

GALAX CITY COUNCIL
Minutes
June 8, 2009

The Galax City Council convened in regular session on June 8, 2009 at 7:30pm in Galax City Council Chambers.

Prior to the meeting being called to order, City Manager Holland convened an IDA Public Hearing. Members of the IDA present are as listed: Roger Neal, Bill Davis, Bobby Kirby and Ed Hanks. Gerald Cox from Turman's and Alan Funk from Grayson National Bank were also present. Mr. Holland advised that the purpose of the hearing was to receive public comments on a request from Turman's Hard Flooring to refinance a 2006 industrial revenue bond in an amount not to exceed \$1,145,000.

The hearing was declared open and a call for comments. No comments were received and the hearing was declared closed.

Mr. Neal motioned to approve by resolution a Modified Agreement and Rider to the bond. Mr. Davis offered a second to the motion and it was approved by the following votes: Neal-yea, Davis -yea, Hanks-yea, Kirby-yea.

Mr. Neal motioned to adjourn the public hearing. Mr. Davis offered a second to the motion that was unanimously approved.

At 7:38pm Mayor Mitchell called the Galax City Council meeting to order. Councilman Garner prayed the opening prayer and the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Councilman Webb motioned to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on May 11 and the called meeting on June 1, 2009. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilman Davis-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea.

Councilwoman Plichta motioned to accept the Resolution as approved by the IDA to refinance the Industrial Revenue Bond for Turman's Hardwood Flooring. Councilman Greene offered a second to the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilwoman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Councilman Greene-yea, Councilman Davis-yea and Councilman Webb-yea.

Councilman Greene motioned to amend and consider the first reading of City Code Chapter 135-51 *Transient Room Rental Tax* from 2% to 5%. Councilman Lazo seconded the motion. The following votes were tendered for unanimous approval: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilwoman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Councilman Greene-yea, Councilman Davis-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea.

Councilman Webb motioned to suspend the second reading of said ordinance and to make it effective July 8, 2009. Councilman Lazo offered a second to the motion. Councilman Garner stated that due notice should be given to those affected by the increase and the effective date should be August 1, 2009. Councilman Webb amended the effective date of change to be August 1, 2009. Councilman Lazo amended his second to the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Webb-yea, Councilman Davis-yea, Councilman Greene-yea, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Councilwoman Plichta-yea, and Councilman Lazo-yea.

Councilwoman Plichta motioned to hold the first reading to amend City Code Chapter 135 Section 135-24 *Meals Tax* from 4% to 5 % and the effective date to be August 1, 2009. The following votes were cast: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilwoman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Councilman Greene-nay, Councilman Davis-nay, and Councilman Webb-yea. The motion carried five to two.

Councilman Webb motioned to amend and to hold the first reading and suspend the second reading of City Code Chapter 66 Section 66-8 *Charges for Dumpster Service* and that the effective date be August 1, 2009. Councilwoman Plichta offered a second to the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Webb-yea, Councilman Davis-yea, Councilman Greene-yea, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Councilwoman Plichta-yea, and Councilman Lazo-yea.

Councilman Webb motioned to amend and hold the first reading of City Code Chapter 153 Section 153-36 *Water and Sewer Charges* with the effective date being August 1, 2009. The following votes were given: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilwoman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Councilman Greene-nay, Councilman Davis-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea. The motion carried six to one.

Councilman Garner motioned to increase the 2010 real estate tax from \$.55 to \$0.57 per \$100 of assessed value. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilwoman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Councilman Greene-yea, Councilman Davis-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea.

Councilman Garner motioned to increase the personal property vehicle tax from \$1.42 to \$1.68 per assessed value. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion. The following votes were cast: Councilman Webb-yea, Councilman Davis-nay, Councilman Greene-nay, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Councilwoman Plichta-yea, and Councilman Lazo. The motion carried on a five-two vote.

City Manager Holland advised that the FY 2010 City Budget is proposed in the amount of \$19,470,893 in the General Fund and the Utility Fund at \$4,709,500. Councilman Garner motioned to adopt the proposed budget as presented, Councilman Webb seconded the

motion. Councilman Mitchell stated that this was the most difficult budget year in twenty two years. It required two extra work sessions and the choices were very difficult to make. Councilpersons Lazo, Plichta, Garner, Mitchell, Davis and Webb each tendered a yea vote. Councilman Greene voted nay.

Linda Powers from Helping to Overcome Poverty for Everyone (HOPE) gave Council an update on the HOPE organization which is for LMI citizens who are seeking affordable housing.

City Manager Holland presented a resolution to authorize the City Manager to execute agreements on behalf of the City for two police vehicles and an animal control truck for FY 2010. This grant in the amount of \$28, 875 was awarded through USDA Rural Development. Councilman Garner motioned to convey the power to the City Manager to complete the required grant transactions. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion. The following votes were cast: Councilman LaGzo-yea, Councilwoman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Councilman Greene-yea, Councilman Davis-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea. The motion was unanimously approved.

On a motion by Councilman Garner and a second by Councilman Davis, Bill Davis was unanimously appointed to another term on the SREC Board. The following votes were offered: Councilman Webb-yea, Councilman Davis-yea, Councilman Greene-yea, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Councilwoman Plichta-yea and Councilman Lazo-yea.

Councilman Webb motioned to reappoint Susie Dixon Garner to another four year term on the WCC Board. Councilman Greene seconded the motion. Councilpersons Webb, Davis, Greene, Mitchell, Plichta and Lazo each offered a yea vote. Councilman Garner abstained from voting. The motion carried.

Councilwoman Plichta motioned to reappoint Roger Neal, Nathan Smith and Eddie Hanks to a four year term on the IDA. Councilman Webb seconded the motion. The following votes were cast for unanimous approval: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilwoman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Councilman Greene-yea, Councilman Davis-yea and Councilman Webb-yea.

Councilman Garner motioned to reappoint Roger Martin to another four year term on the Planning Commission. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Webb-yea, Councilman Davis-yea, Councilman Greene-yea, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Councilwoman Plichta-yea and Councilman Lazo-yea.

Councilman Garner motioned to reappoint Councilman Greene to another term on District III and City Manager Holland the alternate. Councilwoman Plichta seconded to the motion and it was approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilwoman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Councilman Greene-yea, Councilman Davis-yea and Councilman Webb-yea.

Councilman Greene motioned to authorize the City Manager to execute a proposed agreement with APCO. Councilman Lazo seconded the motion. The following votes were given: Councilman Webb-yea, Councilman Davis-yea, Councilman Greene-yea, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Councilwoman Plichta-yea, and Councilman Lazo-yea.

City Manager Holland advised that the Leaf and String festival would be June 12 and 13 and that the festival is an affiliate of the Crooked Road.

With no further business to come before Council, the meeting was unanimously adjourned on a motion by Councilwoman Plichta and a second by Councilman Webb at 8:21pm.



Mayor



Clerk