

Galax City Council  
Minutes  
February 24, 2020

Galax City Council convened in regular session in City Council Chambers on February 24, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

At 6:00 p.m. Mayor Mitchell called the meeting to order with the following Council persons present and they are as listed: Mayor Mitchell, Councilman Greene, Vice Mayor Plichta, Councilwoman Ritchie, and Councilman Larrowe. Councilwoman White arrived at 6:10.

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

Councilman Greene made the motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 10, 2020. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by the following votes of "yea": Mayor Mitchell, Vice Mayor Plichta, Councilman Greene, Councilwoman Ritchie, Councilman Larrowe, and Councilwoman White.

Ms. Mary Ellen Rhudy from the group, Friends of the Galax-Carroll-Grayson Animal Shelter, was present to inform Council on how the group of citizens have been working on fund raising for the Animal Shelter. Ms. Rhudy explained the group's hope was to raise enough private funding, partnered with a one-time request of \$20K from each member locality of Galax, Grayson, and Carroll, to construct the north part of the proposed Animal Shelter addition. Ms. Rhudy informed Council if the total amount from each locality was donated, then the Friends group would match that amount. Ms. Rhudy noted the group has raised \$47K to date. Councilman Larrowe made the motion to approve the request to contribute \$20K toward the shelter project contingent on Carroll & Grayson also approving \$20K each. Councilwoman Plichta seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes of "yea": Mayor Mitchell, Vice Mayor Plichta, Councilman Greene, Councilwoman Ritchie, Councilman Larrowe, and Councilwoman White.

Keith Barker gave an update on the Cranberry Road Project. He explained the City bid the Cranberry Road Project on February 12 and the low bidder was Sowers Construction Co. Inc. at \$1,561,707. He said the bid was well under the construction estimate and grant budget. He also noted this project was 100% grant funded. Mr. Barker closed by saying the final bid information was being gathered to provide to VDOT for review and approval.

Ms. Karen Shelton - District Director of Mt. Rogers Health District, gave an in-depth presentation to Council on community programs offered by the Health Department. Ms. Shelton also informed Council of the importance of various vaccines.

Ms. Emily Brown gave an update on the Tourism activities and opportunities she had been working on.

Keith Barker gave a reminder to Council that we would have our residential large item pickup in the City from March 9-13. He said the event was to be advertised in the paper and a flyer would be included in the March water bill.

Keith Barker informed Council that the Carroll-Galax-Grayson Regional Landfill Authority had set Saturday April 4 as the household hazardous waste collection date for Galax and Grayson County. He explained that residents, at no cost, would be able to bring paint, pesticides, batteries, etc. for collection and disposal by the contracted company. Also shredding services would also be

offered for home documents. Mr. Barker noted the Galax site would be at the City's Public Works location on Fair Street from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM. Grayson County's site would be at a location they would designate from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM. A series of advertisements were planned by the City, Grayson County, and the regional landfill authority.

Mayor Mitchell opened the floor for public comments. There were none.

Councilwoman White announced the local Celebrate Recovery group would be holding an Addiction Symposium at the Rex Theater on March 7. She also spoke briefly on the upcoming Census and the importance of how each person needs to be counted.

Keith Barker introduced Mr. Jimmy Moss as the City's new Project Manager.

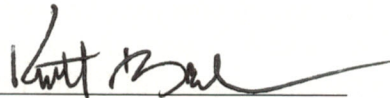
Chief Dewitt Cooper reminded everyone of the benefit dinner & auction on March 6 to raise funds to purchase a police dog.

With no further discussion, Mayor Mitchell announced the meeting was adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT at 7:10 p.m.



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Mayor



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Clerk