

**CITY OF FLORENCE  
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL  
October 5, 2010**

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Florence, Alabama, was held in the City Hall Auditorium in Florence at 5:00 p.m., on Tuesday, October 5, 2010. President Barnhart called the meeting to order. Councilmember William D. Jordan gave the invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Robert M. Leyde, City Clerk, performed the roll call and noted that Councilmember Andrew Betterton was absent and that five Councilmembers were present and a quorum was present with the following members of the City Council in attendance: Sam Pendleton, Jr., William D. Jordan Hermon T. Graham, Barry Morris and James H. Barnhart.

**AMENDED AGENDA**

**CITY OF FLORENCE, ALABAMA**

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**October 5, 2010**

**5:00 P.M.**

- 
1. Meeting called to order - President Barnhart
  2. Invocation - Councilmember Jordan
  3. Pledge of Allegiance
  4. Roll Call - President Barnhart
  5. Approval of Agenda
  6. Message from Mayor
  7. Reports of Department Heads
  8. Reports of Standing Committees
  9. Public Hearings:
  10. Business from floor pertaining to items on the consent and regular agenda (5-minute limit).
  11. Consent Agenda:

All matters listed within the Consent Agenda have been distributed to each member of the Florence City Council for reading and study, are considered to be routine, and will be enacted by one motion of the Council with no separate discussion. If separate discussion is desired, that item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Agenda by request. Please call 760-6400 for questions on Consent Agenda items prior to the Council meeting.

- (a) Approval of minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 21, 2010.
- (b) Confirm payment of bills by the City Treasurer.
- (c) Resolution authorizing the City to enter into a contract with United Power Services, Inc., to provide laboratory testing of transformer insulating fluids for the Florence Utilities Electricity Department, to be paid in accordance with the attached proposal, sponsored by Richard Morrissey.
- (d) Resolution authorizing the City to enter into a contract with the Boys and Girls Club of Northwest Alabama, Inc., in the amount of \$16,000.00 to provide quality youth learning opportunities and other programs for youth in low and moderate income families in accordance with the approved Action Plan, sponsored by Phil Stevenson.

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- (e) Resolution authorizing the City to enter into a contract with the Florence Housing Authority, in the amount of \$12,000.00 to provide support and assistance to remove persons and families from public assistance in accordance with the approved Action Plan, sponsored by Phil Stevenson.
- (f) Resolution to approve the Consent to Assignment of Agreements between NTCH West Tenn, Inc., and the City of Florence, sponsored by Mike Doyle.
- (g) Resolution to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$3,500.00 to obtain a commercial appraisal of 60.5 acres of the old Florence Country Club property that the University of North Alabama has offered to purchase from the City of Florence, sponsored by Mayor Irons. **(This item was moved to Regular Agenda, Item 12 (a))**
- (h) Resolution to approve the Full Release Receipt from the City of Florence to Auto-Owners Insurance Company, sponsored by Vance Young.
- (i) Resolution to advance and reimburse Travel Expenses to City employees, sponsored by Mayor Irons.

12. Regular Agenda:

- (a) Resolution to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$3,500.00 to obtain a commercial appraisal of 60.5 acres of the old Florence Country Club property that the University of North Alabama has offered to purchase from the City of Florence, sponsored by Mayor Irons. **(This item was moved from Consent Agenda Item 11 (g))**

13. General Business:

- (a) Resolution authorizing the City to appropriate the following sums for the General Fund Budget, reflecting projected revenues of \$47,083,330.00 and projected expenses of \$46,799,605.00 for fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, sponsored by Mayor Irons and Dan Barger.
- (b) Resolution approving the sixteen (16) various Special Fund Budgets , in the amount of \$15,590,916.00, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, sponsored by Mayor Irons and Dan Barger.
- (c) Resolution authorizing the City to appropriate the following sums for the Solid Waste Fund Budget, reflecting projected revenues of \$4,461,440.00, use of net assets totaling \$64,720.00, and projected expenses of \$4,526,160.00 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, sponsored by Mayor Irons and Dan Barger.
- (d) Resolution approving the budget amendment reflecting the effect on the Electricity Department of a 3% general wage increase, sponsored by Richard Morrissey and Vance Young.
- (e) Resolution approving the budget amendment reflecting the effect on the Gas Department of a 3% general wage increase and a revision to transportation revenues sponsored by Mike Doyle and Vance Young.
- (f) Resolution approving the budget amendment reflecting the effect on the Water Department of a 3% general wage increase and other minor revisions sponsored by Mike Doyle and Vance Young.
- (g) Resolution – Alcohol Beverage License Application for the operation of a Package Liquor Store with Off-Premises Liquor, Beer & Wine by GUR BHANDAR OIL CO., INC., d/b/a HAPPY'S PACKAGE STORE, located at 2200-B CHISHOLM ROAD, FLORENCE, AL 35630, sponsored by Robert M. Leyde.
- (h) Resolution – Alcohol Beverage License Application for the operation of an Automobile Self-Service Station & Convenience Foods with Off-Premises Beer by GUR BHANDAR OIL CO., INC., d/b/a PARADISE FOOD MART 3, located at 2200-A CHISHOLM ROAD, FLORENCE, AL 35630, sponsored by Robert M. Leyde.

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- (i) Resolution – Alcohol Beverage License Application for the operation of an Automobile Self-Service Station & Convenience Foods with Off-Premises Beer by NITIN, INC., d/b/a/ Q GAS 2, located at 2002 CHISHOLM ROAD, FLORENCE, AL 35630, sponsored by Robert M. Leyde.

- (j) Board Openings within the next 90 days or less:

<u>Board</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Expire</u>
Adjustments & Appeals	E. B. Norton	09/06/05	09/30/10
	Jason B. Lentz	09/06/05	09/30/10
Beautification Board	Vacancy		
Industrial Development	John Van Sandt	06/02/92	04/05/10
	Rusty Carbine	06/02/92	04/05/10
Scope 310	Vacancy	07/21/92	07/21/10
SEDA	J. Tyndal Davis	09/04/01	09/30/10
	Brad Holmes	09/20/05	09/30/10

14. Business from the public (5-minute time limit).

15. Council Members reports and/or comments (5-minute limit).

Councilmember Betterton  
 Councilmember Pendleton  
 Councilmember Jordan  
 Councilmember Graham  
 Councilmember Morris  
 Councilmember Barnhart

16. Motion to Adjourn.

Prior to the approval of the agenda, Councilmember Pendleton asked that Consent Agenda Item 11 (g) be moved to Regular Agenda Item 12 (a). Councilmember Pendleton asked City Attorney William T. Musgrove III if any City Councilmembers should abstain from voting on items regarding the University of North Alabama. Mr. Musgrove stated that Councilmember Morris who is employed by the University of North Alabama can vote on issues regarding the University except where the City Council is appropriating money to the University. Councilmember Pendleton asked President Barnhart if there would be a discussion period during the Report of Standing Committee portion of the meeting? President Barnhart stated that there would be a time for discussion.

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After no further comments, President Barnhart asked for a motion for approval of the amended agenda. Councilmember Graham moved for approval of the agenda. Councilmember Jordan seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote taken thereon resulted as follows:

Ayes: Sam Pendleton, Jr.  
Hermon T. Graham  
William D. Jordan  
Barry Morris  
James H. Barnhart

Noes: None

**Message from the Mayor:**

Mayor Irons ask Mr. Dennis Brown, Florence Fire Department, to come forward and explain about a new project the Florence Fire Department has become a part of. Mr. Brown stated that October is "Cancer Awareness" Month and to raise money for cancer research, the Florence Fire Department is currently selling pink t-shirts with the Florence Firefighter logo on the front. Mr. Brown also stated that the t-shirts can be purchased at any of the local firehouses .

Mayor Irons presented a Proclamation to Mr. John Pinion, Co-President of the National Alliance on Mental Illness in the Shoals, designating the week of October 3-9 as "Mental Illness Awareness Week".

Mayor Irons stated that since Halloween falls on Sunday this year, he would like to encourage the citizens of Florence to observe Halloween on Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup> .

Mayor Irons announced that the 2010 "State of the City" program is scheduled for Tuesday evening, November 9<sup>th</sup> at the Florence/Lauderdale Coliseum.

Mayor Irons made comments regarding a recent Times Daily article entitled "Florence Named Great Small Town". Mayor Irons stated that the Huffington Post, which is a nationally recognized news web-site, considers Florence to be among the "11" Great American Small Towns in America. Mayor Irons also stated the article featured the Rosenbaum House, W. C. Handy Home, and referred to Florence as the fashion capital of the South because of Billy Reid and Natalie Chanin. Mayor Irons stated that it is quite an honor to be selected in the top 11 cities in America because we were competing with hundreds of cities across the United States.

Mayor Irons' comments follow, to wit:

**Reports of Department Heads:** None

**Reports of Standing Committees:**

Councilmember Jordan gave a report on the Finance Committee meeting that was held on October 4, 2010. Councilmember Jordan noted that in attendance were Councilmember Morris, President Barnhart, Councilmember Graham, Mayor Irons, Dan Barger, Chief Accountant and Robert Palmer, TimesDaily reporter. Councilmember Jordan stated that the 2011 General Fund budget was discussed and everyone except Councilmember Morris was in agreement to adopt the budget that was presented to the committee. Councilmember Jordan stated that the committee also agreed to recommend that Mayor Irons move forward to obtain a real-estate appraisal of the former Florence Country Club property.

Councilmember Pendleton made comments regarding Councilmembers attending committee meetings. Councilmember Pendleton stated that three or more City Councilmembers at a meeting are a quorum. Councilmember Pendleton also stated that only three Councilmembers need to attend committee meetings. Councilmember Pendleton stated that we need to keep the spirit of the Sunshine Law.

President Barnhart stated that we will continue to obey the law and that we have not violated the law by more than three City Councilmembers attending committee meetings.

**Public Hearings:** None

**Business from the Floor Pertaining to Items on the Consent or Regular Agenda:** None

**Consent Agenda:**

President Barnhart asked for a motion for approval of the Consent Agenda items. Councilmember Graham moved for approval of (a) Approval of minutes of the Regular Meeting on September 21, 2010 and (b) Confirmation of payment of bills by the City Treasurer; and The ordinances and resolutions as follow, to-wit:

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Councilmember Jordan seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote taken thereon resulted as follows:

Ayes: Sam Pendleton, Jr.  
Hermon T. Graham  
William D. Jordan  
Barry Morris  
James H. Barnhart

**Regular Agenda:**

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a Resolution to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$3,500.00 to obtain a commercial appraisal of 60.5 acres of the old Florence Country Club property that the University of North Alabama has offered to purchase from the City of Florence, sponsored by Mayor Irons. **(This item was moved from Consent Agenda Item 11 (g) Said** Resolution follows, to wit:

Councilmember Graham moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing resolution.

Councilmember Jordan seconded the motion. A vote taken thereon resulted as follows:

Ayes: Sam Pendleton, Jr.  
Hermon T. Graham  
William D. Jordan  
Barry Morris  
James H. Barnhart

Noes: None

Councilmember Graham moved for adoption of the foregoing resolution. Councilmember Jordan seconded the motion.

**Discussion:**

Councilmember Pendleton made comments regarding the sale of a portion of the Florence Country Club property. Councilmember Pendleton stated that the University of North Alabama has agreed on a price that they are willing to pay the City for the property and now we are voting to get an appraisal.

Councilmember Morris asked William Musgrove, City Attorney, for a ruling regarding the number of times a Councilmember can speak during the discussion period. Mr. Musgrove stated that a Councilmember can speak twice and cannot speak a third time until all other Councilmembers have an opportunity to speak.

Councilmember Pendleton made comments regarding a conversation with President Barnhart regarding the sale of a portion of the Florence Country Club property to the University of North Alabama. Councilmember Pendleton stated that the President of the City Council should keep everyone on the Council in check.

Councilmember Jordan made comments regarding the sale of a portion of the Florence Country Club property to the University of North Alabama. Councilmember Jordan stated that this resolution is to obtain an appraisal for the property. Councilmember Jordan also stated that once we get the appraisal, then we should have an open discussion regarding the sale of the property. Councilmember Jordan stated that he agrees that we should sell the property to the University of North Alabama. Councilmember Jordan stated that when he was approached by Mayor Irons regarding the sales price that he fully agreed with the dollar amount.

Councilmember Morris made comments regarding the Mayor negotiating contracts. Councilmember Morris stated that he has not seen any documents regarding the sale of the

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property. Councilmember Morris also stated that he expects when Mayor Irons has documents then he will take them to the Finance Committee for more discussion. Councilmember Morris also stated that once we receive an appraisal, then the City Council will have plenty of opportunity for more open discussions regarding the sale of the property to the University of North Alabama.

Councilmember Pendleton stated that Councilmember Morris' comments are incorrect. Councilmember Pendleton stated that the public has the right to inspect the documents before the sale is made final. Councilmember Pendleton stated that he is concerned with robbing the public's trust.

Councilmember Jordan stated that the Mayor as an administrative officer of the City has the right to negotiate contracts. Councilmember Jordan also stated that now that the offer has been brought to the City Council, an open discussion can occur.

Councilmember Pendleton made comments regarding Mayor Irons' administrative duties. Councilmember Pendleton stated that this City Council sets the rules and policies.

There being no further discussion, a vote taken on the motion resulted as follows:

Ayes: Hermon T. Graham  
William D. Jordan  
Barry Morris  
James H. Barnhart

Noes: Sam Pendleton, Jr.

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a Resolution authorizing the City to appropriate the following sums for the General Fund Budget, reflecting projected revenues of \$47,083,330.00 and projected expenses of \$46,799,605.00 for fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, sponsored by Mayor Irons and Dan Barger. Said Resolution follows, to wit:



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Councilmember Graham moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing resolution.

Councilmember Jordan seconded the motion. A vote taken thereon resulted as follows:

Ayes: Sam Pendleton, Jr.  
Hermon T. Graham  
William D. Jordan  
Barry Morris  
James H. Barnhart

Noes: None

Councilmember Jordan moved for adoption of the foregoing resolution. Councilmember Graham seconded the motion.

**Discussion:**

Councilmember Morris made comments that follow to wit:

Councilmember Pendleton made comments in opposition to the proposed employee cost-of-living raise. Councilmember Pendleton stated that the City Council should reject the employee pay raises and offer a life-line to our local school systems as follows: Florence City Schools - \$ 300,000.00, Shoals Christian School -\$150,000.00, Mars Hill Bible School - \$150,000.00 and Victory Christian School - \$75,000.00. Councilmember Pendleton stated that City employees will not have their jobs forever. Councilmember Pendleton also stated that many employees will not retire from the City because we will not have the funds to sustain them because of rising costs such as healthcare.

Councilmember Graham made comments in support of the proposed employee cost-of-living raise. Councilmember Graham stated that in 1995 the City of Florence passed a one cent sales tax and that 37.5% of that tax goes to the Florence City School System. Councilmember Graham stated that the City of Florence gives more money to our local school system than any other surrounding city government. Councilmember Graham stated that the cost of living raise equals one percent a year and that is not too much for our employees.

Councilmember Pendleton stated that we should not justify the money that we give the Florence City School System because of the cuts caused by proration. Councilmember Pendleton stated that the City has plenty of money to give employees a raise and to offer a life-line to our local schools.

Councilmember Morris made comments in opposition to the proposed City employee cost-of-living raise. Councilmember Morris stated that City employees do deserve a raise. Councilmember Morris also stated that there are many people who are losing their jobs because of the economy and because of this, it is insensitive to give the City employees a raise.

Councilmember Jordan made comments in support of the proposed City employee cost-of-living raise. Councilmember Jordan stated that if the City can continue to provide quality service to our citizens and not burden them with tax increases, then we should give our employees a raise. Councilmember Jordan stated that it is not insensitive to give our employees a raise.

Councilmember Morris stated that we have the money to give our employees a raise because we have a tax on groceries.

Councilmember Jordan stated that one reason we might have the money to give a cost-of-living increase is due to our employees performing their jobs well. Councilmember Jordan also stated that sales tax is not the only avenue the City uses to collect money.

Councilmember Pendleton also stated that the raises are not coming out of the City Councilmembers' pockets. Councilmember Pendleton also stated that just because we have the

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money for the raises does not mean we should approve it. Councilmember Pendleton stated that City employees should reject the raise and go for increased benefits.

There being no further discussion, a vote taken on the motion resulted as follows:

Ayes: Hermon T. Graham  
William D. Jordan  
James H. Barnhart

Noes: Sam Pendleton, Jr.  
Barry Morris

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a Resolution approving the sixteen (16) various Special Fund Budgets , in the amount of \$15,590,916.00, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, sponsored by Mayor Irons and Dan Barger. Said Resolution follows, to wit

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Councilmember Graham moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing resolution.

Councilmember Jordan seconded the motion. A vote taken thereon resulted as follows:

Ayes: Sam Pendleton, Jr.  
Hermon T. Graham  
William D. Jordan  
Barry Morris  
James H. Barnhart

Noes: None

Councilmember Jordan moved for adoption of the foregoing resolution. Councilmember Graham seconded the motion.

There being no discussion, a vote taken on the motion resulted as follows:

Ayes: Sam Pendleton, Jr.  
Hermon T. Graham  
William D. Jordan  
James H. Barnhart

Noes: Barry Morris

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a Resolution authorizing the City to appropriate the following sums for the Solid Waste Fund Budget, reflecting projected revenues of \$4,461,440.00, use of net assets totaling \$64,720.00, and projected expenses of \$4,526,160.00 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, sponsored by Mayor Irons and Dan Barger. Said Resolution follows, to wit:

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Councilmember Graham moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing resolution.

Councilmember Jordan seconded the motion. A vote taken thereon resulted as follows:

Ayes: Sam Pendleton, Jr.  
Hermon T. Graham  
William D. Jordan  
Barry Morris  
James H. Barnhart

Noes: None

Councilmember Graham moved for adoption of the foregoing resolution. Councilmember Jordan seconded the motion.

**Discussion:**

Councilmember Pendleton stated that the City Council needs to extend a lifeline to local public and Christian schools in Florence.

There being no further discussion, a vote taken on the motion resulted as follows:

Ayes: Hermon T. Graham  
William D. Jordan  
James H. Barnhart

Noes: Sam Pendleton, Jr.  
Barry Morris

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a Resolution approving the budget amendment reflecting the effect on the Electricity Department of a 3% general wage increase, sponsored by Richard Morrissey and Vance Young. Said Resolution follows, to wit:

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Councilmember Graham moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing resolution.

Councilmember Jordan seconded the motion. A vote taken thereon resulted as follows:

Ayes: Sam Pendleton, Jr.  
Hermon T. Graham  
William D. Jordan  
Barry Morris  
James H. Barnhart

Noes: None

Councilmember Graham moved for adoption of the foregoing resolution. Councilmember Jordan seconded the motion.

**Discussion:**

Councilmember Pendleton stated again that the City Council needs to extend a lifeline to local public and Christian schools.

There being no further discussion, a vote taken on the motion resulted as follows:

Ayes: Hermon T. Graham  
William D. Jordan  
James H. Barnhart

Noes: Sam Pendleton, Jr.  
Barry Morris

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a Resolution approving the budget amendment reflecting the effect on the Gas Department of a 3% general wage increase and a revision to transportation revenues sponsored by Mike Doyle and Vance Young. Said Resolution follows, to wit:

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Councilmember Graham moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing resolution.

Councilmember Jordan seconded the motion. A vote taken thereon resulted as follows:

Ayes: Sam Pendleton, Jr.  
Hermon T. Graham  
William D. Jordan  
Barry Morris  
James H. Barnhart

Noes: None

Councilmember Graham moved for adoption of the foregoing resolution. Councilmember Jordan seconded the motion.

**Discussion:**

Councilmember Pendleton stated that the City Council needs to extend a lifeline of support to local public and Christian schools.

There being no further discussion, a vote taken on the motion resulted as follows:

Ayes: Hermon T. Graham  
William D. Jordan  
James H. Barnhart

Noes: Sam Pendleton, Jr.  
Barry Morris

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a Resolution approving the budget amendment reflecting the effect on the Water Department of a 3% general wage increase and other minor revisions sponsored by Mike Doyle and Vance Young. Said Resolution follows, to wit:

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Councilmember Graham moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing resolution.

Councilmember Jordan seconded the motion. A vote taken thereon resulted as follows:

Ayes: Sam Pendleton, Jr.  
Hermon T. Graham  
William D. Jordan  
Barry Morris  
James H. Barnhart

Noes: None

Councilmember Graham moved for adoption of the foregoing resolution. Councilmember Jordan seconded the motion.

**Discussion:**

Councilmember Pendleton stated that the City Council needs to extend a lifeline of support to Florence City Schools and local Christian schools.

There being no further discussion, a vote taken on the motion resulted as follows:

Ayes: Hermon T. Graham  
William D. Jordan  
James H. Barnhart

Noes: Sam Pendleton, Jr.  
Barry Morris

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a Resolution – Alcohol Beverage License Application for the operation of a Package Liquor Store with Off-Premises Liquor, Beer & Wine by GUR BHANDAR OIL CO., INC., d/b/a HAPPY'S PACKAGE STORE, located at 2200-B CHISHOLM ROAD, FLORENCE, AL 35630, sponsored by Robert M. Leyde. Said Resolution follows, to wit:



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Councilmember Jordan moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Resolution.

Councilmember Graham seconded the motion. A vote taken thereon resulted as follows:

Ayes: Sam Pendleton, Jr.  
Hermon T. Graham  
William D. Jordan  
Barry Morris  
James H. Barnhart

Noes: None

Councilmember Jordan moved for adoption of the foregoing Resolution. Councilmember Graham seconded the motion.

There being no discussion, a vote taken on the motion resulted as follows:

Ayes: Sam Pendleton, Jr.  
Hermon T. Graham  
William D. Jordan  
Barry Morris  
James H. Barnhart

Noes: None

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a Resolution – Alcohol Beverage License Application for the operation of an Automobile Self-Service Station & Convenience Foods with Off-Premises Beer by GUR BHANDAR OIL CO., INC., d/b/a PARADISE FOOD MART 3, located at 2200-A CHISHOLM ROAD, FLORENCE, AL 35630, sponsored by Robert M. Leyde. Said Resolution follows, to wit:

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Councilmember Graham moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Resolution.

Councilmember Morris seconded the motion. A vote taken thereon resulted as follows:

Ayes: Sam Pendleton, Jr.  
Hermon T. Graham  
William D. Jordan  
Barry Morris  
James H. Barnhart

Noes: None

Councilmember Graham moved for adoption of the foregoing Resolution.

Councilmember Jordan seconded the motion.

There being no discussion, a vote taken on the motion resulted as follows:

Ayes: Sam Pendleton, Jr.  
Hermon T. Graham  
William D. Jordan  
Barry Morris  
James H. Barnhart

Noes: None

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a Resolution – Alcohol Beverage License Application for the operation of an Automobile Self-Service Station & Convenience Foods with Off-Premises Beer by NITIN, INC., d/b/a/ Q GAS 2, located at 2002 CHISHOLM ROAD, FLORENCE, AL 35630, sponsored by Robert M. Leyde. Said Resolution follows, to wit:

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Councilmember Jordan moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Resolution.

Councilmember Morris seconded the motion. A vote taken thereon resulted as follows:

Ayes: Sam Pendleton, Jr.  
Hermon T. Graham  
William D. Jordan  
Barry Morris  
James H. Barnhart

Noes: None

Councilmember Graham moved for adoption of the foregoing Resolution.

Councilmember Jordan seconded the motion.

There being no discussion, a vote taken on the motion resulted as follows:

Ayes: Sam Pendleton, Jr.  
Hermon T. Graham  
William D. Jordan  
Barry Morris  
James H. Barnhart

Noes: None

**Board Openings:**

(j) Board Openings within the next 90 days or less:

<u>Board</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Expire</u>
Adjustments & Appeals	E. B. Norton	09/06/05	09/30/10
	Jason B. Lentz	09/06/05	09/30/10
Beautification Board	Vacancy		
Industrial Development	John Van Sandt	06/02/92	04/05/10
	Rusty Carbine	06/02/92	04/05/10
Scope 310	Vacancy	07/21/92	07/21/10
SEDA	J. Tyndal Davis	09/04/01	09/30/10
	Brad Holmes	09/20/05	09/30/10

President Barnhart noted that there are vacancies on several boards.

**Business from the Public (5-minute time limit):**

Ms. Barbara Hill, 769 Sannoner Avenue, appeared and made comments regarding the Indian Mound Museum. Ms. Hill thanked Councilmember Pendleton and other Councilmembers for their support of the Indian Mound Museum. Ms. Hill stated that we have a duty to preserve the Indian Mound. Ms. Hill also made comments regarding public education. Ms. Hill stated that education is the cornerstone of our democracy.

**Council Reports and/or Comments:**

Councilmember Pendleton made comments regarding the sale of a portion of the former Florence Country Club property to the University of North Alabama. Councilmember Pendleton quoted Mayor Irons' statement from the last City Council meeting regarding the Mayor's opposition to the recommendation to use the Florence Golf & Country Club House as offices for the Solid Waste & Street Department by Councilmember Pendleton. Mayor Irons stated that it would be unwise and not good financial management of taxpayers' dollars. Councilmember Pendleton also quoted Councilmember Graham's statement regarding the use of the Club House to relocate the Solid Waste & Street Department. Councilmember Graham stated that those departments appreciate their current facilities and would look on it in astonishment if we move them into a two million dollar building. Councilmember Pendleton stated that he takes issue with anyone who says that buying the Country Club property benefits West Florence. Councilmember Pendleton stated that the University of North Alabama is a bad neighbor to the residents of West Florence.

Councilmember Jordan had no comments.

Councilmember Graham commended the Firefighters Local 270 for undertaking the project to fight cancer. Councilmember Graham noted that the District 3 Community Meeting will be held on November 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the Broadway Recreation Center. Councilmember Graham stated that this is a way to let the citizens in District 3 know what is going on within the City.

Councilmember Graham stated that the City Council voted 5 or 6 years ago to give the Mayor hiring and firing authority over department heads which is the same power as a CEO of a company. Councilmember Graham stated that by Mayor Irons calling and asking the City Councilmembers opinions regarding City government does not violate any Sunshine Law. Councilmember Graham also stated that his statement regarding moving the Street Department to the former Florence Golf & Country Club facilities did not mean that they did not deserve a two million dollar facility. Councilmember Graham stated that these departments deserved the best that the City can give them and that is the reason he voted for them a cost of living raise tonight.

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Councilmember Morris thanked Ms. Hill for her comments regarding the Indian Mound Museum.

President Barnhart had no comments.

President Barnhart presented the closing prayer.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

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ATTEST:

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CITY CLERK

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