

GALAX CITY COUNCIL

Minutes

June 26, 2006

The Galax City Council convened in regular session on June 26, 2006, at 7:30pm. Mayor Mitchell called the meeting to order in the courtroom of the WHS Public Safety Building. All councilpersons were present and they are as listed: Robert Lazo, Robert Kirby, Sharon Plichta, C. M. Mitchell, Willie Greene, George Valdez and Helen Kyle.

Vice Mayor Greene prayed the opening prayer that was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilpersons Plichta and Valdez terms on Council are expiring. Mayor Mitchell recognized them and presented plaques to them in appreciation of their outstanding service.

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

Councilwoman Plichta motioned to approve the 2006-07 city tax rates as follows: Real Estate - \$.70 per \$100 based upon 100% of assessment; Personal Property - \$1.42 per \$100 based upon 100% assessment; Machinery & Tools - \$1.42 per \$100 based upon 50% of assessment; Bank Stock - 80% of the state rate of franchise tax. Councilman Greene offered a second to the motion and it was unanimously approved. Mayor Mitchell advised that there are no changes in the rates from the current year.

Councilman Greene motioned to adopt the 2006-07 City Budget in the amount of \$16,217,029. Councilman Kirby seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Councilman Greene motioned to accept the second and final reading of the Loitering Ordinance. Councilman Valdez seconded the motion. Dr. Lazo reiterated the fact that kids not bothering anything or anybody not be singled out because of the ordinance. Chief Clark assured Council that the ordinance was not aimed at the teen population and that it would be enforced with much discretion. The following council members each tendered a yea vote: Dr. Lazo, Mr. Kirby, Mrs. Plichta, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Greene and Mr. Valdez. Mrs. Kyle opposed the motion.

Councilwoman Plichta motioned to approve the 2006-07 Department of Social Services budget in the amount of \$1,379,518 with \$184,238 coming from local funds. Councilman Kirby offered a second to the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Councilman Greene motioned to approve the Comprehensive Services Act budget in the amount of \$279,268 and of that amount \$87,858 will come from local funds. Councilman Valdez seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Councilman Greene motioned to appropriate the Department of Social Services 2006-07 budget and to also appropriate the 2006-07 Comprehensive Services Act budget. Councilman Kirby seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Gary Larrowe, Carroll County Administrator, presented the Carroll County Capital Access Program through the Carroll County IDA. This is a new program to be used as an economic development tool. He is inviting Grayson County and the City of Galax to form a regional partnership with Carroll County. Following a discussion, Mr. Campbell will attend a meeting for more information on the program.

City Manager Campbell reviewed with Council the contract with K. W. Poore for the planning and grant application for the Downtown Cultural Arts District. He advised that the estimated contract cost is \$43,500. DHCD has approved \$25,000 for the planning grant and probably another \$10,000 to also come from DHCD. Councilwoman Plichta motioned to approve the proposed agreement between the City and K. W. Poore. Councilman Greene seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Councilman Greene motioned to adopt a resolution authorizing the re-financing of a debt for the 1989 construction at the wastewater treatment plant. The interest rate will go from 4.87% to 3.35%. The motion received a second and it was unanimously approved.

Following discussion of a proposal from Mount Rogers Planning District Commission to update the City's Comprehensive Plan, Councilman Greene motioned to contract with the Planning District to update the City's Plan in an amount not to exceed \$10,000. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

Councilman Kirby motioned to reappoint City Manager Campbell and Councilman Greene to serve another term on the Mount Rogers Planning District Commission.

An appointment to the Galax Carroll Regional Library was carried over to the next Council meeting. Dr. Lazo's second term has expired.

Councilwoman Plichta motioned to reappoint Mayor Mitchell to another term on the Crossroads Institute Board of Directors. Councilman Greene seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Following discussion of an appointment and alternate to the District Three Governmental Cooperative it was decided to wait to make the appointment until new council members are sworn in.

City Manager Campbell reminded Council of the registration for the Virginia Municipal League Annual Conference in October.

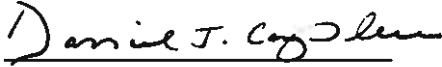
A short discussion ensued on finishing up the New River Trail project.

Councilman Greene expressed appreciation to Mrs. Plichta and Mr. Valdez for the time that they served as members of Council.

On a motion by Councilman Kirby, a second and unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.



Mayor



Clerk

