

GALAX CITY COUNCIL

Minutes

February 14, 2005

The Galax City Council convened in regular session in the courtroom of the WHS Public Safety Building on February 14, 2005. The meeting was called to order by the mayor with the following councilpersons present and they are as listed: Robert Lazo, Robert Kirby, Sharon Plichta, C. M. Mitchell, Willie Greene and George Valdez. Helen Kyle was absent from the meeting.

Councilman Greene prayed the opening prayer and then he led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Mitchell expressed his gratitude for all the expressions of concern and prayers during his very recent serious illness.

Councilwoman Plichta motioned to accept the minutes as written and to dismiss with the reading of said minutes. Councilman Greene offered a second to the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Corbin Stone from the City's auditing firm was present at tonight's meeting to discuss the 2003-04 year end audit. He discussed the audit and found no problems. He also mentioned the fact that this is the second year GASBY has been in place. Following Mr. Stone's discussion, Councilman Greene motioned to accept the 2003-04 Audit as presented. Councilman Kirby offered a second to the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Mayor Mitchell stated that the City is well managed in a conservative way and extended kudos to City Manager Campbell and his staff.

City Manager Campbell advised that no one had contacted him regarding the school board appointment.

Mr. Cook, Galax City Schools Superintendent, was present at tonight's meeting to request that the 2004-05 School Budget be revised. He advised that the approved budget was in the amount of \$10,576,702.00 and he is requesting that the revised budget reflect the total of \$11,130,668.00. Councilman Greene motioned to approve the revised budget. Councilman Kirby seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Councilwoman Plichta motioned to appoint Greg Adkins to another term on the Workforce Investment Board. Councilman Valdez seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Debbie Robinson from the Tourism Department was present at tonight's meeting to discuss being invited to attend and participate in two major marketing showcases. The first will be in Birmingham, AL in March. The second one will be in New York City at

the invitation of Governor Warner where different segments of Virginia will be showcased. Local musicians will participate in the Virginia music category at each event.

Councilman Lazo requested that Mrs. Robinson check into becoming a sponsor of Public Radio. She advised that it would probably be possible through a coop arrangement with other localities and that she would check into the possibility.

Councilwoman Plichta motioned to adopt the Blue Ridge Parkway Resolution. This Resolution endorses support for the Parkway's application to become a National Scenic Byway/All American Road. Councilman Greene seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

City Manager Campbell discussed the cost of this winter's snow and ice removal and advised that the cost had exceeded the anticipated amount. He attributed the increase to the high costs of materials. He and Mayor Mitchell both stated that the snow removal crew had done a great job managing the snowy and icy roads.

Mr. Brazzell a representative of Healing Springs Animal Hospital was at tonight's meeting to continue his discussion of Ordinance 46.6. He expounded on the subject a lengthy amount of time after which both Mayor Mitchell and City Manager Campbell again explained the City's efforts in working towards a solution to the concerns of the administration at the animal hospital. They and Councilman Greene also reiterated that at no time has the City had a problem with the operation or animals at the animal hospital. The problem lies with the additional businesses that they are operating through the hospital particularly the sheep farming.

Lisa Whittle discussed how efficient the hospital is with horse breeding and how they are an asset to her business.

An unidentified man stated that there is no compelling interest for the city to count sheep and that it is overstepping its authority.

At 8:50pm, Councilman Greene motioned to go into two executive sessions as authorized in the Code of Virginia Sections 2.2-3711(A)(3) Consideration of acquisition of real property for public purpose; and, Section 2.2-3711(A)(5) – Discussion concerning a prospective business or industry location where no previous announcement has been made.

At 9:40pm Councilwoman Plichta motioned to return to regular session. Councilman Greene seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. The Certification of Executive Session is made a part of these minutes.

The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:45pm on a motion by Councilman Greene and a second by Councilwoman Plichta.

Daniel J. Campbell
Clerk

Mayor Mitchell
Mayor

MOTION: Councilman Greene

CODE SECTION: 2.2-3711(A)(3)
2.2-3711(A)(5)

SECOND: Councilman Valdez

MEETING DATE 2/14/05

CERTIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE MEETING

WHEREAS, The City Council of Galax has convened an executive meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, §2.1-344.1 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this Galax City Council that such executive meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Galax City Council hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the executive meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the executive meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Galax City Council.

VOTE

AYES: Councilpersons Lazo, Kirby, Plichta, Mitchell, Greene and Valdez

NAYS: None

(For each nay vote, the substance of the departure from the requirements from the Act should be described)

ABSENT DURING VOTE: Helen Kyle

ABSENT DURING MEETING: Helen Kyle

Danielle J. Campbell

Clerk of Galax City Council



Handwritten text, possibly a signature or date, located in the lower-left quadrant.

