

GALAX CITY COUNCIL
February 25, 2008
Minutes

The Galax City Council convened in Council Chambers on February 25, 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 Greene prayed the opening prayer; and the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Councilman Greene motioned to accept the minutes as written and to dispense with the reading of said minutes. Councilman Kirby offered a second to the motion and it was unanimously approved.

This was the date and time set for a public hearing to receive comments on the Vehicle License Tax Ordinance.

Mayor Mitchell declared the floor open for comments. City Manager Holland outlined the proposed ordinance. Said ordinance will eliminate the city decals, the license fee for tow behind trailers and campers and other non-motorized vehicles, and puts the fee due date to April 30. The fees will remain the same. No comments were received and Mayor Mitchell declared the hearing closed. Councilwoman Kyle motioned to accept this as the first and second reading of the Vehicle Ordinance and to accept it as an Emergency Ordinance. Councilman Greene offered a second to the motion and it was unanimously approved.

City Manager Holland provided each Council member with a handout related to legislative bills associated with animal issues being considered in the General Assembly.

Councilman Garner initiated a discussion on other General Assembly bills that could have a local impact particularly the school funding formula.

Councilman Davis motioned to reappoint Donna Garland to another term on the Galax City School Board. Councilman Kirby seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Chuck Reidhammer, Director of Tourism, presented a list of fifteen (15) names that he would like to be approved for a Tourism Advisory Committee. Councilman Greene motioned to approve the list as presented. Councilwoman Kyle seconded the motion. Councilman Lazo requested that he be approved as Councilman Davis's alternate. The motion was unanimously approved.

Councilman Garner motioned to set a public hearing for Monday, March 10 to consider amendments to the FY 08 Budget. Councilwoman Kyle offered a second to the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Members of Council discussed a meeting of the three localities and decided that March 26 at Crossroads would be a good date for Council members. City Manager Holland is to contact Carroll and Grayson representatives to confirm definite plans.

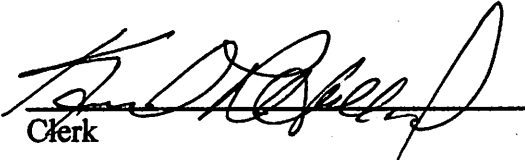
Councilman Greene advised that he had heard a presentation by local high school students and was very impressed with their thoughts. He also asked if it would be possible to have a youth representative on the Parks and Recreation Board. Following a discussion, it was decided to invite the youth group to do a presentation for Council.

At 7:59pm, Councilman Lazo motioned to go into Executive Session as authorized in the *Code of Virginia* Section 2.2-3711 A. 1 Personnel Matter – Candidates for Employment; the assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, discipline, salaries, compensation, or resignation of employees (Chestnut Creek School of the Arts) Councilwoman Kyle offered a second to the motion and it was unanimously approved.

The Certification of Executive Session is made a part of these minutes.

At 9:04pm, Councilman Garner motioned to return to regular session. Councilman Greene seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Councilman Kirby motioned to adjourn at 9:05pm. Councilwoman Kyle seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.


Clerk


Mayor

**CERTIFICATION RESOLUTION
CLOSED MEETING**

WHEREAS, this Board convened in a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote on the motion to close the meeting Section 2.2-3711A.1 to discuss candidates for employment; the assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, discipline, salaries, compensation or resignation of employees of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act;

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the City Council that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, therefore be it resolved that City Council hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were heard, discussed or considered in the closed meeting to which this certification applies; and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting to which this certification applies.

Upon motion by Councilmember Garner seconded by Councilmember Greene.

Before a vote is taken on this resolution, is there any member who believes that there was a departure from the requirements of number (1) or Number (2)? If so, identify yourself and state the substance of the matter and why in your judgment it was a departure.

Subject matter _____

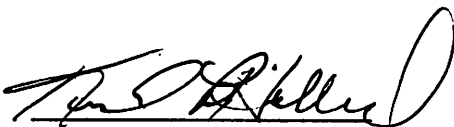
Departure _____

Hearing no statement or statements, I call the question.

Ayes: Councilpersons Lazo, Kirby, Garner, Mitchell, Greene, Davis and Kyle

Nays: None

This Certification Resolution was adopted February 25, 2008.



Clerk/City Manager