

GALAX CITY COUNCIL

Minutes

October 8, 2012

Galax City Council convened in regular session in City Council Chambers on October 8, 2012 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, Councilwoman Plichta, Councilwoman Crouse and Councilman Lazo. Councilman Webb was absent.

Mayor Mitchell prayed the opening prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilwoman Crouse motioned to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on September 10, 2012. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Councilwoman Plichta- yea, Councilwoman Crouse -yea, and Councilman Lazo-yea.

Keith Barker updated council on the Urban Archery Program which was discussed at the last meeting. He presented a draft copy of the program to council which had been reviewed by Chief Clark, as well as various staff who are hunters, to review the requirements to see if they are reasonable. He informed council that if they wish to pursue such a program, staff will need to have a request to the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries by April 1, 2013 as well as any required public hearings. Council discussed some of the specifics as noted in the program and asked Mr. Barker to keep this item on the agenda for further action.

Keith Barker updated council on the traffic signal changes at Jefferson Street. He stated staff has completed the first and second intersection change. Staff will continue to monitor the intersections for problems and issues. No action is required from City Council at this time.

Kaitlyn Martin a senior at Galax High School presented council with a request for permission to paint the roads encircling the high school with the white MT symbol. She explained the symbol would be painted with white paint and would be placed in the center of the road every forty to fifty feet along Long Street and Maroon Tide Drive. Vice Mayor Greene motioned to approve the request 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, Councilwoman Plichta- yea, Councilwoman Crouse -yea, and Councilman Lazo-yea.

Keith Barker informed council that staff would propose setting November 5-16, 2012 as the beginning date for fall leaf cleanup. This follows similar dates council set last year and should allow sufficient time to have the majority of all leaves collected prior to Thanksgiving. Advertisements, as well as postings on the community channel, will be made. Any additional leaf and brush will be picked up after Thanksgiving. Councilwoman Plichta motioned to set November 5 as the beginning date for fall leaf cleanup. Vice Mayor Greene seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Councilwoman Plichta- yea, Councilwoman Crouse -yea, and Councilman Lazo-yea.

Keith Barker informed council that as staff is finalizing the paperwork on the Bottom Area Project, VDOT has requested that a resolution be adopted that would authorize the City Manager to sign and required documentation for the project. Councilman Lazo motioned to adopt the resolution authorizing the City Manager to complete any required documentation for the Shaw Street Drainage Improvements. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Councilwoman Plichta- yea, Councilwoman Crouse -yea, and Councilman Lazo-yea.

An email request of Kathy Cole, Downtown Association was presented to council requesting an addition block of Main Street be closed during the Halloween Festival on October 31, 2012. Councilman Lazo motioned to approve the street closure. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Councilwoman Plichta- yea, Councilwoman Crouse -yea, and Councilman Lazo-yea.

Councilwoman Crouse made a motion for the City of Galax to sponsor The Honor Memorial for the Veterans Memorial for approximately \$7500.00. After a brief discussion council chose to hold this motion until the next council meeting in November.

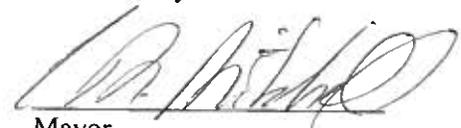
Charles Kleinke who resides at 108 Parkwood Drive spoke to council regarding his concern about a property in his neighborhood. He asked that the property be condemned. He also expressed concern over vehicles traveling through the yard of the property. Councilwoman Plichta asked Mr. Barker if this was a council matter, to which he stated the building official has the only authority to condemn a property. He stated he would have the building official continue to make the proper notifications to the property owner in order to bring the property up to code. Mr. Barker also asked that Chief Clark monitor the area for any vehicles improperly using the yard as a roadway. Mr. Kleinke also asked that city staff clean the gutters on the city streets to help maintain water sanitation and beautification efforts within the city. Keith Barker explained that the public works department is working on purchasing some newer equipment that will help staff to do this more efficiently.

At 8:15 p.m., a motion was made by Vice Mayor Greene, and seconded by Councilwoman Crouse to enter into closed session under **Business and Industry Development, §2.2-3711 A.5 of the Code of Virginia** - Prospective or expansion of business or industry where no previous public announcement has been made, where no previous public announcement has been made

At 9:00 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, Councilwoman Plichta-yea, Councilwoman Crouse-yea, and Councilman Lazo-yea.

Council adjourned at 9:00 p.m.


Clerk


Mayor