

GALAX CITY COUNCIL
Meeting
February 13, 2006
Minutes

The Galax City Council convened in the courtroom of the WHS Public Safety Building on February 13, 2006 at 7:30pm. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mitchell with the following Councilpersons present and they are as listed: Robert Kirby, Sharon Plichta, C. M. Mitchell, Willie Greene, George Valdez and Helen Kyle. Robert Lazo was absent.*

Mayor Mitchell prayed the opening prayer that was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

This was the date and time advertised for a public hearing to receive comments on the modifications to the Building Permit Fees. Assistant City Manager Barker gave a brief overview of the proposed new fee schedule and he stated that it is comparable to fees in other localities. The hearing was declared open.

*At 7:40pm Councilman Lazo arrived.

A question was asked if the new fees were strictly for new construction. The public hearing was declared closed.

Councilwoman Plichta motioned to accept the first reading of the amendment to Article II, Chapter 56 of the Galax City Code entitled Building and Tradesman Certification Fees. Councilman Kirby offered a second to the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Tonight's meeting date and time had been advertised for a public hearing to receive comments on the modification of zoning fees. Zoning Administrator Barker advised that the new fees would cover the cost of the application process and required inspections.

No comments were received and the hearing was declared closed. Councilman Valdez motioned to accept the first reading of the amendment to Section 160-163 of the City of Galax Zoning Ordinance. Councilman Greene seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Councilman Lazo motioned to appoint Susie Dixon Garner to a term on the Industrial Development Authority. Councilman Kirby seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Chuck Steffis, Tony Truitt, Downtown Association, and Ron Passmore, Regional Chamber of Commerce, were present at tonight's meeting to discuss a proposed new festival *Stieff on the Mountain*. It is planned for Memorial Day weekend and will host antique and vintage teddy bear dealers. A discussion ensued about plans for the festival and the beer garden. Some council members voiced reservations about the beer garden.

Derrick Davis offered a suggestion that perhaps MADD could be given an opportunity to have a booth near the beer garden. Councilman Lazo suggested that perhaps a banner could be displayed promoting drinking responsibly.

Councilwoman Plichta motioned to approve the festival and the beer garden. Councilman Valdez seconded the motion. The following councilpersons voted yea and they are as listed: Councilpersons Lazo, Plichta, Kirby, Mitchell, Valdez and Kyle. Councilman Greene voted nay stating that he is not comfortable with the beer garden.

Following a discussion by City Manager Campbell on the Adelpia Franchise Agreement, Councilman Valdez motioned to approve the six-month short-term extension. Councilman Greene seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Councilman Lazo motioned to adopt the 2006-07 Budget Development Schedule. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Penny Moseley discussed making downtown more attractive and modifying Code restrictions on sidewalk items. Following a discussion, Councilpersons Plichta and Valdez volunteered to work with representatives from the downtown to study areas of concern in the downtown area.

With no further business to come before Council, the meeting was unanimously adjourned on a motion by Councilman Lazo.



Mayor

Daniel J. Campbell

Clerk