

Galax City Council
Minutes
February 10, 2014

Galax City Council convened in regular session in City Council Chambers on February 10, 2014 at 7:30 pm.

At 7:30 p.m. Mayor Mitchell called the meeting to order with the following council persons present and they are as listed: Mayor Mitchell, Vice Mayor Greene, Councilman Garner, Councilman Webb, Councilwoman Crouse, Councilwoman Plichta, and Councilman Lazo.

Councilwoman Plichta prayed the opening prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Webb made the motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on January 27, 2014. Councilwoman Crouse seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilman Webb – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, and Councilman Lazo – yea.

Keith Barker informed Council that the Galax Downtown Association has met and submitted a revised name for the proposed August festival event. The name the GDA will use is the Rhythm Brews and Vine Festival and it will be held on August 2, 2014. Councilwoman Crouse made the motion to approve the GDA Rhythm Brews & Vine Festival. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilman Webb – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, and Councilman Lazo – yea. Vice Mayor Greene – nay.

Keith Barker explained to Council that the final draft for the proposed Golf Cart Ordinance has been presented to them for review. He noted that a full street listing was included and a map was also referenced. Mr. Barker told City Council that they may amend the document or set a public hearing for February 24, 2014 or March 10, 2014 to consider adoption of the ordinance. Councilman Garner made the motion to set the date of February 24, 2014 for the public hearing to proceed with the possible adoption of the Golf Cart Ordinance. Councilman Webb seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilman Webb – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, and Councilman Lazo – yea.

Mayor Mitchell read aloud a resolution of support for the Galax Kroger store which is scheduled to be closed in March 2014. The resolution of support asked Kroger to keep their Galax store open. He read that there has been widespread community support in trying to maintain this business. Councilwoman Plichta made the motion to approve the adoption of the Resolution as presented. Councilwoman Crouse seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilman Webb – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, and Councilman Lazo – yea.

Keith Barker explained to Council that Grayson County has received funding to expand their water system in the Nuckolls Curve portion of Grayson County. He said that funding has been received to upgrade the system; however they needed additional capacity beyond the original March 2000 agreement. A MOU was provided which would allow us to provide additional water capacity to Grayson for this portion of their system, but would also direct both localities to begin discussions on our current rate structure with a new agreement to be adopted effective July 1, 2015. Mr. Barker noted there would be no upgrades required to our system. Councilman Garner made the motion for the approval of the MOU for additional water service in the Nuckolls Curve portion of the Grayson County water system. Councilman Webb seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilman Webb – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, and Councilman Lazo – yea.

Keith Barker told Council that Chris Thompson, Rooftop Director, has asked that the City of Galax provide a letter of support for operation of their Weatherization Program. He explained that this program has been in place since 1976 and they have performed services on over 3000 homes. Vice Mayor Greene made the motion to approve the letter of support for the Rooftop Weatherization Program. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilman Webb – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, and Councilman Lazo – yea.

Chief Clark will provided an update on the Galax Police Department and their activities in the past year.

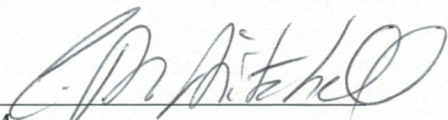
At 8:15 p.m., a motion was made by Councilwoman Crouse to enter into closed session under:

1. **Acquisition of Real Property, §2.2-3711 A.3 of the Code of Virginia** - Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.
2. **Discussion Concerning a Prospective Business or Industry, §2.2-3711 A.5 of the Code of Virginia** Discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community.
3. **Consultation with Legal Counsel, §2.2-3711 A.7 of the Code of Virginia** - Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation.

Councilman Webb seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilman Webb – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, and Councilman Lazo – yea.

At 8:50 p.m., Council reconvened in open session. Mayor Mitchell certified that no items other than those allowed under the cited Virginia Code Section were discussed and no action taken, with the following affirmation: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilman Webb – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, and Councilman Lazo – yea.

ADJOURNMENT at 8:51 p.m.



Mayor



Clerk

