

GALAX CITY COUNCIL
December 13, 2004
Minutes

The Galax City Council convened in the courtroom of the WHS Public Safety Building on December 13, 2004 at 7:30pm. The meeting was called to order by the mayor with all council members being present and they are as listed: C. M. Mitchell, Willie Greene, Robert Lazo, Robert Kirby, Sharon Plichta, George Valdez and Helen Kyle.

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

Councilwoman Plichta motioned to accept the minutes as written and to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Councilman Greene seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Following discussion of the proposed R-5 and B-4 zoning districts, Councilwoman Plichta motioned to approve this as the first reading of the proposed ordinance.

City Attorney James Ward advised that the proposed ordinance should be re-sequenced before approving the proposed ordinance. He also stated that the streets should be defined and referenced by an actual zoning map in the proposed ordinance. Councilwoman Plichta rescinded her motion.

City Manager Campbell discussed transferring ownership of the Rex Theater to the City of Galax. He addressed the **Memorandum of Understanding** and certain requirements of the Theatre Guild. He stated that City Attorney Ward is preparing the deed, which will also be signed by a representative of the Theatre Guild. Following a lengthy discussion, Councilman Kirby motioned to have a preliminary building assessment to include work that needs doing and the related costs. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion. Councilman Lazo stated that he respectfully disagreed with the cost assessment. The following councilpersons each tendered a yea vote and they are as listed: Robert Kirby, Sharon Plichta and Helen Kyle. The following councilpersons offered nay votes and they are as listed: Councilmen Lazo, Mitchell, Greene and Valdez.

Further discussion ensued and City Manager Campbell again stated that the most the City was obligated to invest in the upkeep and improvement of the Theater would be \$20,000 per year for three years. He also advised that the City would apply for grants to help with any substantial renovation of the building. Councilman Lazo motioned to accept the **Memorandum of Understanding** and to go forward with the transfer of ownership and management of the Rex Theater to the City. Councilwoman Plichta offered a second to the motion. Councilpersons who tendered a yea vote are as listed: Robert Lazo, Sharon Plichta, C. M. Mitchell, Willie Greene and George Valdez. Helen Kyle and Robert Kirby each offered a nay vote.

Councilwoman Plichta motioned to recommend appointment of Dorothy Lovelady to a term on the Board of Zoning Appeals. Councilman Lazo seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Tom Taylor from the Mount Rogers Planning District Commission was present at tonight's meeting to present the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. A discussion ensued related to statements on the first page of the narrative in the Plan. With specific deletions previously related to the National Flood Insurance Program, Councilwoman Plichta motioned to accept the draft Plan. Councilman Kirby seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Dave Nelson, director of Park and Recreation, was present at tonight's meeting to provide a construction update for the renovation project at the Recreation Center. His discussion included an informative slide presentation.

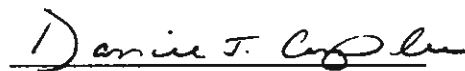
Mr. Campbell reminded council members that they could receive a free email subscription to the VML Legislative Bulletin.

By unanimous approval, the second December Council meeting was cancelled.

With no further business to come before Council, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:02pm.



Mayor



Clerk