

GALAX CITY COUNCIL

Minutes

March 11, 2013

Galax City Council convened in regular session in City Council Chambers on March 11, 2013 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.

Councilman Garner prayed the opening prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Webb motioned to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on February 25, 2013. Councilwoman Plichta 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, Councilwoman Plichta, and Councilman Lazo-yea.

On February 25, 2013, City Council interviewed candidates for appointment to the Galax School Board. The following citizens submitted letters of interest for the two seats up for appointment:

- Dr. James Adams
- Jason Jordan
- Stewart Merdian

City Council was asked to make two (2) appointments at this meeting. The terms are for 3 years, beginning July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2016. Mayor Mitchell asked that each councilmember place their vote for each school board candidate. Stewart Merdian received 7 votes, James Adams received 6 votes, and Jason Jordan received 1 vote. Mayor Mitchell recognized Stewart Merdian and James Adams as being reappointed to the Galax City School Board for the term beginning July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2016.

Keith Barker informed council that as part of the new stormwater regulations being mandated by the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), the City must develop a Storm Water Management Program and begin enforcing stormwater regulations, reviewing plans and issuing permits in July 2014. DCR has mandated that part of the process is to submit a draft ordinance and a staffing/funding plan to them by April 1, 2013 to show that the City is making "substantive progress" toward development of the SWM program. With this submittal, DCR will allow an extension for submitting the final version of the SWM Program from the enacted legal due date of June 13, 2013. The Storm Water Management ACT as approved by the legislature greatly underestimated the timeframe necessary for development of the SWM Program and this time extension is being offered to all localities in the State. Council was provided a draft stormwater ordinance, staffing/funding plan, and draft letter to DCR. Mr. Barker asked that Council approve this, however, this is not the final ordinance or plan. Staff will continue to develop and finalize the SWM Program and bring that back for presentation to Council later this year. The submittal at this time is to obtain the time extension for the final SWM Program submittal date.

Councilwoman Plichta motioned to approve the draft letter, ordinance and staffing plan for submittal to DCR. 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, Councilwoman Plichta, and Councilman Lazo-yea.

Currently Councilman Garner serves as the appointed representative for the New River/ Mount Rogers Workforce Investment Area Consortium Board. Councilman Webb is the alternate. Council was asked reappoint these positions or appoint others from Council or staff.

Councilman Webb motioned to reappoint Councilman Garner as the representative to the New River/ Mount Rogers Workforce Investment Area Consortium Board. 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, Councilwoman Plichta, and Councilman Lazo-yea. Vice-mayor Greene motioned to reappoint Councilman Webb as the alternate. Councilwoman Plichta 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, Councilwoman Plichta, and Councilman Lazo-yea.

Keith Barker informed council that Laura Romanowski, Executive Director for the Arts & Cultural Council of the Twin Counties, has requested that the City consider providing \$1000 in funding for additional work at the Carroll Waddell Stage. The funding would assist in purchasing material to construct permanent seating in front of the stage. The seating would be a dry-stacked stone bench in an arc, in between the stage and some smaller wooden benches built into the hillside. The benches would be of a density and quality to resist movement and damage and would provide seating for 80 – 100 spectators. Mr. David Hauslohner will provide all the labor and equipment valued at approximately \$1000. The project could start in April or May. If City Council wished to fund the project, funds can be provided from the Building Maintenance line item (10.4106.6007) in the budget. City Council deferred this to the next council meeting and asked the Arts Council to provide additional information in regards to the overall plan, fundraising, and if additional funds were solicited from other sources than the City.

Keith Barker informed council that Edwin Ward, City Engineer, has been working with DEQ and the city's environmental attorney over the last few months which has resulted in the city is no longer under a Consent Decree from EPA. This is a decree the city has been under for 10 years and set the terms of compliance for the Capacity Management Operations & Maintenance (CMOM) Program. No action was required of City Council.

Keith Barker informed council that Russell Archambault has tentatively scheduled March 25, 2013 to speak concerning the Retail Market Analysis the city had performed. In order to accommodate Mr. Archambault's presentation during City Council, Mr. Barker asked that council consider meeting 30 minutes earlier to have this presentation prior to our regular meeting. The presentation is open to the public. After a brief discussion it was agreed that council will meet on April 8 at 7pm. No other action was taken at this time.

Council adjourned at 8:15 pm.


Mayor


Clerk