

Galax City Council

Minutes

January 23, 2017

Galax City Council convened in regular session in City Council Chambers on January 23, 2017 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, Councilwoman Crouse, Councilwoman Plichta, Councilman Davis, and Councilman Helmick.

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

Vice Mayor Greene made the motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on January 9, 2016. Councilwoman Crouse seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Davis – yea, and Councilman Helmick.

Keith Barker addressed Council regarding possible ordinance revisions in yard sale signage. Mr. Barker explained that he met with the committee of Councilwoman Crouse, Councilman Helmick, and himself, on January 18 and discussed possible revisions. He told Council that prior to producing a final draft and having our attorney review it, they wanted to seek input from the remaining Council concerning the proposed changes. The proposed changes included:

- a. Permitting directional signage to a yard sale using our snow priority streets as the determination of where signs can go. Basically up to three (3) directional signs would be permitted, which from our review would get someone from most major routes to the street where a yard sale is conducted.
- b. Directional signage must include the homeowners address and dates of the sale.
- c. Signs must be removed by 6:00 PM on the last day of the sale.
- d. Signs may not be attached to utility poles.
- e. The maximum sign size is 18" x 24".
- f. Sign removal would be the responsibility of the Police Department or other staff person as directed by the City Manager.

Mr. Barker had spoken to our Finance staff and said they could generate a report each Thursday for the Police Department to be able to verify approved yard sales and signage. He had also spoken to Chief Clark and he would work with his staff to implement the new changes. The intent would be to modify the current yard sale paperwork given with each permit so that changes would be fully explained and a street listing would be provided. Mr. Barker closed by saying if Council was satisfied with the proposed changes, he would work with our Attorney to amend the code as required and bring back a final draft at a future Council meeting. Vice Mayor Greene made the motion to hold the proposed changes over until the next meeting. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Davis – yea, and Councilman Helmick.

Corbin Stone with Robinson Farmer Cox was present and reviewed the FY2016 audit with City Council.

Keith Barker reminded Council of a joint meeting with Galax School Board, February 13, 2017 @ 6:00 p.m. He said the meeting was regarding a presentation from Davenport & Company concerning possible funding solutions for the proposed Galax Elementary School renovations. Mr. Barker said Davenport had worked with many jurisdictions in southwest Virginia over the years to assist with funding solutions for schools and other municipal projects.

Mayor Mitchell asked if there were any public comments, and there were none.

At 8:10 p.m. a motion was made by Councilwoman Crouse to enter into closed session under the following Codes of Virginia:

Prospective Business or Industry, § 2.2-3711.A.5 of the Code of Virginia - Discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community.

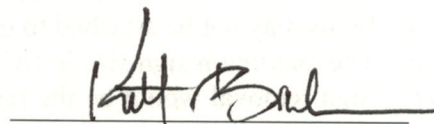
Vice Mayor Greene seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Davis – yea, and Councilman Helmick – yea.

At 8:47 p.m. Council reconvened in open session. Mayor Mitchell certified that no items other than those allowed under the cited Virginia code section were discussed and no action was taken, with the following affirmation: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Davis – yea, and Councilman Helmick – yea.

ADJOURNMENT at 8:50 p.m.



Mayor



Clerk