

GALAX CITY COUNCIL

Minutes

April 24, 2006

The Galax City Council convened in regular session in the courtroom of the WHS Public Safety Building on April 24, 2006 at 7:30pm. The meeting was called to order by the mayor with all council persons being present and they are as listed: Robert Lazo, Robert Kirby, Sharon Plichta, C. M. Mitchell, Willie Greene, George Valdez and Helen Kyle.

Members of the Planning Commission present are as listed: Ron Catron, Allan Funk, Sharon Plichta, Jim Adams and Ruth Hall. Roger Martin and Anne Vaughan were absent from the meeting.

Councilman Kirby prayed the opening prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Mitchell opened the Public Hearing on the proposed 2006-07 Galax City Schools Budget. A brief explanation of proposed revenues was provided. No comments were received and the Hearing was declared closed. Mayor Mitchell noted that the School Budget would be approved at the next meeting of City Council.

Mayor Mitchell called upon Ron Catron, Chairman of the Galax Planning Commission, to conduct Joint Public Hearings on three (3) requests.

Ron Catron outlined the review process to be taken for the requests and stated that no decision would be made at tonight's meeting. He stated that the proper advertisement and notification requirements had been met.

Mr. Catron discussed the request of Marlene Williamson and Peggy Hall to re-zone the property at 146 Camp Zion Road from R-1 Low Density Residential to R-2 Medium Density residential in order to allow conversion of the residence to a duplex. The petitioners were not present and no comments were received when the Public Hearing was opened. The hearing was closed.

Mr. Catron opened the Public Hearing on the request of Thomas Jennings, Jr. Mr. Jennings requests re-zoning property at 503 Givens Street to M-1 Light Industry. He stated that he had bought the property in order to construct a radiator shop, a business that he has been in for many years. He also stated that he did not know that the property would require re-zoning when he purchased it. Sidney Beamer, pastor of the church next door to the subject property, stated that he and the members of his church were against the re-zoning. Their concerns resulted from chemicals that would be on site and also traffic problems. The hearing was closed.

Ron Catron opened the Public Hearing on the request of Rhonda O. Dixon to re-zone 103 McCamet Drive from M-2 Heavy Industry to R-2 Medium Density Residential. Glen Dixon, Jr. was present representing the property owners. Keith Barker, Zoning Administrator, stated that two letters had been received expressing objections to the re-

zoning. Copies of these letters, from Turman Hardwood and Ronnie McGrady, were distributed and discussed. It was also noted that the lot was too small for the R-2 designation. The hearing was closed.


Mr. Catron stated that the Planning Commission would meet on Wednesday at 5:30pm to discuss each request and that recommendations would be made at the next City Council meeting. He indicated that interested parties are encouraged to attend the Wednesday meeting.

Charles Huff and Jerry Gallimore, Citizens Telephone, presented their plans for installation of a redundant, alternative fiber optic broadband access in the City. They discussed the installation route and indicated that Citizens would address any concerns of the City. It was noted that most of the installation would be on existing above ground poles. City Council members asked numerous questions and satisfactory answers were provided by Mr. Huff and Mr. Gallimore.

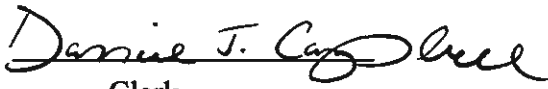
Councilman Greene was recommended for appointment to the VML Policy Committee, Human Development and Education.

Councilman Lazo discussed festival funding stating that it was the consensus of City Council to provide \$10,000 annually to support the five (5) major festivals currently planned in the City. Each festival would receive \$2,000. Ron Passmore expressed appreciation for the financial support.

On a motion by Councilperson Plichta the meeting was adjourned at 8: 15.pm.



Mayor



Clerk