

GALAX CITY COUNCIL
Minutes
September 11, 2006

The Galax City Council convened in regular session on September 11, 2006 in the courtroom of the WHS Public Safety Building. The meeting was called to order at 7:35pm with the following councilpersons being present and they are as listed: Robert Lazo, C. M. Mitchell, Willie Greene, Derrick Davis and Helen Kyle. Robert Kirby and John Garner were absent from the meeting.

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

Mayor Mitchell observed a moment of silence to remember the victims and families of the 9/11 attack.

Councilman Greene motioned to approve the minutes as written and to dispense with the reading of said minutes. Councilman Davis seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Steve Pollock from Comcast Cable Company was present at tonight's meeting to discuss the franchise agreement renewal, following approval it will become effective January 1, 2007.

After a brief discussion, it was a unanimous agreement that Council's planning retreat would be Saturday, October 21 in Wytheville.

Mayor Mitchell advised that a member of City Council should to be appointed to serve a term on the Planning Commission. Derrick Davis volunteered.

Keith Barker, Assistant City Manager, discussed the contract for installation of new audio and visual equipment at the Rex Theater. The cost will be approximately \$45,500. A brief discussion ensued. Chuck Riedhammer, Director of Tourism, concurred with Mr. Barker's comments concerning the new equipment. Councilman Greene motioned to approve the contract with the recommended changes and to finalize the contract. Councilwoman Kyle offered a second to the motion. Councilpersons Lazo, Mitchell, Greene and Kyle each tendered a yea vote. Councilman Davis did not vote.

Mayor Mitchell discussed information that he had obtained from the Strike Force Center. This information was related to assistance that had been provided to people who had lost their jobs due to industries/businesses closings.


Mayor Mitchell presented a proclamation declaring the week of September 17-23 as Constitution Week. Councilman Greene motioned to adopt the resolution as presented. Councilman Davis offered a second and the proclamation was unanimously approved.

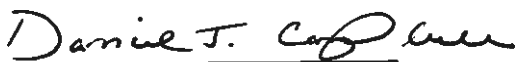
Mayor Mitchell advised that Susan Clark and her staff would provide an overview of all the programs that are provided through the Galax Department of Social Services on September 19 at 5pm in the conference room of the Municipal Building.

City Manager Campbell discussed a proposed pet neutering/spaying program. In the proposal, the City would provide up to one half the cost of uncomplicated neutering/spaying. The monies used for this program would come from animal licensing fees. Following a discussion, Councilman Davis motioned to approve the discussion. Councilman Greene seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Campbell discussed appointing an advisory board for the proposed Chestnut Creek School of the Arts. Blue Ridge Arts and Community Center, Inc (BRACC) is a non-profit organization that can be assigned to Chestnut Creek if approved. Mayor Mitchell and City Manager Campbell discussed the advantages of the proposal. Councilman Lazo motioned that BRAAC serve as an advisor and the non-profit entity for the Chestnut Creek School of the Arts. Councilman Greene offered a second. The following Councilpersons each offered a yea vote: Lazo, Mitchell, Greene and Kyle. Councilman Davis did not vote.

With no other business to come before Council, the meeting was unanimously adjourned on a motion by Councilman Greene at 8:35pm.


Mayor


Clerk