GALAX CITY COUNCIL Minutes December 8, 2008

The Galax City Council convened in Council Chambers on December 8, 2008, at 7:30pm. In the absence of the Mayor, Vice Mayor Greene called the meeting to order with the following councilpersons present and they are as listed: Robert Lazo, John Garner, Sharon Plichta, Willie Greene, Derrick Davis and Bill Webb. C. M. Mitchell was absent from the meeting.

Councilman Davis prayed the opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

This was the date and time advertised for a public hearing on proposed changes to the City Charter. The City Attorney was to be present for the hearing but advised that he was detained by another meeting. The hearing was suspended until Attorney Cornwell arrived.

On a motion by Councilwoman Plichta and a second by Councilman Webb, Council unanimously approved a ten-year loan for the Fiber Optic Project in the amount of \$260,000 at 3.76% interest from BB&T Bank.

Councilman Garner motioned to appoint Jane Patton to the Chestnut Creek School of the Arts Board. Councilman Davis seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Following discussion on replacing a fire truck, Councilman Garner motioned to accept the recommendation from the fire department that C. W. Williams Company of Rocky Mount, NC is the sole source for the Rosenbauer truck. Councilman Davis seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

A resolution authorizing Chief Clark to administer a \$30,000 Homeland Security Grant was presented for approval. Councilman Webb motioned to accept and adopt the resolution as presented. Councilman Garner seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

A Mutual Aid Agreement for the City of Galax, Carroll County and Grayson County was discussed. Councilwoman Plichta motioned to approve the Agreement as presented. Councilman Lazo seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Council discussed a joint meeting with the School Board set for December 18. Due to conflicts, another date will be set.

Chuck Riedhammer invited Council to a press conference to hear results of the Economic Impact Assessment survey that was done for the Crooked Road.

Mr. Cornwell was still detained, but Council returned to the Charter public hearing. A lengthy discussion ensued. Councilman Garner motioned to submit to the General

Assembly the proposed changes except Chapter 4 and Chapter 16, which need further clarification from Attorney Cornwell. The motion carried on the following roll call vote, which was requested by Councilman Webb.

Aye Nay
Davis Webb
Greene
Garner
Plichta
Lazo

City Manager Holland listed the names of those who received the Douglas Wilder VCU Award for Virginia Excellence in Local Government. He and Todd Christensen were among those honored for their involvement with the Crooked Road.

At 8:40pm, Councilman Garner motioned to go into Executive Session as authorized in the Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3711 A.3 – Acquisition of real property for public purpose; the disposition of government owned property where public discussion would jeopardize the county's or town's bargaining or negotiating position. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Councilman Garner motioned to return to regular session. Councilman Webb offered a second to the motion and it was unanimously approved.

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

The Askells

With no further business to come before Council, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.

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.3 – Acquisition of real property for pbulic purposes; the disposition of government owned property whree public discussion would jeopardize the county's or town's bargaining or negotiating position.

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 Garner.

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 stateme	ent or statements, I call the question.
Ayes: Councilpers	ons Garner, Plichta, Lazo, Greene, Davis and Webb
Nays: None	
This Certification	Resolution was adopted December 8, 2008

Clerk/City Manager

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