

GALAX CITY COUNCIL
Minutes
May 12, 2003

The Galax City Council convened in the courtroom of the WHS Public Safety Building on May 12, 2003 at 7:30pm. Mayor Mitchell called the meeting to order with the following councilpersons present and they are as listed: Hamden, Plichta, Mitchell, Greene and Valdez. Councilmen Lemons and McCarter were absent from the meeting.

Councilwoman Plichta offered the opening prayer and then she led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ron Catron, chairman of the Planning Commission, was present to provide the Commission's recommendation on the zoning change request for the property at 101 Taylorwood Road. He outlined the comprehensive information and process that was used in determining the recommendation; and he stated that the Commission's recommendation was to deny the request.

A question and answer period ensued.

Councilman Hamden commended the Planning Commission for its hard work and then he stated reasons and motioned that the zoning request should be changed to B1 and approved. Councilwoman Plichta offered a second to the motion. Following an answer to a question by Councilman Greene the motion was unanimously approved.

The motion to dispense with reading the minutes from the last meeting and to approve them as written was unanimously approved.

Councilman Hamden motioned to adopt the 2003-04 School Budget in the amount of \$9,731,995.00 and of that amount \$3,371,307.00 will come from local funding. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Councilwoman Plichta motioned to appoint Nathan Smith to fill an unexpired term on the IDA. Councilman Hamden seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

On a motion by Councilman Greene and a second by Councilman Valdez, David Hankley and Chris Saunders were unanimously appointed to serve on the Transportation Safety Committee.

David Brinberg from Virginia Tech gave a very interesting presentation on the possibilities of Galax becoming a **Wellness Village**. Councilman Greene motioned to become a partner in the Wellness Village with Virginia Tech and to give \$1,500.00 towards its development. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Tom Taylor from the Mt. Rogers Planning District Commission was present to discuss the Regional Competitiveness Program and to request that Council approve a related resolution. Councilman

Greene motioned to approve the requested resolution. Councilman Hamden seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Mr. Taylor also requested that Council consider writing a letter to Secretary Schewel requesting funding for next year.

Susan Clark, from the Galax Department of Social Services, provided information on Adult Protective Services.

Councilman Hamden motioned to set the next meeting date for Tuesday, May 27, 2003. Councilman Valdez seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Councilman Greene motioned to approve advertising a public hearing for the 2003-2004 proposed city budget with the date being set for the next meeting, May 27, 2003. Councilman Valdez offered a second to the motion and it was unanimously approved.

The Kinsers expressed their appreciation to Council members for overturning the Planning Commission's ruling on the zoning change request.

With no further business to address, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:53pm.



Mayor

Daniel J. Campbell
City Manager