

# GALAX CITY COUNCIL

## Minutes

November 28, 2011

Galax City Council convened in regular session in City Council Chambers on November 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: Councilwoman Crouse, Councilman Garner, Councilwoman Plichta, Councilman Lazo, and Councilman Webb. Vice-Mayor Greene was not present at this time.

Councilwoman Crouse prayed the opening prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Webb motioned to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on November 14, 2011. Councilwoman Crouse seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell-yea, Councilman Garner –yea, Councilman Webb, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilman Lazo – yea. Vice-Mayor Greene was not present at this time.

At 7:35pm Vice Mayor Greene was in attendance.

Keith Barker updated council that Brian McCann, Executive Director for Cascades Highlands, has asked City Council to consider approving the attached resolution of support for Cascade Highlands as they transition from a publically funded organization to a private/public funded organization. Per the information he sent, in an effort to move from public to public-private (with an emphasis on more private) support, they need help in legitimizing and explaining who Cascade Highlands is. Since public entities started the organization, they are requesting assistance in explaining this transition. Councilwoman Plichta motioned to approve the resolution supporting these efforts to seek public and private support. Councilwoman Crouse seconded the motion and is was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice-Mayor Greene Councilman, Councilman Garner –yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Webb- yea, and Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilman Lazo – yea.

Keith Barker reminded council that the Annual Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting will be at 6:15 and the parade at 7:00 on Friday, December 2.

Keith Barker updated council on discussions with the city's health insurance consultant to review renewal rates for 2012. The renewal quote received was with a 28.84% increase, far above what was budgeted for in the current budget. With changes proposed to the coverage, the increase can be reduced to 14.75%. Council budgeted for an 8% increase over the entire fiscal year; however the full year of funding is available to apply to this increase for the 6 months (January to June) in FY2012. Staff would propose accepting the renewal at the 14.75% increase, which would require that an additional 6.25% is budgeted in health insurance costs in FY2013. There will be increases to the employee plans as well as the city costs. Any increase in the 2013 renewal would require redistribution of costs among the employee share percentages only. Councilman Lazo stated that a lot of health insurance premiums are increasing. Councilman Garner stated that with incentives employees may be more willing to participate in a wellness program. Councilman Webb motioned to accept the changes to the city's health insurance renewal rates. Councilman Lazo seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice-Mayor

Greene Councilman, Councilman Garner –yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Webb-yea, and Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilman Lazo – yea.


Keith Barker explained to council that as part of the city's transition from a residential/commercial dumpster provider to mainly residential, there will be a need to modify portions of the daily trash routes. He stated he is currently working with staff at Public Works to develop a new route system where staff will be able to evenly spread out the route and number of stops per day. Information will be provided at an upcoming City Council meeting and staff would notify all customers through water billing or individual notifications of the new routes and pickup days.

Keith Barker asked council to approve making use of GovDeals.com as a means to dispose of surplus vehicle and property. This is a low cost option that would provide a larger audience for selling these surplus items. The Director of Finance office has been set up as the official point of contact for sales transactions (listing and receiving of funds), however City Council would still provide approval for items to be declared surplus. There is a fee associated with the sale (5% seller fee, 7.5% buyer fee); however, the city also pays a fee to auction company to conduct sales and labor costs on Saturdays to man the auction. He stated this would allow staff to routinely list property rather than wait for a single yearly auction. He also asked Council to also declare three vehicles as surplus property:


- |    |      |                |        |         |                    |
|----|------|----------------|--------|---------|--------------------|
| a. | P-9  | 2004 Chevrolet | Impala | 126,692 | 2G1WF55K049448355  |
| b. | P-13 | 2007 Chevrolet | Impala | 114,798 | 2G1WS55R079415644  |
| c. | P-15 | 2007 Chevrolet | Impala | 114,515 | 2G1WS55R2792189300 |

Councilman Garner motioned to approve using GovDeals for selling surplus vehicles and property and to declare the three vehicles listed as surplus property. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice-Mayor Greene Councilman, Councilman Garner –yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Webb-yea, and Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilman Lazo – yea.

At 8:05 p.m., a motion was made by Councilwoman Plichta adjourn.



Clerk

  
Mayor