



**CITY OF FLORENCE
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 1, 2015**

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, September 1, 2015. President Jordan called the meeting to order. Councilmember Morris gave the invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Robert M. Leyde, City Clerk, performed the roll call and noted that six Councilmembers were present and a quorum was present with the following members of the City Council in attendance: Dave Smith, William D. Jordan, Hermon T. Graham, Barry Morris, Blake Edwards and Andrew Betterton.

AMENDED AGENDA
CITY OF FLORENCE, ALABAMA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 1, 2015
5:00 P.M.

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1. Meeting called to order - President Jordan
 2. Invocation - Councilmember Morris
 3. Pledge of Allegiance
 4. Roll Call - President Jordan
 5. Approval of Agenda
 6. Message from Mayor
 7. Reports of Department Heads
 8. Reports of Standing Committees
 9. Public Hearings: None
 10. Business from floor pertaining to items on the consent and regular agenda (5-minute time 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 256-760-6400 for questions on Consent Agenda items prior to the Council meeting.

- (a) Approval of minutes of the August 18, 2015, meeting.
- (b) Confirm payment of bills by the City Treasurer.

- (c) Resolution authorizing the City to enter into a contract with Price & Rider Engineering, Inc., for professional engineering services to furnish plans, geo-technical services and traffic engineering services for Alabama Department of Transportation Project STPOA-UR14(601) Mall Road and Hough Road/Madison Avenue Rehabilitation and Intersection Improvements, to be paid with 80% Federal Funds and 20% City Funds, sponsored by Bill Batson.
- (d) Resolution authorizing the City to approve an Agreement for a Transportation Alternatives Project for Hermitage Drive Sidewalk Project No. TAPAA-TA15(913) between the City of Florence and the Alabama Department of Transportation, to be paid with 80% Federal Funds and 20% City Funds, sponsored by Bill Batson.
- (e) Resolution authorizing the City to enter into a contract with the Ozark Museum of Natural History to design, fabricate, deliver and install natural history models and exhibits at the proposed Indian Mound Museum, to be paid from General Obligation Warrants, Series 2013, sponsored by Todd Nix. **(This item was removed)**
- (f) Resolution authorizing the City to enter into a contract with Ringers Garage Door Company, Inc., to provide labor, equipment, materials and incidentals necessary to replace a 20'2" by 10'9" full view door for Fire Station No. 4, in the total amount of \$6,185.00, to be expensed from Account #266-42200, sponsored by Jeffrey Perkins.
- (g) Resolution authorizing the City to approve a Letter of Engagement between the City of Florence and McCarter & English to provide legal services for the Florence Gas Department relative to its membership in the Tennessee Gas Pipeline (TGP) for a period of no longer than three (3) years or until services are no longer required, to be paid from budgeted Gas Department funds for legal services, sponsored by Mike Doyle.
- (h) Resolution authorizing the City to approve the asset allocation recommendations for the City Employees' Retirement Plan submitted by Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC through its Graystone Consulting Business, sponsored by Alanna Sullivan.
- (I) Resolution authorizing the City to approve a license agreement with the University of North Alabama for 177 parking spaces on Levels J, K, L and M in the Downtown Parking Deck for additional student parking for a time period of August 15, 2015, through May 16, 2016, in the amount of \$6.00 per month per space for a total amount of \$9,558.00, sponsored by Robert M. Leyde.
- (j) Resolution authorizing the City to approve a license agreement with the University of North Alabama for a total of 150 parking spaces located at the baseball field at McFarland Park, the North Florence Soccer Field and Cox Creek Park, for additional student parking for a time period of August 15, 2015, through May 15, 2016, in the amount of \$2.50 per month per space for a total amount of \$3,375.00, sponsored by Robert M. Leyde.

12. Regular Agenda:

- (a) Ordinance amending the Code of Florence, AL, as amended, Article II of Section 27 - Electricity, sponsored by Richard Morrissey.
- (b) Resolution authorizing the City to adopt Service Policies for the Florence Electricity Department, sponsored by Richard Morrissey.
- (c) Resolution authorizing the City to adopt the attached Certificate of Medical Hardship form for the Florence Electricity Department, sponsored by Richard Morrissey.
- (d) Resolution to declare as public nuisances properties located at 348 West Lakeside Drive and 2201 Darby Drive, sponsored by Gary Williamson.

13. General Business:

- (a) Resolution - Alcohol Beverage License Application for a Grocery Store with Off-Premises Beer & Wine, by H AND T GENERAL LLC, dba WILSON FOOD CENTER, located at 929 W. COLLEGE STREET, FLORENCE, AL, sponsored by Robert M. Leyde.

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

<u>Board</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Expires</u>
Beautification Vacancy	Scott Townsend	12/07/10	11/01/15
	Susan Burdine	12/01/09	11/01/15
	Virginia Reed Gooch	12/18/12	11/01/15
	Susan Williams	12/18/12	11/01/15
Historical Board	Vacancy		
Housing/Const	Adam Burchell	06/19/12	09/30/15
	Jack Reid	09/06/05	09/30/15
	William Wynne	09/06/05	09/30/15
	Thomas Pigg	09/06/05	09/30/15
Parks & Rec	James (Buck) Morris	09/20/05	10/30/15
SCOPE 310	Josh Webster	08/21/12	07/21/15
	Vacancy		
SEDA	Bud Ward	12/04/12	09/30/15
	Brad Haddock	10/16/12	09/30/15
Tree Commission	Lavetta Adams	01/02/07	11/03/15
	Nancy Muse	05/01/07	11/03/15
	Kevin Jangaard	09/16/08	11/03/15

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

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

- Council member Smith
- Council member Graham
- Council member Morris
- Council member Edwards
- Council member Betterton
- Council member Jordan

16. Motion to Adjourn.

President Jordan noted that it was decided at the earlier work session to removed Consent Agenda Item 11 (e) Resolution authorizing the City to enter into a contract with the Ozark Museum of Natural History to design, fabricate, deliver and install natural history models and exhibits at the proposed Indian Mound Museum, to be paid from General Obligation Warrants, Series 2013, sponsored by Todd Nix from tonight's agenda.

There being no further changes, President Jordan asked for a motion for approval of the agenda. Councilmember Betterton moved for approval of the amended agenda. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion.

There being no discussion, a vote taken thereon resulted as follows:

Ayes: Dave Smith
William D. Jordan
Hermon T. Graham
Barry Morris
Blake Edwards
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

Message from the Mayor:

Mayor Haddock's comments follow, to wit:

Report of Department Heads:

Chief Ron Tyler administered the Oath of Office to newly hired Officer Gina Butler and Officer Tyler Olive.

Chief Tyler also presented a “Civilian Life Saving” award to Mr. Corey Sauls and Ms. Molly Chapman. Mr. Sauls and Ms. Chapman found an unconscious individual in a public restroom attempting suicide and they saved his life.

Report of Standing Committee:

Councilmember Smith, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee, comments follow, to wit:

Public Hearing: None

Business from the Floor Pertaining to Items on the Consent Ordinance Regular Agenda:

Mr. James Bankston, 1870 Randolph Street, appeared and made comments in opposition to building the new Animal Shelter on Fairground Road. Mr. Bankston stated that this location is in a minority neighborhood and that he feels it is racist.

Consent Agenda:

President Jordan asked for a motion for approval of the Consent Agenda items. Councilmember Betterton moved for approval of the ordinances and resolutions as follow, to-wit:

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

Ayes: Dave Smith
William D. Jordan
Hermon T. Graham
Barry Morris
Blake Edwards
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented an Ordinance amending the Code of Florence, AL, as amended, Article II of Section 27 - Electricity, sponsored by Richard Morrissey. Said Ordinance follows, to wit:

Councilmember Smith moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Ordinance.

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

Ayes: Dave Smith
William D. Jordan
Hermon T. Graham
Barry Morris
Blake Edwards
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

Councilmember Graham moved for adoption of the foregoing Ordinance.

Councilmember Betterton seconded the motion.

Discussion:

President Jordan noted that this ordinance and the next two items on the agenda are required by the Tennessee Valley Authority.

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

Ayes: Dave Smith
William D. Jordan
Hermon T. Graham
Barry Morris
Blake Edwards
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a Resolution authorizing the City to adopt Service Policies for the Florence Electricity Department, sponsored by Richard Morrissey. Said Resolution follows, to wit:

Councilmember Edwards moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Resolution.

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

Ayes: Dave Smith
William D. Jordan
Hermon T. Graham
Barry Morris
Blake Edwards
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

Councilmember Edwards moved for adoption of the foregoing Resolution.

Councilmember Betterton seconded the motion.

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

Ayes: Dave Smith
William D. Jordan
Hermon T. Graham
Barry Morris
Blake Edwards
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a Resolution authorizing the City to adopt the attached Certificate of Medical Hardship form for the Florence Electricity Department, sponsored by Richard Morrissey. Said Resolution follows, to wit:

Councilmember Graham moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Resolution.

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

Ayes: Dave Smith
William D. Jordan
Hermon T. Graham
Barry Morris
Blake Edwards
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

Councilmember Betterton moved for adoption of the foregoing Resolution.

Councilmember Smith seconded the motion.

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

Ayes: Dave Smith
William D. Jordan
Hermon T. Graham
Barry Morris
Blake Edwards
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a Resolution to declare as public nuisances properties located at 348 West Lakeside Drive and 2201 Darby Drive, sponsored by Gary Williamson. Said Resolution follows, to wit:

Councilmember Betterton moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Resolution.

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

Ayes: Dave Smith
William D. Jordan
Hermon T. Graham
Barry Morris
Blake Edwards
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

Councilmember Graham moved for adoption of the foregoing Resolution.

Councilmember Morris seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Councilmember Betterton made positive comments regarding working with Building Official, Gary Williamson, on this matter.

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

Ayes: Dave Smith
William D. Jordan
Hermon T. Graham
Barry Morris
Blake Edwards
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a Resolution - Alcohol Beverage License Application for a Grocery Store with Off-Premises Beer & Wine, by H AND T GENERAL LLC, dba WILSON FOOD CENTER, located at 929 W. COLLEGE STREET, FLORENCE, AL, sponsored by Robert M. Leyde. Said Resolution follows, to wit:

Councilmember Smith moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Resolution.

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

Ayes: Dave Smith
William D. Jordan
Hermon T. Graham
Barry Morris
Blake Edwards
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

Councilmember Smith moved for adoption of the foregoing Resolution.

Councilmember Betterton seconded the motion.

Discussion:

President Jordan noted that this resolution is for a change of ownership.

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

Ayes: Dave Smith
William D. Jordan
Hermon T. Graham
Barry Morris
Blake Edwards
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

Board Openings within the next 90 days or less:

<u>Board</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Expires</u>
Beautification Vacancy	Scott Townsend	12/07/10	11/01/15
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	William Wynne	09/06/05	09/30/15
	Thomas Pigg	09/06/05	09/30/15
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	Brad Haddock	10/16/12	09/30/15
Tree Commission	Lavetta Adams	01/02/07	11/03/15
	Nancy Muse	05/01/07	11/03/15
	Kevin Jangaard	09/16/08	11/03/15

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

Mr. Brian Simon, 402 South Main Street, appeared and made comments in opposition to any new fines or taxes.

Mr. Billy Ray Simpson, 755 West Alabama Street, appeared and made comments in opposition to the proposed site of the new Animal Shelter. Mr. Simpson encouraged the Mayor and Council to continue to look for a new site.

Ms. Ashley Stoddard, 10485 County Road 5, Florence, AL, appeared and made comments regarding problems at the current Animal Shelter. Ms. Stoddard stated that the current Animal Shelter has greatly deteriorated over the last year. Ms. Stoddard further stated that the staff is currently taking care of approximately 200 animals daily. Ms. Stoddard stated that the volunteers and staff have work diligently to improve the shelter. Ms. Stoddard further stated that these conditions are much larger than the staff and volunteers can handle and that the Mayor and Council must step in to alleviate these conditions.

Ms. Bonnie Wallace, 737 East Tombigbee Street, appeared and made comments regarding the new animal shelter. Ms. Wallace stated that the greatness of a City is based on how they treat the less fortunate.

Council Reports and Comments:

Councilmember Smith stated that he is not in support of building the new animal shelter on Fairgrounds Road due to increased traffic, noise and stray animals. Councilmember Smith noted that there will be a District 1 Community meeting on Thursday, September 10 from 5:30 until 7:30 at the Fairgrounds Rec Center. Councilmember Smith noted that the new animal shelter site will be discussed during this meeting. Councilmember Smith further noted that the Public Safety Committee will meet on Monday, September 21, to discuss the Pet Ordinance and licensing.

Councilmember Graham thanked everyone for being here today. Councilmember Graham stated that the Council is working hard to find a good location for a new Animal Shelter. Councilmember Graham congratulated the new police officers who were given the oath of office today.

Councilmember Morris also congratulated the newly hired police officers. Councilmember Morris also thanked the people who came forward tonight to discuss the Animal Shelter.

Councilmember Edwards also thanked the new police officers. Councilmember Edwards noted that there is a lot going on in Florence and that Florence is a great place to live. Councilmember Edwards further noted that the City Parks always looks great.

Councilmember Betterton made comments regarding racism. Councilmember Betterton stated that we need to keep working on this daily and to love as Christ taught us to love.

Councilmember Betterton welcomed Dr. Kitts and his family to Florence. Councilmember Betterton thanked Gary Williamson, Building Official, for assisting with the dilapidated property that was on tonight's agenda.

Councilmember Betterton stated that this Council is continuing to work on the Animal Shelter. Councilmember Betterton noted that we are not building a dog pound but an animal shelter that we can take pride in.

President Jordan thanked those who came out to speak about the Animal Shelter. President Jordan stated that this Council has made a commitment to build a new shelter and that we are moving forward with the project.

Councilmember Betterton presented the closing prayer.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

