

GALAX CITY COUNCIL
MEETING
Minutes
July 14, 2003

The Galax City Council convened in regular session on July 14, 2003, at 7:35pm. The meeting was called to order in the courtroom of the WHS Public Safety Building with all councilpersons being present and they are as listed: Odell Hamden, Van McCarter, Sharon Plichta, C. M. Mitchell, Willie Greene, George Valdez and Johnny Lemons.

Councilman Valdez prayed the opening prayer and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Councilman Lemons motioned to appropriate the 2003-04 City Budget in the amount of \$15,740,874. Councilwoman Plichta offered a second to the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Councilman McCarter motioned to appropriate the 2003-04 School Budget in the amount of \$9,731,995. Councilman Lemons seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Councilman Greene motioned to appropriate the 2003-04 Social Services budget in the amount of \$1,288,028. Councilman McCarter seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

On a unanimously approved motion, the Comprehensive Services budget was appropriated in the amount of \$252,500.

City Manager Campbell discussed the proposed Animal Control Ordinance and stated some points of concern a citizen had expressed to him regarding some safety issues with tags on cats. A discussion ensued. Councilman McCarter motioned to set a public hearing for the next regularly scheduled meeting on said ordinance. Councilman Greene offered a second. The motion received unanimous approval. Councilman Hamden suggested that copies of the proposed ordinance be made available to the public before the hearing.

Eddie Hines, E-911 coordinator, was present at tonight's meeting to discuss a proposed surcharge for cell phones. He advised that the proposed charge would be \$.75 and that this proposal will be presented to the two adjoining localities. Following a discussion, Councilman McCarter motioned to set a public hearing for the next regularly scheduled Council meeting to receive public input on the proposed cell phone surcharge with the maximum amount being \$1.50. Councilman Hamden seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

City Manager Campbell outlined the auditor's recommendations and stated that the recommendations had been addressed by each department that was noted.

A US 58 Resolution was presented from the Mount Rogers PDC. Following discussion of said resolution, Councilman Greene suggested that some wording modification be made. Councilman McCarter motioned to approve said resolution with the modification. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Councilwoman Plichta motioned to approve an ordinance that amends city code to incorporate by reference vehicle and traffic law changes enacted by the state and made effective on July 1. Councilman McCarter seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

City Manager Campbell discussed the CMOM Program and presented an engineering contract with Olver Inc. for approval. This program is required by the EPA Consent Order. Councilman McCarter motioned to approve the contract. Councilman Greene seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

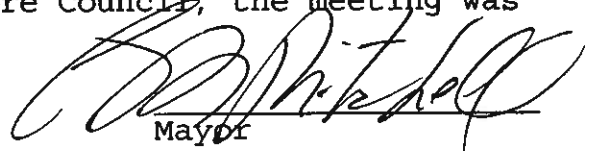
Mr. Campbell presented a proposed "Transient Room Rental Tax" ordinance. This ordinance would permit a 2% lodging tax. Councilman McCarter motioned to set a public hearing on the proposed ordinance for the next regularly scheduled Council meeting. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Councilman Hamden motioned to recind Section 107-6 of the City Code which deals with beer and wine sales. Councilman McCarter seconded the motion. Councilman Hamden amended his motion to recind the Code section and make this the first reading of the proposed ordinance. Councilman McCarter seconded the motion. Councilman Greene abstained. All other council persons tendered a yea vote.

Loretta Evans addressed Council with appreciation for the way the city manager has tried to help her. She then presented a list of street safety concerns and asked for a solution to a potential for flooding in the neighborhood. She also asked that the creek be dredged and rocks secured on the bank near the street and creek. She then requested that the neighborhood be allowed to participate in any changes that might be made in the neighborhood. Mayor Mitchell addressed her concerns and advised her that consideration would be given to her issues.

With no further business to come before Council, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:10pm.


City Manager


Mayor