

GALAX CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
January 8, 2001

The Galax City Council convened in regular session in the courtroom of the WHS Public Safety Building on January 8, 2001, at 7.40 p.m. The meeting was called to order by the mayor with the following councilmen present and they are as listed: C. M. Mitchell, Glenn Wilson, Van McCarter, Odell Hamden, Willie Greene and Johnny Lemons. Bill Dickerson was absent at the time the meeting was called to order.

Councilman Wilson motioned to dispense with reading the minutes of the last meeting and to approve them as distributed. Councilman McCarter seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Following discussion for consideration of the inclusion of local governments in the electric rate deregulation cap, Councilman Hamden motioned to approve a letter of transmittal to Senator Marye and Delegate Jackson. This transmittal requests that local government rates be capped during the deregulation process. Councilman Greene made a second to the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Councilman Lemons presented a request for the Galax Recreation Center to be renamed the A. Glenn Pless Recreation Center. Following discussion, it was motioned by Councilman Hamden, seconded and unanimously approved to hold a public hearing to receive input from the community on the renaming of the Galax Recreation Center. The public hearing was set for the next regularly scheduled council meeting.

Representative from the Church of the Good Shepherd were present to discuss a proposed church building. The property is located off of Windsock Lane and would require a public road to be constructed and maintained with private funds to satisfy zoning requirements.

At 7: 50 pm Councilman Dickerson arrived.

Following a discussion, the matter was referred to City Manager Campbell and Zoning Administrator Kyle.

Laura Bryant, city librarian, and Doug Williams who is the on-site architect for the construction of the new city library, were present at tonight's meeting to update council members on the construction and to inform Council that the library committee needs to borrow money to cover construction costs until more pledge money is received. City Manager Campbell discussed different options and recommended that the library committee abstain from borrowing money and to use monies in reserve. Councilman Lemons motioned to make arrangements for the money to be available for construction and furnishings. Councilman Wilson motioned to table the request for two weeks which is council's policy when funds are not budgeted. Councilman McCarter seconded the motion and it was unanimously

approved.

Mr. Campbell advised that a request of abandonment for two unconstructed alleys near East Stuart Drive and Landreth Street had been received. He also outlined the vacation process. Councilman Wilson motioned to proceed with the application process. Councilman McCarter seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Campbell discussed the acquisition request for certain land that the city owns between Webb Furniture Plant #2 and Route 89. The acquisition is needed for an expansion project by Webb Enterprises. He advised that the land is of little use to the city; however, a sewer line easement would need to be protected. He also advised that the disposition of said property would require a public hearing. Councilman Greene motioned to set the public hearing. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Mr. John Vaughan, Bill Vaughan and other Vaughan Furniture representatives were present at tonight's meeting to request that a section of street between Virginia Street and East Stuart Drive be closed to allow for an expansion of Vaughan Furniture Company. Councilman Wilson motioned to set and advertise a public hearing on the street closing. Mr. Campbell requested that Vaughan Furniture's attorney work with him and city staff in preparing the documents for the street closing request. Councilman McCarter seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

City Manager Campbell distributed the 2000 Year End Audit and advised that there were no irregularities or findings. He highlighted one comment on fixed assets.

Councilman Hamden motioned to accept the audit for review. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Mr. Campbell outlined a proposed **Deer Management Program** sponsored by the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. This would allow an archery season within city limits. There was discussion about the deer population problem. Councilman Dickerson stated that he believes the local government should have the authority to make the final decisions about the rules of the program.

At 9:00 pm an executive session was convened by a motion and unanimous approval according to Section 2.1-344 (A)(1) of the Code of Virginia.

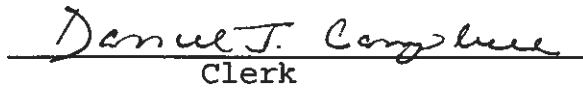
Councilman Wilson motioned to return to regular session. Councilman McCarter seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

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

With no further business to come before Council the meeting was

unanimously adjourned at 9:30 pm on a motion by Councilman Hamden.


Mayor


Clerk

