

GALAX CITY COUNCIL  
Minutes  
March 7, 2011

Galax City Council re-convened in regular session at Crossroads Institute on March 7, 2011 at 6:30 pm. This was a continuation of the February 28m 2011 City Council Meeting.

At 6:30 p.m. David Hutchins, Vice Chairman of BRCEDA called the joint meeting between Galax City Council, the Carroll County Board of Supervisors and the Grayson County Board of Supervisors to order. Mayor Mitchell called Galax City Council to order with the following council persons present and they are as listed: Councilman Lazo, Councilwoman Plichta, Councilman Garner, Vice-Mayor Greene, and Councilwoman Crouse. Councilman Webb was absent. This meeting was also called to order by the Carroll County Board of Supervisors and the Grayson County Board of Supervisors as a joint meeting for discussion of the regional Wildwood Project.

Sam Dickson prayed the opening prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ken McFadyen, Director of BRCEDA, gave an overview of the proposed Wildwood Project. Information was presented showing the parcel location, proximity to Interstate 77, a conceptual mega-site layout, funding received to date and potential debt service for each locality in regards to the project. Mr. McFadyen stressed to each governing body present that this property and possible project has been reviewed by VEDP and other state economic development groups and found to be a valid project.

Jim Cornwell, City Attorney, gave an overview of the *Resolution of City Council of the City of Galax Approving Moral Obligation Support Agreement for Blue Ridge Crossroads Economic Development Authority Concerning Financing of Wildwood Commerce Park Project (Resolution)* and the *Moral Obligation Support Agreement Concerning Bank Financing of Wildwood Park Project – Initial Phase (Support)*.

The Resolution, if approved by each jurisdiction, provides the means by which BRCEDA can proceed with obtaining financing for the project through the Support document. Mr. Cornwell noted that the total request for financing and fees is \$5.5MM, which will require an annual payment of approximately \$120,000 by each member jurisdiction. John Garner questioned what fees are covered and Shaun Rai of Virginia Community Capital said it would be standard fees based on a loan and real estate transaction. Mr. Cornwell said that BRCEDA would consider the Support document at their next regular meeting provided the Resolution was approved by each jurisdiction.

Dr. Lazo asked what type of industries would be targeted. Ken McFadyen gave information on a target analysis and said that industry sectors would be food processing, wood, auto, and Information Technology/Professional Services. He also noted that he is currently working with Tom Elliott of A-Corridor to refine industries we would recruit. Mr. Elliott spoke on the need to have product for recruitment, which Wildwood will provide.

David Hutchins spoke and noted that this project was essentially about jobs for our region.

Chairman Larry Bartlett presented the resolution to the Grayson County Board of Supervisors where it was unanimously approved.

Chairman Tom Littrell presented the Resolution to the Carroll County Board of Supervisors where it was unanimously approved.

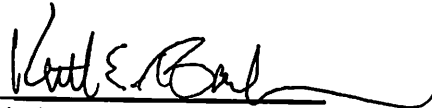
Mayor C. M. Mitchell asked the members of City Council to consider the Resolution as presented. Vice Mayor Willie Greene made the motion to approve the *Resolution of City Council of the City of Galax Approving Moral Obligation Support Agreement for Blue Ridge Crossroads Economic Development Authority Concerning Financing of Wildwood Commerce Park Project*. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lazo. Mayor Mitchell spoke before the vote and noted that this is the most important item we have undertaken for our citizens and he wanted to thank everyone for their work on this matter. He noted it may take some time to come to fruition; however it is an opportunity for our region. With no further comments, the motion unanimously passed by the following votes: Councilman Lazo – yea, Councilwoman Plichta - yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, and Councilwoman Crouse-yea.

David Hutchins noted that BRCEDA will consider the matter at its March 16, 2011 meeting. Virginia Community Capital’s loan committee will consider the loan at its March 17, 2011 meeting.

Carroll County Board of Supervisors closed their meeting.

Grayson county Board of Supervisors closed their meeting.

At 7:45 pm Councilman Garner motioned for the meeting to be adjourned until Council’s next regular meeting. The motion and it unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo - yea, Councilwoman Plichta - yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, and Councilwoman Crouse-yea.

  
Clerk

  
Mayor