

GALAX CITY COUNCIL
Minutes
December 14, 2009

Galax City Council convened in regular session in City Council Chambers on December 14, 2009 at 7:30 pm.

At 7:30 Vice Mayor Greene called the meeting to order with the following councilpersons present and they are as listed: Councilman Lazo, Councilman Garner, Councilwoman Plichta, Councilman Greene, Councilman Davis and Councilman Webb. Mayor Mitchell was absent for the meeting.

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

Councilman Webb motioned to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on November 9, 2009. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilman Davis-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea.

A public hearing was held to receive public comment on a Community Development Block Grant for the South Railroad Ave. Relocation Project. Vice Mayor Greene opened the floor for public comment. A letter opposing the project, from Danny Cockerham, with Milo Cockerham, Inc., was handed to Council. After no comment was made, he declared the public hearing concluded. A brief conversation was held among Council regarding the proposed change in the road pattern. Council then directed staff to look at the proposed curves and the road options regarding the turning radius of the curves. Councilman Webb motioned to approve the submission of the grant application for possible funding for the project. Councilman Garner seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilman Davis-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea.

A public hearing was held to receive public comment on an ordinance to authorize the issuance of revenue and general obligation debt to the Virginia Resource Authority in an amount up to \$1.85 million for the purpose of public sewer improvements. Vice Mayor opened the floor for public comment. After no comment was made, he declared the public hearing concluded. Councilwoman Plichta motioned to approve the adoption the resolution and to authorize the city manager to execute the financing agreement with VRA. Councilman Lazo seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilman Davis-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea.

Keith Barker informed Council that the members of the Region II Workforce Investment Consortium have been asked to accept a revised agreement between all the partners for the purpose of operating the Chief Local Elected Officials, which will exercise a joint exercise of power over the delivery of workforce services in the joint area of MRPDC and NRVPCDC. Council approved an ordinance in August 2009, however it was a draft version and final revisions had not been completed. The ordinance has been properly advertised and Council may take action. Council was provided a letter from the City Attorney and copies of the agreement and ordinance. Councilman Webb made a motion to accept the revised agreement. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilman Davis-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea. At the request of the City Attorney, each locality was also asked to appoint their CLEO representative again, with an effective date of January 8, 2010 and for a term as desired by Council. Councilwoman Plichta moved to reappoint Councilman Bill Webb as our locality representative, with a term ending June 30, 2013. Councilman Lazo seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilman Davis-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea.

Keith Barker informed Council that certain appointments to the Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals are set to expire to include the terms of Anne Vaughan, Planning Commission (January 1, 2010); Dorothy Lovelady, BZA (November 1, 2009); and Doug Williams, BZA (January 1, 2010). At Councils request, an ad was run to solicit interested persons for these boards. One notice of interest was received from Mable Bryson. Ms. Vaughan, Ms. Lovelady and Mr. Williams and all are interested in remaining on their respective boards. As with other appointments, it was asked that they be appointed with terms ending on June 30 of a year that is opposite of Council elections. Since these are typically 4-year terms, the new appointments will be until June 30, 2013. Councilwoman Plichta moved to reappoint Ms. Vaughan to the Planning Commission with a term ending June 30, 2013, and recommended Ms. Lovelady and Mr. Williams be reappointed to the Board of Zoning Appeals, with a term ending June 30, 2013. Recommendation by Council will be forwarded to the Circuit Court Judge for reappointment. Councilman Lazo seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilman Davis-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea.

Council was provided a resolution required by USDA in regards to the Felts Park Performance Stage. This resolution authorizes the City Manager to complete all required paperwork in reference to this grant. Councilman Garner motioned that the resolution be signed to authorize the City Manager to complete all required paperwork. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilman Davis-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea.

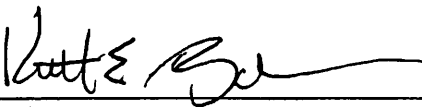
The Galax Moose Lodge has requested that Oscar Hall be appointed to the Galax Parks and Recreation Advisory board to fill the unexpired term of Wayne Robinson. Councilwoman Plichta motioned to appoint Oscar Hall to the Advisory Board. Councilman Davis seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilman Davis-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea.

Council was presented a request by The Chestnut Creek School of the Arts to hold a parade on April 17, 2010 at 12:00 noon and to have W. Grayson Street (between Main and Jefferson Streets) blocked for an event from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM. Because of the parade request, it would require to block the street earlier that morning. This is part of the school's grand opening festivities. This is a Saturday event and coordination of street closings would be handled by the Galax Police Department and Public Works. Councilman Lazo motioned to approve the street closing. Councilman Webb seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilman Davis-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea.

Keith Barker informed Council that the next scheduled Council Meeting is December 28, 2009, unless there is a desire by council to cancel this meeting. At this time there are no public hearings advertised until the January 11, 2010 meeting. Councilman Garner motioned to not hold the December 28 meeting. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilman Davis-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea.

Mr. Steve Minor greeted Council and introduced himself an attorney representing Baker Construction from Bristol, Virginia. Baker Construction was one of the bidders for the Shaw Street Sewer Project.

At 8:10 p.m., motion was made by Councilman Webb to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Plichta.


Clerk


Mayor