

GALAX CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
April 14, 2003

The Galax City Council convened in the courtroom of the WHS Public Safety building on April 14, 2003. The meeting was called order by the mayor at 7:30 pm. The following council persons were present and they are as listed: Odell Hamden, Sharon Plichta, C. M. Mitchell, Willie Greene, George Valdez and Johnny Lemons. *Councilman McCarter was absent.

Councilman Lemons offered the opening prayer which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilwoman Plichta motioned to dispense with the reading of the minutes and to approve them as distributed. Councilman Greene seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Councilman Hamden stated that he had received enthusiastic applause for the large item pick up.

This was the date and time duly advertised for a joint public hearing to receive comments on the request to rezone a lot from R1 to General Business. This lot is located in the Taylorwood area. Members of the Planning Commission present were C. M. Mitchell, Jim Adams, Roger Martin and Ron Catron. Absent were Dan Rector, Anne Vaughan and Darlene Coleman.

Mr. Catron outlined the request and explained the rezoning process. He then called on Tim and Kim Kinser who are requesting the rezoning. Mr. and Mrs. Kinser outlined their proposed project which is a beauty shop that will start out with four hair stations, and three nail stations.

*Councilman McCarter arrived at 7:41pm.

Mr. Catron opened the public hearing. There were several Taylorwood residents present for the hearing. Janice Kurtz and Dorothy Lovelady each stated reasons why the lot should not be rezoned. Following their comments the public hearing was closed.

This was the date and time advertised to fill an unexpired term on the Galax City School Board. The following persons expressed an interest in being appointed to fill the unexpired term and they are as listed: James Matney, James Adams, Lamar Hebert, Chris Saunders and Jan Galyen. Each candidate gave a brief statement as to why he/she wants to serve on the board.

A vacancy to fill an unexpired term on the IDA had been advertised. No name was presented for consideration so the appointment will be carried over.

Mr. Dan Adams representing American Electric Power was present at

tonight's meeting to offer a bid of \$500.00 for a franchise to sell electrical service to the city. With no other bids received, Councilman Lemons motioned to approve the ordinance of franchise for twenty years renewable in five year increments. Councilman McCarter offered a second to the motion and it was unanimously approved.

On a motion by Councilman McCarter and a second by Councilman Greene and unanimous approval, City Manager Campbell was authorized to advertise a public hearing to be held at the next Council meeting on next year's school budget. Local funding in the amount of \$3,371,307 is requested. That total is \$128,000.00 more than last year's request.

Susan Clark, local director of Social Services, was present at tonight's meeting to recognize April as **Child Abuse Prevention Month**.

Irene Turner, vice chairman of the City's Electoral Board, requested that the May local election be moved to the November general election. This is addressed by the Code of Virginia. Following a discussion, Councilman Hamden motioned to develop for adoption an ordinance to enact the change. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. This change would take effect in November of 2004.

City Manager Campbell discussed an addendum to Adams-Heath Engineering Contract for the Hampton property on the west end of the City. This property is being jointly developed with Grayson County for an industrial park. The addendum covers the final regulatory approval, E&S and permits and bidding and construction inspection. Councilman Lemons motioned to approve the addendum and Councilman Greene offered a second to the motion. Following a discussion, the motion received unanimous approval.

Police Chief Clark advised Council that the grant funding for the School Resource Officer would not be renewed for next year. He believes that this is a very important area of the police department. A discussion ensued.

City Manager Campbell advised that the New River Trail Extension project will get underway on May 1st.

Councilman McCarter motioned to convene an executive session as authorized in the Code of Virginia § 2.2-3711(A)(1) - Interviews with prospective candidates for appointment to the Galax School Board. The motion was seconded and received unanimous approval at 8:40pm.

Councilman Greene motioned to return to regular session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Valdez and it received unanimous approval.

The Certification of Executive Session is made a part of these

minutes.

On a motion by Councilman Hamden and a second, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 10:20pm.



Mayor

Daniel J. Campbell
Clerk



MOTION: Councilman McCarter

CODE SECTION: 2.2-3711(A)(1)

SECOND: Councilman Greene

MEETING DATE: April 14, 2003

CERTIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE MEETING

WHEREAS, the City Council of Galax has convened an executive meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, § 2.1-344.1 of the code of Virginia requires a certification by this Galax City Council that such executive meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Galax City Council hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the executive meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the executive meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Galax City Council.

VOTE

AYES: Councilpersons, Hamden, McCarter, Plichta, Mitchell, Greene, Valdez, Lemons

NAYS: None
(For each nay vote, the substance of the departure from the requirements of the Act should be described)

ABSENT DURING VOTE: None

ABSENT DURING MEETING: None

Danielle T. Campbell
Clerk of Galax City Council

