

## GALAX CITY COUNCIL

### Minutes

March 28, 2011

Galax City Council convened in regular session in City Council Chambers on March 28, 2011 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, Vice-Mayor Greene, Councilwoman Crouse, and Councilman Webb.

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

Councilwoman Plichta motioned to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on March 14, 2011. Vice-Mayor Greene seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilwoman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilwoman Crouse-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea.

Mayor Mitchell presented a resolution for Galax High School Wrestler Mr. Junior Espinoza, VHSL 2011 State Champion Wrestler, 112 lbs. - Coach Byrd and Coach Barkley have coached the GHS Wrestling team to 8 consecutive Mountain Empire District Championships. Mr. Espinoza was the state champion at 112 lbs and 2nd Team All-Timesland.

Keith Barker reminded Council of Empty Bowls Day which City Council set March 30, 2011 to recognize Empty Bowls Day in Galax. The event is sponsored by the Twin County Arts Council and the bowls were made at the Chestnut Creek of the Arts, Oldtown Pottery. The event will take place at First Baptist Church on March 30 from 11:30 to 1:30.

Superintendent Bill Sturgill provided a copy of the draft budget for the Galax City Schools FY2011 for council's review. Keith Barker asked council to set April 11, 2011 as the advertised date for the public hearing on the school budget. Council can then adopt and appropriate the budget at its April 25, 2011 meeting if approved. Mayor Mitchell thanked the school administrators and staff along with council for their ability to work together on this budget process. Vice-Mayor Greene motioned to set April 11 as the public hearing date for the school budget. Councilwoman Crouse seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilwoman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilwoman Crouse-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea.

Dr. Charles White, President of Wytheville Community College presented council with a general update on the activities of WCC. He also made his budget request on behalf of WCC.

Keith Barker reminded council that the Chestnut Creek School of the Arts is hosting a fundraising gala in celebration of the first anniversary of their Grand Opening featuring live music, art exhibits and a silent auction on April 16, from 7:00pm-10:00pm This is one of two major fundraisers planned for this year and this one is specifically to benefit the Capital Endowment Campaign. The second will take place in the fall and will benefit the Friends Campaign.

Keith Barker informed council that in an inspection of our Spivey Road Water Reservoir, it was noted that the tank is in need of a large amount of repairs that include painting inside and out,

repairs of the metal and structural top, possible repairs to the metal sides (welding and hole repairs), etc. This tank is one of the City's older reservoirs. Edwin Ward, City Engineer, reviewed the anticipated costs of the project and it thought that it is more cost effective to consider removing the tank and partnering with Carroll County to use a portion of their Tower Road Reservoir. This reservoir is actually supplied water from the Spivey Reservoir. In order for this to happen, the city would relocate the Carroll County PSA water pumps that supply this tank to a new pump station location. The cost to perform this work is approximately \$120,000 vs. \$250,000 to rebuild the Spivey Reservoir. Council was asked to approve a resolution that would allow staff to seek possible funding from the Virginia Dept. of Health, MRPDC or other possible funding agencies. 50% or more of this project should be able to be funded with grant funds. 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, Councilwoman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilwoman Crouse-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea.

Grants Administrator Brenda Marrah stated she is working with the Twin County Humane Society and employees from the Animal Shelter on a grant proposal to the PETCO Foundation Extraordinary Gifts program. The proposal seeks funding to perform renovations to the Animal Shelter that would make it a more citizen friendly facility which would allow increased pet adoptions. While there is no formal design in place, funding is being sought that would include a new visitor space and lobby, a designated cat area, better office space, possible volunteer space, etc. This is a no-match grant. If this grant is awarded, the city will begin working with Carroll and Grayson Counties as partners in the regional operations and would seek City Council's prior permission and approval for all activities that will be undertaken. Mrs. Marrah asked that Council approve the request to submit the proposal. Councilman Lazo motioned that the project move forward. Councilwoman Crouse seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilwoman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilwoman Crouse-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea.

Keith Barker informed council that Galax acts as the fiscal agent for the Wired Road ARC Grant. Each year, any participating locality is required to participate in a fair housing activity as part of receiving the grant. He asked that council adopt the attached resolution which would meet the City's requirement for this year. Councilman Garner motioned to approve the resolution. Councilman Webb seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilwoman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilwoman Crouse-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea.

Keith Barker reminded council that April 4 at 6:00 is the first budget work session for our FY2012 budget. An electronic copy of the budget will be provided to council by March 30.

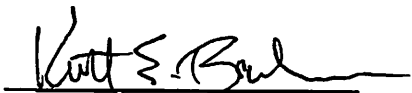
Keith Barker reminded council that the MRPDC Annual Joint Meeting will be held at the Galax Moose Lodge on Thursday, April 7, 2011 at 6 P.M. and to please RSVP to Lauren before April 1, 2011.

At 8:20 pm Councilman Webb motioned for the meeting enter into closed sessions under **Legal Council, §2.2-3711 A.5 of the Code of Virginia** - Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation and **Business and Industry Development, §2.2-3711 A.5 of the Code of Virginia** - Prospective or expansion of business or

industry where no previous public announcement has been made. Vice-Mayor Greene seconded the motion and it unanimously approved by the following votes: Councilman Lazo, Councilwoman Plichta, Councilman Garner-yea, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice Mayor Greene-yea, Councilwoman Crouse-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea.

At 8:50 p.m Council reconvened in open session. Mayor Mitchell certified that no items other than those allowed under the cited Virginia Code section were discussed and no action taken, with the following affirmation: Councilman Lazo-yea, Councilman Plichta-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice-Mayor Greene-yea, Councilwoman Crouse-yea, and Councilman Webb-yea.

At 8:55 p.m., the Council meeting adjourned.



Kurt E. Boud

Clerk



Mayor Mitchell

Mayor