GALAX CITY COUNCIL
Minutes
November 14, 2005

The Galax City Council convened in regular session in the courtroom of the WHS Public Safety Building on November 14, 2005. Mayor Mitchell called the meeting to order at 7:30pm with all councilpersons present and they are as listed: Robert Lazo, Robert Kirby, Sharon Plichta, C. M. Mitchell, Willie Greene, George Valdez and Helen Kyle.

Councilman Valdez prayed the opening prayer, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Councilman Kirby motioned to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation to rezone the property at 119 McCamant Drive to R-2. Councilman Greene seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Mayor Mitchell and City Manager Campbell discussed the disturbing news they received today announcing the permanent closing of Webb Furniture on January 14, 2006. Three hundred plus jobs will be lost. Councilman Kirby stated that the company has conducted a mini job fair and that the company hopes to help the employees find new employment.

Tom Elliott, Regional Economic Developer, provided handouts and a brief presentation on the cooperative economic development process. He also discussed the challenges that must be dealt with in meeting the requirements of prospective businesses.

Edwin Ward outlined regulatory requirements required for permit limits in an Industrial Pretreatment Program Local Limits Review required by DEQ. He also presented a Local Limit Review proposal from Olver at a cost of $8,600.00. Councilman Valdez motioned to approve the proposal and pay the $8,600 fee. Councilman Greene seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Dave Nelson presented a User Agreement for the Golf Course and the Rex Theater. Following discussion, Councilwoman Plichta motioned to approve the Agreement with one change and that is to charge the same fee for a non-profit fundraiser as a private party. Councilman Greene expressed reservations about allowing alcohol at any event held at the Golf Course or the Rex Theater. Councilman Lazo seconded the motion. The following persons voted yea: Dr. Lazo, Mr. Kirby, Mrs. Plichta, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Valdez, and Mrs. Kyle. Mr. Greene tendered a nay vote. The motion was passed.

Councilman Kirby motioned to accept Chief Clark's recommendation to allow Kimberly Lawson to operate a taxi service in the City. Councilman Greene seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

City Manager Campbell discussed the City's Health Insurance Renewal coming up in January. He advised that there would be a 2.06% increase in premiums. Councilman Greene motioned to accept the city manager's recommendation for medical insurance. Councilman Valdez offered a second to the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Campbell presented the Governor's schedule for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Councilman Greene motioned to allow city employees to follow the governor's schedule for state employees. Councilman Valdez seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Councilman Valdez motioned to go into executive session as authorized in the Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3711(A)(5) Discussion concerning an industry expansion where no previous announcement has been made.

Councilperson Plichta motioned to return to regular session. Councilperson Greene seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

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

With no further business to come before Council the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:20pm.

Mayor

Clerk

CERTIFICATION RESOLUTION
CLOSED MEETING

**WHEREAS,** this Board convened in a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote on the motion to close the meeting to discuss an industry expansion where no previous announcement has been made for the purpose of _____ in accordance with Section 2.2-3711(A)(5) of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act;

**WHEREAS,** Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the City Council that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

**NOW, therefore be it resolved** that City Council hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were heard, discussed or considered in the closed meeting to which this certification applies; and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting to which this certification applies.

Upon motion by Councilwoman Plichta seconded by Councilman Greene.

Before a vote is taken on this resolution, is there any member who believes that there was a departure from the requirements of number (1) or Number (2)? If so, identify yourself and state the substance of the matter and why in your judgment it was a departure.

Subject matter_____

Departure _____

Hearing no statement or statements, I call the question.

Ayes: Councilpersons Lazo, Kirby, Plichta, Mitchell, Greene, Valdez and Kyle.

Nays:

This Certification Resolution was adopted November 14, 2005.

Daniel J. Coppola
City Manager/Clerk