

## **GALAX CITY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes**

**February 11, 2008**

The Galax City Council convened in Council Chambers on February 11, 2008, at 7:30pm. The meeting was called to order by the mayor with all councilpersons being present and they are as listed: Robert Lazo, Robert Kirby, John Garner, C. M. Mitchell, Willie Greene, Derrick Davis and Helen Kyle.

Councilman Davis prayed the opening prayer; and the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

This was the date and time set for a public hearing on a USDA Rural Development Grant application. If the grant is awarded, the monies would be used to help purchase new police vehicles. Mayor Mitchell declared the floor open for public comments. None were received and the hearing was declared closed.

A discussion related to the vehicle replacement process ensued. Councilman Garner motioned to seek the grant funding. Councilman Kirby offered a second to the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Due to scheduling conflicts, Councilman Davis asked that another councilperson fill his term on the E-911 Commission. Councilman Kirby motioned to appoint Councilman Garner to serve on the E-911 Commission. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

In 1995 the City and the Chamber of Commerce sponsored a Tour DuPont bicycle race. From that event, A CD in the amount of \$10,000 was jointly set up between the City and the Chamber. The Chamber had previously withdrawn \$2,500 from their share. Tonight, Judy Brannock from the Chamber addressed Council with a request to withdraw the remainder of their share, half the interest from the CD and also one half of a checking account in the amount of \$181. Following a discussion, Councilman Garner motioned to give the Chamber \$2,500, split the interest on the CD and split the checking account; and take the city's balance and invest the money for restricted promotions. Another discussion developed with Councilman Lazo stating that he would like to see a director of festivals hired to just work with city festivals. Mrs. Brannock introduced Bill Webb as the Chamber's representative to Council. Councilman Kirby offered a second to Councilman Garner's motion and it was unanimously approved.

City Manager Holland provided an overview of a contract with Virtual IT to conduct an Information Technology Needs Assessment and Implementation Plan for the City. The amount of the contract is set at \$43,650. Following a discussion and a request from the mayor that members of Council have input into the assessment, Councilman Kirby motioned to approve the funds from cash reserves and proceed with the Assessment. Councilwoman Kyle seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.


City Manager Holland reviewed a proposed ordinance to *Amend Vehicle License Tax* for the elimination of the decal and asked that a public hearing date be set for said ordinance.

Councilman Lazo expressed his displeasure with the logo *Best Pick* stating that it doesn't sound pleasant and the logo itself is not appealing. He suggested "Music, Art, and the Great Outdoors." and he suggested that perhaps a nice decal could be available to be displayed by city residents.

Councilman Garner motioned to set February 25 as the date for the public hearing on the proposed amendment to the Vehicle Ordinance. Councilman Kirby seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Councilman Lazo made the following request: "The City of Galax endorses the good efforts of the Virginia Assembly to revise laws concerning puppy mills in Virginia, toward eliminating cruel breeding practices and the number of unwanted dogs in the Commonwealth". No action was taken following a discussion.

With no further business to come before Council, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:30pm.



Mayor

  
Clerk