

GALAX CITY COUNCIL  
Minutes  
September 13, 2010

Galax City Council convened in regular session in City Council Chambers on September 13, 2010 at 7:30 pm.

At 7:30 p.m. Mayor Mitchell called the meeting to order with the following council persons present and they are as listed: Councilman Lazo, Councilwoman Plichta, Councilman Garner, Councilman Greene, Councilwoman Crouse, and Councilman Webb.

Councilman Webb prayed the opening prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilwoman Webb motioned to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on August 16, 2010. Councilwoman Crouse seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilwoman Crouse-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea.

A public notice was placed in the Gazette for any interested Galax resident interested in serving on the Board of Zoning Appeals for a term through June 30, 2013. One letter of interest was received from Ms. Fayma Nye. Councilman Garner motioned to recommend the appointment of Mrs. Nye to the Grayson County Circuit Court. Councilman Webb seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilwoman Crouse-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea.

Keith Barker informed council that the City Council Planning Session and Retreat has been scheduled for September 25, beginning at 9:00 AM at the Crossroads Institute. Dr. McBride has agreed to be the facilitator for the meeting. A discussion was held regarding the fact that a couple members of council could not attend the scheduled date. It was decided that September 20 and September 21 would work better. Keith Barker will arrange with Dr. McBride to reschedule on these dates.

Keith Barker explained that the National League of Cities, Prescription Discount Card Program is set to begin on October 12, 2010. A press release has been sent to the Gazette to announce the program. Posters and cards have also been received and will be placed throughout the City. He asked that a resolution be adopted by City Council in order to notify NLC of our intent to participate. Councilwoman Plichta motioned to approve the resolution. Vice-Mayor Greene seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilwoman Crouse-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Chris Shackelford, Director of the Chestnut Creek School of the Arts gave an update on the school, progress on classes, enrollment, etc. Councilman Lazo expressed the importance of the volunteers that serve the school. Mayor Mitchell thanked Chris for the energy, passion, and experience that make it all work.

Keith Barker informed council of a budget request from New River Highlands Resource Conservation and Development Area. The request was received from NRHRCD concerning funding for FY11. In the preparation of the budget, a letter was sent to them in February 2010 with a deadline for a funding request; however their request was included in their quarterly report issued in December. Due to this oversight, they were not included in our agency support funding. They are requesting funding in the amount of \$700, which is what has typically been provided to them over the last few years. If council wishes to consider providing this funding to them, it will be pulled from the contingency line item in the budget. Councilwoman Plichta motioned to approve the budget request. Councilman Lazo seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilwoman Crouse-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea.

Keith Barker informed council of a letter from Dr. Oliver McBride concerning a funding request from Crossroads Institute to fund a portion of a new HVAC control system. This is for this current fiscal year; however, funds were neither requested nor budgeted. This request has been made to Carroll County and Grayson County also and he hopes to have a report on their actions by the time of City Council's meeting. Mayor Mitchell recommended that this specific request be held until next council meeting. Mr. Barker agreed, and Councilman Garner motioned to hold any decision on the funding until next council meeting. Councilman Webb seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilwoman Crouse-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea.

The Galax Downtown Association has asked council to consider approving the date for trick-or-treating for the downtown Halloween festivities to Saturday, October 30 in lieu of Sunday October 31. The GDA is also requesting that the downtown area typically closed off for the Halloween event downtown be approved again. This is typically Main Street from Oldtown St. to Center St. and Grayson St. from Rex Lane to Jefferson Street. Council may consider changing all trick-or-treating in the City to Saturday October 30. Councilman Garner motioned that the street closure and downtown event on October 30 be approved. Councilwoman Crouse seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilwoman Crouse-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea. Council did not wish to change trick-or-treating in the City from Sunday to Saturday.

Wildwood Project – Participation Agreement – included in your packet is a copy of the participation agreement for the Wildwood Project. This is a regional industrial/commerce park being developed in conjunction with the Blue Ridge Crossroads Economic Development Authority (BRCEDA), Carroll County and Grayson County. Council is asked to consider adopting this agreement at this time, however I hope to have a report by Council meeting on the actions taken by Carroll in regards to the agreement. Grayson approved the agreement at their September 9 meeting, contingent on approval by Carroll at their Sept. 13 meeting. If there have been updates or amendments to the agreement, I will provide those at the council meeting.

At 8:40 p.m., the Council meeting adjourned.

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Mayor

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Clerk