

Galax City Council
Minutes
March 28, 2016

Galax City Council convened in regular session in City Council Chambers on March 28, 2016 at 7:30 pm.

At 7:30 p.m. Councilman Lazo called the meeting to order with the following Council persons present and they are as listed: Councilman Garner, Councilwoman Crouse, Councilwoman Plichta, Councilman Lazo, and Councilman Davis. Mayor Mitchell was absent. Vice Mayor Greene arrived at 7:35 p.m.

Councilman Garner prayed the opening prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Lazo, along with Council, congratulated and presented proclamations to the following Galax High School students and coaches:

VHSL Wrestling State Champions

- o Caleb Spurlin – State Champion, 220lb (3-time Champion)
- o Joshua Spurlin – State Champion, 126lb
- o Jack Vaughan – All State, 170lb
- o Darryl Glover – All State, 145lb (absent)

VHSL All State Swimmers

- o Jack Haga, Dylan Coulson, Ben Whittle and Tate Haga All State, Boys 200 Meter Medley Relay (Coaches: Trace Lumpkin, Emily Guynn, and Sherry Lumpkin)
- o Jack Haga, All State, Boys 100 Meter Backstroke

Councilwoman Crouse made the motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on March 14, 2016. Councilman Davis seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Lazo – yea, and Councilman Davis – yea.

Vice Mayor Greene announced the appointments of Dr. Jim Adams and Stewart Merdian to the Galax School Board were set to expire on June 30, 2016. He asked Council if they felt it was necessary to enter closed session to discuss the school board appointments further. By a consensus it was decided that it wasn't necessary since Council interviewed prospective candidates for the appointments at the March 14th meeting. Dr. Adams and Mr. Meridian were the only candidates that expressed interest in the appointments and interviewed for the positions. The term of the two appointments will be from July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2019. Councilwoman Plichta made the motion to re-appoint Dr. Jim Adams and Stewart Meridian to the Galax School Board. Councilman Garner seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Lazo – yea, and Councilman Davis – yea.

Galax Police Chief Rick Clark gave an update on activities of the past year for the Galax Police Department. Some of the highlights of his update included honoring Fire Chief David Hankley, Officer Trevor Jefferson, and Officer Terry Woods for their bravery & dedication to their jobs by entering a burning house in an attempt to save children that were in the home.

Chief Clark reported that there were over 45,000 calls to E-911 this past year. He commended the Communications Officers and staff for handling the organized chaos this year with all of the changes in an exemplary manner and he said that he was proud to be associated with them. Regarding the construction at the Police Department, Chief Clark noted that it hadn't been easy but everyone had worked together to make it work. Chief Clark recognized officers who were present at the meeting for their achievements in protecting our community and performing their jobs with high standards. Vice Mayor Greene thanked Chief Clark and the officers for what they do for our community.

Jolena Young, E-911 Coordinator, gave an update on the Twin County E-911 service and recent legislation, technology changes, etc. She thanked Council and Keith Barker for their support. Ms. Young discussed "Text to 911" service which would be coming available in the future to our area. She recognized Daniel Riegel, GIS Coordinator / Zoning Administrator for the City of Galax, for his assistance in working on addressing data. She asked Council to consider participating in the H-GAC Buy, a multi-state purchasing agreement which would permit the City and E-911 to buy off of other localities procurement agreements. Councilman Davis made the motion to approve the request to participate in the H-GAC Buy agreement, Councilman Garner seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Lazo – yea, and Councilman Davis – yea.

At 8:35 p.m. a motion was made by Councilwoman Crouse to enter into closed session under the following Codes of Virginia:

Prospective Business or Industry, § 2.2-3711.A.5 of the Code of Virginia - Discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community.

Councilman Davis seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Lazo – yea, and Councilman Davis – yea.

At 8:46 p.m. Council reconvened in open session. Vice Mayor Greene certified that no items other than those allowed under the cited Virginia code section were discussed and no action was taken, with the following affirmation: Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Lazo – yea, and Councilman Davis – yea.

ADJOURNMENT at 8:46 p.m.


Vice Mayor


Clerk