

**CITY OF FLORENCE
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL
May 5, 2009**

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, May 5, 2009. President Barnhart called the meeting to order. Councilmember Pendleton gave the invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Robert M. Leyde, City Clerk, performed the roll call and noted that all six 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, James H. Barnhart and Andrew Betterton.

AGENDA

CITY OF FLORENCE, ALABAMA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

May 5, 2009

5:00 P. M.

-
1. Meeting called to order - President Barnhart
 2. Invocation - Councilmember Pendleton
 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: None
 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.

Approval of minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 21, 2009.

Confirm payment of bills by the City Treasurer.

Resolution authorizing the City to enter into a contract with King and Associates General Contractors, Inc., to provide labor, equipment, materials, and incidentals necessary to install the electrical and plumbing to the pavilion and storage building at the Police Firing Range, in the amount of \$12,100.00 to be paid from Budgeted Funds, sponsored by Chief Rick Singleton.

- (a) Resolution authorizing the City to enter into a contract with Aldridge Plumbing &

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Sprinklers, Inc., to provide labor, equipment, materials and incidentals necessary to perform repairs to irrigation systems located on North Court Street, South Court Street, the East and West sides of the City entrance and Seven Points, in the amount of \$15,800.00 to be paid from Budgeted Funds, sponsored by Paul Graham.

Resolution authorizing the City to enter into a contract with Alabama Flag & Banner, Inc., to provide labor, equipment, materials and incidentals necessary to install one (1) twenty-five foot tall industrial grade flagpole at the corner of North Wood Avenue and Norwood Avenue (Norwood Park) in the amount of \$1,705.00, to be paid from Budgeted Funds, sponsored by Paul Graham.

Resolution authorizing the City to make application to the U. S. Department of Justice, Community Policing Office, for the 2009 COPS Secure Our Schools (SOS) Grant, sponsored by Chief Rick Singleton.

(g) Resolution to advance and reimburse Travel Expenses to City employees, sponsored by Mayor Irons.

12. Regular Agenda:

(a) Resolution authorizing the City to approve the application of the Health Care Authority of Lauderdale County and the City of Florence, Alabama, to amend its Certificate of reincorporation under the provisions of the Health Care Authorities Act of 1982, as amended, and authorizing the Health Care Authority of Lauderdale County and the City of Florence, Alabama, to proceed to amend its Certificate of Reincorporation, sponsored by Mayor Irons and Bill Musgrove.

13. General Business:

(a) Resolution to revise and amend the 1995 One Cent Sales Tax Capital Fund Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Budget, sponsored by Dan Barger.

(b) Resolution – Alcohol Beverage License Application for the operation of a Package Liquor Store with Off-Premises Liquor, Beer & Wine by ST. FLORIAN SHOP RITE INC., d/b/a HUNTSVILLE RD. DISCOUNT PACKAGE, located at 3323 HUNTSVILLE ROAD, FLORENCE, AL 35630, sponsored by Robert M. Leyde.

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

<u>Board</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Expires</u>
Zoning	Tina Holmes		09/05/97
			05/17/09
	Foster F. Fountain, III		06/04/91
			05/17/09
	Keith Abernathy		08/05/03
			05/17/09

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(Supernumerary)

14. Business from the public (5-minute time limit).
15. Council Members reports and/or comments (5-minute limit).
 - Councilmember Jordan
 - Councilmember Graham
 - Councilmember Morris
 - Councilmember Betterton
 - Councilmember Pendleton
 - Councilmember Barnhart
16. Motion to Adjourn.

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

Ayes:	Sam Pendleton, Jr. Herman T. Graham William D. Jordan Barry Morris James H. Barnhart Andrew Betterton
Noes:	None

Message from the Mayor:

Mayor Irons presented a Proclamation designating May 9-17, 2009 as National Tourism Week in the City of Florence. The Proclamation was presented to Debbie Wilson, Director of the Florence/Lauderdale Tourism Bureau, Alison Stanfield, Lindsey Holt, Beth Greenwood and intern Vinamrated Gupta.

Mayor Irons presented a Certificate of Accomplishment to Ms. Vinamrate Gupta, a student from Bombay, India, who has been interning with the Tourism Office since August. She has completed a two semester internship and will be graduating from the University of North Alabama with her MBA in international business.

Mayor Irons recognized Ms. Pam Barksdale with the Boys and Girls Club. Ms. Barksdale came forward to announce a fund raising event.

Mayor Irons presented a Proclamation designating May 7th, 2009, as Whitney Erinn Boddie Day in the City of Florence. Ms. Whitney Boddie, a native of Florence, is a senior at Auburn University and has excelled as a superb athlete in basketball. The Proclamation was received by Mr. Michael Hastings from the Auburn Alumni Association.

Mayor Irons presented a Proclamation designating May 5th, 2009, as Staff Sergeant Carl D. Carden Day. Staff Sergeant Carden has served in the Armed-Services since June 4, 1989 and he has served with distinction from May 2007 to August 2008.

Mayor Irons noted that Fire Chief Charlie Cochran received a graduation invitation this week from Nicholas Arthur Rhodes who is a member of the 2009 graduating class of Calera High School. Mayor Irons also noted that in 1997 members of the Florence Fire Department were dispatched to Wright Drive in response to a call for help of a drowning victim. Mayor Irons stated that the firemen immediately began resuscitation and were able to bring Nicholas back to life.

Mayor Irons made comments concerning the re-financing of several bonds. Mayor Irons noted that the City's current bond rating has increased to AA from an A minus. Mayor Irons

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also noted that in the next ten years the City will possibly save over one million dollars in interest.

Mayor Irons stated that our local economy is currently stable and the City is continuing to operate within budget.

Mayor Irons noted that Music in the Park will begin on Wednesday. Mayor Irons also noted that we will have 93 teams in town this weekend for a baseball tournament at the Sportsplex.

Reports of Department Heads:

Todd Nix, Community Services Director, appeared and made comments concerning the USSSA baseball tournament this weekend. Mr. Nix noted that the tournament will host 93 teams this weekend. Mr. Nix encouraged everyone to be safe this weekend.

Reports of Standing Committees:

President Barnhart gave a report on the Public Works Committee meeting. Said report follows, to wit:

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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 Betterton moved for approval of (a) Approval of minutes of the Regular Meeting on April 21, 2009 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 Morris seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote taken thereon resulted as follows:

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

Noes: None

Regular Agenda:

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a Resolution authorizing the City to approve the application of the Health Care Authority of Lauderdale County and the City of Florence, Alabama, to amend its Certificate of reincorporation under the provisions of the Health Care Authorities Act of 1982, as amended, and authorizing the Health Care Authority of Lauderdale County and the City of Florence, Alabama, to proceed to amend its Certificate of Reincorporation, sponsored by Mayor Irons and Bill Musgrove. Said resolution follows, to wit:

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Councilmember Graham moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing resolution.

Councilmember Betterton 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
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

Councilmember Betterton moved for adoption of the foregoing resolution.

Councilmember Graham seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Councilmember Morris noted that the only purpose of the resolution was to add two positions to the Board.

Councilmember Pendleton made comments in favor of this resolution.

There being no further 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
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a Resolution to revise and amend the 1995 One Cent Sales Tax Capital Fund Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Budget, sponsored by Dan Barger. Said resolution follows, to wit:

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Councilmember Graham moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing resolution.

Councilmember Pendleton 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
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

Councilmember Graham moved for adoption of the foregoing resolution.

Councilmember Jordan seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Councilmember Graham made comments in favor of this resolution.

There being no further 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
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

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 ST. FLORIAN SHOP RITE INC., d/b/a HUNTSVILLE RD. DISCOUNT PACKAGE, located at 3323 HUNTSVILLE ROAD, FLORENCE, AL 35630, sponsored by Robert M. Leyde. Said resolution follows, to wit:

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Councilmember Morris 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
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

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

Noes: None

Board Openings:

Board

Member

Appointed

Expire

Zoning

Tina Holmes

09/05/97

05/17/09

Foster F. Fountain, III

06/04/91

05/17/09

Keith Abernathy

08/05/03

05/17/09

(Supernumerary)

President Barnhart noted that the City Council at it's earlier work session decided to move Mr. Abernathy from the Supernumerary position to one of the positions that will be expiring.

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President Barnhart also noted that applications will be accepted for the supernumerary position.

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

Billy Ray Simpson, 1738 Ingleside Avenue, appeared and made general comments regarding doing what is right.

Council Reports and/or Comments:

Councilmember Jordan thanked Ms. Debbie Wilson and her staff for their work with the Florence/Lauderdale Tourism Bureau. Councilmember Jordan also thanked Ms. Pam Barksdale for her work with the Boys & Girls Club. Councilmember Jordan commended Ms. Whitney Boddie for her outstanding accomplishments and Staff Sergeant Cardon for his service in the United States Military.

Councilmember Jordan made comments concerning the City's bond rating upgrade. Councilmember Jordan noted that this improvement reflects the sound, fiscal management of the City of Florence.

Councilmember Graham commended those who received proclamations tonight.

Councilmember Graham made comments concerning the City's bond rating. Councilmember Graham stated that it was a job well done.

Councilmember Graham made comments concerning the baseball tournament this weekend. Councilmember Graham invited everyone to come out and support the kids.

Councilmember Graham made comments concerning the recent Alabama League of Municipalities Conference in Montgomery. Councilmember Graham stated that the City will probably receive stimulus funds.

Councilmember Graham thanked Mr. Pigg from ECM Hospital who came to the recent District 3 community meeting to speak to, and answer questions from the citizens of District 3.

Councilmember Morris commended Staff Sergeant Cordon. Councilmember Morris stated that he is a true hero.

Councilmember Morris made comments concerning the City's bond rating. Councilmember Morris stated that the millions of dollars that will be saved is a testament to the hard work of the Mayor and City officials.

Councilmember Morris thanked Debbie Wilson and her staff for their hard work in our local tourism. Councilmember Morris also thanked Mr. Billy Ray Simpson for his support of the City.

Councilmember Betterton welcomed the students from Florence High School and thanked them for their attendance at tonight's meeting. Councilmember Betterton thanked Pam Barksdale for her work with the Boys & Girls Club.

Councilmember Betterton applauded those who worked on the bond package.

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Councilmember Betterton stated that this was a great accomplishment.

Councilmember Betterton made general comments concerning the recent Alabama League of Municipalities Conference that was held in Montgomery. Councilmember Betterton noted that Mr. Drayton Nabors has been hired by Governor Riley to help the state of Alabama obtain all of the stimulus money that is available to us.

Councilmember Pendleton made comments in support of the stimulus money. Councilmember Pendleton stated that the Alabama Legislators were able to pass the education budget due to the stimulus money that Alabama received. Councilmember Pendleton stated we that should get all the money we can.

Councilmember Pendleton noted the support for Staff Sergeant Cordon for his military service.

Councilmember Pendleton made comments in support of the Sportsplex. Councilmember Pendleton stated that he is very proud of the Sportsplex.

President Barnhart thanked Staff Sergeant Cordon for his service. President Barnhart thanked Mayor Irons and the City Council for their hard work.

Councilmember Pendleton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. 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
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

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Councilmember Graham presented the closing prayer.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK