

GALAX CITY COUNCIL

Minutes

April 23, 2012

Galax City Council convened in regular session in City Council Chambers on April 23, 2012 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, Councilman Webb, Councilwoman Crouse, Councilwoman Plichta, and Councilman Lazo.

Mayor Mitchell prayed the opening prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Webb motioned to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on April 9, 2012. Councilwoman Crouse seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice-Mayor Greene –yea, Councilman Garner –yea, Councilman Webb-yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta- yea, and Councilman Lazo–yea.

Tom Jones, Chairman of the Twin County Regional Airport updated council on the construction projects taking place at the TCRA and spoke on the possibility of seeking funding for a new terminal building. Council previously agreed to provide funding for the expansion projects involving grading, hangers and the commercial hanger building. Mr. Jones informed council on the next phase of the project regarding replacement of the terminal building and possible funding opportunities. Mr. Jones asked for City Council's support to submit the application and plans for review to the Virginia Department of Aviation. He explained that if VDA approves the project and funding he will come back to Council at a later date for formal approval of the funding. Keith Barker explained that the city's current draft FY2013 budget has this portion of the debt service included in the TCRA funding. Councilman Garner motioned to endorse the Twin County Regional Airport Commissions application and submittal of plans to the Virginia Department of Aviation for a new terminal building. 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, Councilman Webb-yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta- yea, and Councilman Lazo–yea.

Tourism Director Ray Kohl played the music video "*Pretty Little Girl From Galax*", recently shot in Galax.

Susan Clark, Director of the Galax Department of Social Services, presented information to City Council concerning programs offered by the Galax Dept. of Social Services, as well as recent recognition they have received.

Debbie Robinson showed a video featuring HoustonFest and spoke on the upcoming event on May 4 & 5 at Felts Park.

Keith Barker updated council on the Glendale Road Project, reminding them that when they elected to reduce the scale of the Glendale Road project, the remaining funds were permitted to move to additional 6-year improvement projects in Galax. These included the Rt. 58/ E Stuart Drive lighting Improvement Project, Opticom, Downtown Traffic Signals, LED Traffic Lights, Rt. 89 Bridge Improvements and most recently the Meadow/Shaw Street Stormwater Improvement Project.

Another project that was created was the Sidewalk Improvement Project with approximately \$1.2MM in funds set towards the construction costs. This project was set as a placeholder so that VDOT would not remove uncommitted funds from the 6-year projects. He explained that he met with Public Works Director Charlie Joyce and the city's VDOT rep to look at this project but also a larger maintenance project on Rt. 58/Reserve Blvd. This portion of Rt. 58 was not paved when the city did the large revenue sharing project on E. Stuart Drive with VDOT approximately 4 years ago and it remains one of the largest paving projects at over \$1MM. He explained that with the scale of paving needs, and other items such as guardrail improvements and tree removal along this route, this needs to become a priority project in the 6-year projects. VDOT has verified that the route would be eligible for the funds and the VDOT rep that visited agreed to the need of the project. In regards to a sidewalk improvement project, he stated that the city is eligible for VDOT Traffic Enhancement funds and can begin a series of applications that could possibly begin to address those needs through a series of applications. City Council was asked to set a public hearing to add the project to the city's 6-year improvement plans. Councilman Webb motioned to May 14 as a date for the public hearing to add the Route 58/Reserve Blvd Safety Improvement Project to the city's 6-year plan. 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, Councilman Webb-yea, Councilwoman Crouse - yea, Councilwoman Plichta- yea, and Councilman Lazo-yea.

Keith Barker informed council that the New River/Mount Rogers WIB has notified staff that the term of Mr. Greg Adkins, VP of HR Management at Consolidated Glass, who serves on the board as a representative for Galax City Business, is set to expire on June 30, 2012. Mr. Adkins has expressed his desire to remain on the board for an additional 3 year term. Councilman Webb motioned to reappoint Mr. Adkins to the New River/Mt Rogers Workforce Investment Board for the term of July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2015. Councilwoman Crouse seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice-Mayor Greene -yea, Councilman Garner -yea, Councilman Webb-yea, Councilwoman Crouse - yea, Councilwoman Plichta- yea, and Councilman Lazo-yea.

Keith Barker informed council that the Mount Rogers Planning District Commission has requested that Charlie Joyce, Public Works Director be reappointed to the Transportation Rural Technical Committee. He has served the past 2 years and they request he serve another 2 year term until December 31, 2013. They also requested an alternate be named for him. Councilwoman Plichta motioned to reappoint Mr. Joyce to the MRPDC Transportation Rural Technical Committee and Mike Woodel as his alternate. Councilman Webb seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice-Mayor Greene -yea, Councilman Garner -yea, Councilman Webb-yea, Councilwoman Crouse - yea, Councilwoman Plichta- yea, and Councilman Lazo-yea.

Keith Barker informed council that Bob Wilson' term on the BZA expires in June 2012. Staff will begin the advertisement process for citizens interested in serving on the BZA. No action was required of City Council at this time.

Keith Barker updated council of the Labor and Material Costs for Spring Cleanup. A report on the cleanup was presented for information only. Almost 45 tons of trash and items were removed during the cleanup.

Council was invited to the Galax Theatre Guild & Carol Waddell Stage ribbon cutting and grand opening concert on Saturday, April 28th from 4pm – 6pm with a concert by One Foot on Earth.

HEARING OF VISITORS

At the time of the preparation of the agenda, no one has requested to appear before Council, but you may want to allow any citizen that so wishes to address Council with no action taken until the issue can be placed on the agenda for a future meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

None Scheduled

Council adjourned at 8:40 p.m.



Clerk



Mayor