

GALAX CITY COUNCIL

Minutes

February 25, 2013

Galax City Council convened in regular session in City Council Chambers on February 25, 2013 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: Mayor Mitchell, Vice Mayor Greene, Councilman Garner, Councilman Webb, Councilwoman Plichta, and Councilman Lazo. Councilwoman Crouse was absent.

Mayor Mitchell prayed the opening prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Webb motioned to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on February 11, 2013. Councilman Garner seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice Mayor Greene- yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Councilman Webb-yea, Councilwoman Plichta, and Councilman Lazo-yea.

Consideration for the development of the Galax Water Treatment Plant, Source Water Protection Program (SWPP) was held over from the last council meeting. Keith Barker updated council that this item is fully funded through VDH-ODW. An engineering firm, working under contract with VDH-ODW, will develop a SWPP using community and stakeholder involvement. Basic elements of the engineering firm's work in developing a SWPP will be providing water shed assessment, along with technical assistance and coordination of a local advisory committee. The advisory committee will be comprised of stakeholders including, but not limited to, local government officials, business owners, farmers and other interested citizens from Galax City and Carroll and Grayson Counties. The engineering firm will produce a source water protection plan under the direction of the local advisory committee and with final approval of City Council. Vice Mayor Greene motioned to approve the city's participation in the SWPP during the planning purposes. Councilman Webb seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice Mayor Greene- yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Councilman Webb-yea, Councilwoman Plichta, and Councilman Lazo-yea.

Galax City Schools Superintendent Bill Sturgill presented the revised FY2013 school budget. He stated there are no changes requiring additional city funds and increases represent additional revenue from other sources. Vice Mayor Greene motioned to approve the budget amendment as presented. Councilman Webb seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice Mayor Greene- yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Councilman Webb-yea, Councilwoman Plichta, and Councilman Lazo-yea.

Chief Clark presented his annual report on the Galax Police Department and activities. Mayor Mitchell then administered the oath of office to Officers Bobbitt, Hash and Houk.

Chief Clark informed council that the adjoining county sheriffs have asked for an update to the Mutual Aid Agreement. Specific changes are denoted in the document and include the following – Section 7 – revise to allow the request for mutual aid requests from the counties (and vice versa) to go directly to the Galax Police Chief rather than through the City Manager. Section 14 – add this section to allow routine patrol of roads in more isolated areas by memorandum. An example for Galax would be Willowbend Road located in the Fox Run subdivision. Galax Police

Department would patrol and be first run responders by agreement with the Carroll County Sheriff's Department. Councilman Garner motioned to approve the revised Mutual Aid Agreement as presented. Councilman Webb seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice Mayor Greene- yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Councilman Webb-yea, Councilwoman Plichta, and Councilman Lazo-yea.

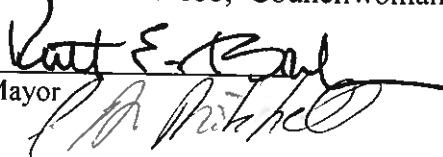
Keith Barker informed council that Tim Lewis, the Galax Representative for the Mt. Rogers Community Services Board, has notified the Executive Director Lisa Moore of his resignation from the board. The term on the board is a 3-year term which now is vacant until December 31, 2014. The board appointee would also be eligible for two addition 3-year terms. The board meets in Wytheville on the fourth Monday of each month at 1:00 PM and has lunch prior to the meeting from 12:00 – 1:00. Councilman Webb motioned that staff advertises the board opening and letters of interest be brought to council at a future meeting. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell-yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Councilman Webb-yea, Councilwoman Plichta, and Councilman Lazo-yea. Vice Mayor Greene did not vote.

Keith Barker informed council that David Hutchins, Rooftop Chairman, has asked that each locality adopt a resolution asking DHCD to leave the Indoor Plumbing and Rehab program in its current form. DHCD has notified program recipients that they are modifying the overall program into six regions rather than the current 20+ number of sub-recipients. While this will assist DHCD in dealing with less individual recipients, it takes the program from each locality and prohibits their ability to select who will administer the local program. This region (Galax, Carroll and Grayson) has named Rooftop of VA CAP as our program administrator for a number of years. Under the proposed change, Galax will instead have the program administered by a recipient chosen by DHCD. It is possible that Rooftop may be a contractor for a recipient, however that is not guaranteed. He stated that Rooftop is asking that a resolution be adopted asking for no changes to the current program. Councilman Webb motioned to approve the resolution for support. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice Mayor Greene- yea, Councilman Garner-yea, Councilman Webb-yea, Councilwoman Plichta, and Councilman Lazo-yea.

This was the date that City Council set to interview school board applicants for the term of July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2016. City Council received letters of interest from Stewart Merdian, Jason Jordan and Dr. James Adams. Mr. Merdian and Mr Jordan briefly spoke to council while is session. No action was required of Council. Council met in closed session to interview each candidate.

At 8:35 p.m., a motion was made by Councilwoman Plichta to enter into closed session under **Personnel Matter §2.2-3711 A.1 of the Code of Virginia - Candidates for employment; the assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, discipline, salaries, compensation, or resignation of employees.** Councilman Webb seconded the motion.

At 10:00 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: Mayor Mitchell-yea, Vice-Mayor Greene –yea, Councilman Garner –yea, Councilman Webb, Councilwoman Plichta and Councilman Lazo yea.


Mayor


Clerk