

**GALAX CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES  
November 27, 2000**

Galax City Council convened in regular session on November 27, 2000, in the courtroom of the WHS Public Safety Building. The meeting was called to order by the mayor at 7:40 p.m. All members of council were present and they are as listed: C. M. Mitchell, Glenn Wilson, Odell Hamden, Van McCarter, Bill Dickerson, Willie Greene and Johnny Lemons.

Councilman Wilson motioned to dispense with reading the minutes of the last meeting and to approve them as distributed. Councilman McCarter seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

City Manager Campbell gave a brief summary of the proposed Vehicle License Fees Ordinance. The first reading of said ordinance was held at the last council meeting. Councilman Lemons motioned to adopt the proposed ordinance as presented. Councilman Wilson seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Mayor Mitchell advised that he would abstain from discussion and voting on the Conditional Use Permit application from the Life Center.

Zack Kyle, city zoning administrator, reported that the Planning Commission had met and approved the request for a Conditional Use Permit for the Life Center of Galax. Conditions of the approval would be a yearly review of the permit and a referral to the Transportation and Safety Committee for consideration of the traffic problems. Following a discussion, Councilman Hamden motioned to approve the permit. Councilman McCarter seconded the motion. Councilmen Hamden, McCarter, Dickerson, Greene and Lemons each tendered a yea vote. Councilmen Mitchell and Wilson abstained.

City Manager Campbell discussed legal infractions relating to problems with Star Cab operations. Following a discussion of the problems and consequences Councilman Hamden motioned to suspend the certificate to operate a taxi service until such time the infractions are corrected. Councilman Dickerson seconded the motion. Another discussion ensued. Councilmen Hamden, McCarter, Mitchell, Dickerson, Greene and Lemons each offered a yea vote. Councilman Wilson opposed.

City Manager Campbell advised that the Taxi Operator application had been received from Steven Redd. Following a discussion, Mr. Redd asked to address Council. He stated that he would like to withdraw his application to set up a taxi service in the city. Because of ordinance requirements, he felt that he could not financially operate a service in the city and that he had established a service outside the city limits. Following a discussion, Councilman Hamden suggested that the ordinance regulating taxi service be reviewed.

Following discussion of the Transportation Safety Commission's report and specific discussion of #4 which relates to making Center Street from Rex Lane to Depot Avenue two-way, Councilman Lemons motioned to accept the report and to make said portion of Center Street two-way. Councilman Hamden seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Mr. Lemons referred to item #7 of the report which outlines a visability problem. Perhaps further consideration of removing a sign would help solve the problem.

Mr. Campbell discussed contract negotiations with VML concerning a request in the amount of \$2,731. This is the required amount for VML to further negotiate with American Electric Power. Following a discussion, Councilman Lemons motioned to carry over the request for two weeks. Councilman Hamden seconded the motion and it received unanimous approval.

Mr. Campbell advised that Mark Fackrell is working out of town and can no longer serve on the Board of Zoning Appeals. He requested that Council give consideration for a replacement for Mr. Fackrell on the BAZ.

Council was reminded of the intergovernmental meeting on Thursday night and the tree lighting ceremony on Friday night.

City Manager Campbell requested that city employees observe the same Christmas holidays as the state employees. Councilman Wilson motioned to accept the city manager's request. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

  
City Manager

  
Mayor