilman Helmick – yea. Councilman Davis abstained.

This was the date set for City Council to appropriate the City of Galax FY2017 Budget which was approved at the June 13, 2016 meeting. The FY2017 Budget amounts are:

- General Fund Budget (including DSS) - \$17,683,617
- Utility Fund Budget - \$ 3,147,790

Vice Mayor Greene made the motion to appropriate the City of Galax FY2017 Budget. Councilman Davis seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Davis – yea, and Councilman Helmick – yea.

Mayor Mitchell announced that this was the date set for City Council to appropriate the City of Galax FY2017 Galax School Budget which was approved at the May 9, 2016 meeting. He noted that the FY2017 Galax School Budget amount was \$15,385,491 with \$3,946,823 in local operating funds and \$461,834 in current debt service. Vice Mayor Greene made the motion to appropriate the City of Galax FY2017 Galax School Budget. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Davis – yea, and Councilman Helmick – yea.

Keith Barker asked Council's consideration concerning the Bond Anticipation Note for the loan funds for design work at the Waste Water Treatment Facility. He said this was the \$600,000 line

item called out in the proposed utility budget. Mr. Barker explained Council conducted a public hearing at the June 13 meeting. He said all paperwork would be signed on July 12 and recorded at that time. He closed by saying that the loan was through Grayson National Bank and the interest rate was 1.25% for the term. Councilwoman Crouse made the motion to approve the Bond Anticipation Note Ordinance. Councilman Davis seconded the motion and it was approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Davis – yea, Councilman Helmick abstained due to a conflict with his employment.

Keith Barker asked Council's consideration concerning the Revenue Anticipation Note, Ordinance Approval. He explained these funds would be used for the Rt. 58 Reserve Blvd. Project, our FY2017 road paving, and the Galax Schools support. The Revenue Anticipation Note (RAN) for \$1,500,000 did not require a public hearing due to the limited term on the note (less than 1 year). All paperwork would be signed on July 12 and recorded at that time. He said the loan was through Grayson National Bank and the interest rate was 1% for the term. Councilman Garner made the motion to approve the Revenue Anticipation Note. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Davis – yea. Councilman Helmick abstained due to a conflict with his employment.

Finance Director Judy Taylor-Gallimore spoke briefly concerning the delinquent taxpayer list as of June 30, 2016. Council was asked to consider approving the list as submitted for publication in the Gazette. Ms. Taylor-Gallimore explained we would amend the list to reflect any additional payments received prior to the ad going to the paper. Councilwoman Crouse made the motion to authorize the publication of the delinquent taxpayer list. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Davis – yea, and Councilman Helmick – yea.

Mayor Mitchell asked Council to consider a District III reappointment of Councilman Garner and alternate who was currently City Manager, Keith Barker. Vice Mayor Greene made the motion to reappoint Councilman Garner and Keith Barker as the alternate. Councilman Helmick seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Davis – yea, and Councilman Helmick – yea.

Keith Barker requested Council to approve solid waste hauler requests for 2016-17 from JDM, Grayson County, Waste Industries and Waste Management to continue to provide solid waste dumpster service in Galax. He said fees quoted for the current haulers would remain the same, and all haulers were in compliance with the City Code. Councilwoman Plichta made the motion to approve the requests. Vice Mayor Greene seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Davis – yea, and Councilman Helmick – yea.

Mayor Mitchell announced there was a request for an appointment to the Ninth District Development Financing Inc. Board of Directors (People, Inc.). Ms. Janet Nuckolls served as the Galax appointment and resigned her seat in May. The board only meets one time a year to consider applications and other applications are considered by conference call. The appointment could be made from Council, from staff or from an interested citizen. The appointment could be as an indefinite term or as Council wishes. Keith Barker announced if no council members wished to serve, he was willing to serve in that role. Councilwoman Plichta made the motion to appoint Keith Barker to an indefinite term to the board. Vice Mayor Greene seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Davis – yea, and Councilman Helmick – yea.

Mayor Mitchell asked if there were any visitors who would like to speak. Ms. Josepha Thompson, a friend of Vice Mayor Greene & Mrs. Greene spoke briefly on how she had recently moved to our area and how pleased she was with our area.

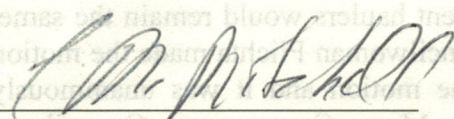
At 8:15 p.m. a motion was made by Councilwoman Crouse to enter into closed session under the following Codes of Virginia:

Prospective Business or Industry, § 2.2-3711.A.5 of the Code of Virginia - Discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community.

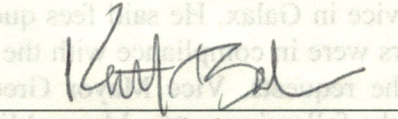
Vice Mayor Greene seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Davis – yea, and Councilman Helmick – yea.

At 8:35 p.m. Council reconvened in open session. Mayor Mitchell certified that no items other than those allowed under the cited Virginia code section were discussed and no action was taken, with the following affirmation: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Davis – yea, and Councilman Helmick – yea.

ADJOURNMENT at 8:35 p.m.



Mayor



Clerk