

GALAX CITY COUNCIL

Minutes

January 12, 2009

The Galax City Council convened in regular session in Council Chambers on January 12, 2009 at 7:30pm. The following councilpersons were present and they are as listed: Robert Lazo, Sharon Plichta, John Garner, C. M. Mitchell, and Bill Webb. Councilmen Davis and Greene were absent from the meeting.

Mayor Mitchell presented a resolution in recognition of the retirement of Sam Cook, Galax City School Superintendent. Councilman Webb motioned to adopt the resolution as presented. Councilwoman Plichta offered a second to the motion and it was unanimously approved. Mr. Cook was present for the presentation.

Mayor Mitchell recognized Elden Burris who has recently retired from the Galax Grayson Emergency Medical Service.

At 7:53pm, Mayor Mitchell called the meeting to order and prayed the opening prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance followed the prayer.

Councilwoman Plichta motioned to dispense with reading the minutes of the last meeting and to approve them as written. Councilman Garner seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

This was the date and time advertised for a public hearing to receive comments on amendments to the City Charter. The hearing was declared open. No comments were received and the hearing was closed. Councilwoman Plichta motioned to approve/ accept the proposed changes to Chapters 4 and 16 as presented. Councilman Garner seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a yea vote of Councilpersons Plichta, Garner, Mitchell and Webb. Councilman Lazo had been briefly called away from the meeting with a telephone call and was absent from the room when the vote was taken.

Councilman Lazo returned to Chambers for the next item of business.

City Manager Holland advised that the Planning Commission recommends approval to subdivide a parcel of land along Stanley Drive. James and Karen Williams have requested that the parcel be subdivided so that they can construct a duplex and a spec house. Councilman Lazo motioned to approve the recommendation and allow them to go forward with the project. Councilman Webb seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Councilwoman Plichta motioned to enter into a contract with architect Doug Williams for work related to the Veterans Memorial to be constructed at the Galax Public Library. On a second by Councilman Garner, the motion was unanimously approved.

Councilwoman Plichta motioned to approve a contract with Spectrum Design for architectural and engineering work for the Visitors Center. Councilman Webb seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Councilman Garner motioned to approve a resolution certifying that City Manager Holland has the authority to execute a contract between South End Construction and the city for renovations to Chestnut Creek School of the Arts. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Councilman Webb motioned to approve a resolution appropriating funds for Galax Future to purchase a parcel of land adjacent to the Hampton property in the amount of \$20,250.66. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and was unanimously approved.

John Aldridge from the city's auditing firm, Brown Edwards & Company, presented the FY 08 independent audit and financial report. He reported no findings or irregularities.

Councilman Garner motioned to purchase 3 parcels of land adjoining the closed landfill on Bedsaul Hollow Road in the amount of \$58,000.00. Councilwoman Plichta offered a second to the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Councilwoman Plichta motioned to adopt an Emergency Operations Plan, name the city manager as the emergency operations director and adopt the National Incident Management System. Councilman Garner seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

On a motion by Councilman Garner, a second by Councilman Lazo and unanimous approval the following documents were approved to satisfy requirements for a DHCD grant of \$300,000 for broadband extension: **HUD Section 504 Grievance Procedure; Fair Housing Resolution; Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Plan; Local Business and Employment Plan, Fair Housing Certification, Non-Discrimination Policy and HUD Handicapped Regulations.**

On a motion by Councilwoman Plichta and a second by Councilman Webb, Tim Lewis was unanimously appointed to serve a term on the Mt Rogers Community Mental Health and Mental Retardation Board.

Liza Sutherland was unanimously appointed to serve an unexpired term on the Galax Social Services Board. The term will end August 2010. The motion was tendered by Councilman Lazo and seconded by Councilwoman Plichta.

Roger Martin was unanimously appointed to a short term on the Planning Commission on a motion by Councilman Garner and a second by Councilwoman Plichta. The term will end in June 2009.

Mr. Holland advised that two terms on the Galax City School Board will expire in June. He outlined the procedures for advertising the vacancies and making the appointments. Councilwoman Plichta motioned to authorize the city manager to advertise the term expirations. Councilman Lazo seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.


Councilwoman Plichta motioned to adopt the budget calendar for 2009-10 as presented. Councilman Lazo seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

At 8:28pm, Councilman Webb motioned to convene in an Executive Session as authorized in the Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3711A.1-Personnel Matter

Councilman Webb motioned to return to regular session. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

The Certification of Executive Session is made a part of these minutes.

At 8:35pm the meeting was unanimously adjourned.



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 Sections 2.2-3711 A.1 – Personnel Matter

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 Webb seconded by Councilmember Plichta

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 _____ N/A _____

Departure _____ N/A _____

Hearing no statement or statements, I call the question.

Ayes: Councilpersons Garner, Plichta, Mitchell, Lazo, and Webb

Nays: None

This Certification Resolution was adopted January 12, 2009.



Clerk/City Manager