

**Galax City Council  
Minutes  
April 16, 2001**

The Galax City Council convened and was called to order at 7:35 pm in the courtroom of the WHS Public Safety Building on April 16, 2001. All councilmen were present and they are as listed: C.M. Mitchell, Glenn Wilson, Odell Hamden\*, Van McCarter, Willie Greene and Johnny Lemons. Unfortunately, Councilman Dickerson died 04/08/2001.

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.

Zack Kyle, zoning administrator, advised that the Planning Commission had met and unanimously recommends that the Steel Mill be rezoned from B-2 to M-2. This change will allow the business to be in compliance with the zoning ordinance. Councilman Wilson motioned to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation. Councilman McCarter seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Councilman Lemons motioned to accept the offer from Blevins Building Supply to purchase a small tract of city owned property that adjoins their property and is adjacent to Academy Drive. It was also stipulated that the purchaser would be responsible for the legal documents concerning the purchase. Councilman Wilson seconded the motion. A discussion ensued as to the importance of the sale to the business and it was also pointed out that the land would not be of critical importance to the school system's future use. The motion received unanimous approval.

In consideration of closing a portion of the T. George Vaughan Road a traffic study had been proposed. Following a discussion of a proposed study to be done by Mattern and Craig for a total of \$3,000.00, Councilman Lemons motioned to indulge in the contract with Mattern and Craig to have the study done and to pay their required fee. Councilman McCarter seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

\*Councilman Hamden arrived at 7:44 pm.

Councilman McCarter motioned to advertise a public hearing for the next regularly scheduled meeting to receive comments on next year's proposed school budget. The motion was seconded. Councilman Hamden abstained, all other councilmen tendered yea votes.

Mr. Tom Taylor from Mount Rogers Planning District was present at tonight's meeting to discuss PDC programs and request a resolution in support of legislation to increase funding to the Appalachian Regional Commission programs. Councilman Wilson motioned to approve the resolution as presented. Councilman McCarter seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Zack Kyle, zoning and planning administrator, gave Council an update on the planning study being done for the Daycare/Assisted Living project. He also presented a contract from K. W. Poore in the amount of \$5,000.00. This contract is for market analysis. Councilman Wilson motioned to approve the contract with K. W. Poore. Councilman Greene made a second to the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Councilman Wilson motioned to approve the proposed E911 monthly surcharge increase. Councilman McCarter offered a second to the motion. Councilman Hamden stated while he felt the request was reasonable he also recalled that when the charges were first initiated, residents were told that the charges were only temporary. He was somewhat chagrined that not only are the fees still being assessed but also increased. The vote was called for with the following councilmen extending yea votes: C. M. Mitchell, Glenn Wilson, Odell Hamden, Van McCarter and Johnny Lemons. Councilman Greene opposed the increase.

The steps for introducing a referendum to abolish the city treasurer's office were outlined. Councilman Lemons motioned to proceed with the process, authorize the city attorney to petition the court and that the circulation of the required petitions begin. Councilman Hamden offered a second to the motion and it was unanimously approved.

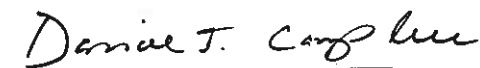
City Manager Campbell advised that Rob Thomas had resigned from the Workforce Investment Board and an appointment would need to be considered to fill the vacancy.

Council also learned that Ray Kohl had tendered his resignation from the Planning Commission. An appointment to fill his unexpired term will be considered at a regularly scheduled council meeting.

Mayor Mitchell offered condolences to the family of Bill Dickerson.

With no further business to come before Council, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:25 pm.

  
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Mayor

  
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Clerk