

CITY OF FLORENCE
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL
August 18, 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, August 18, 2009. President Barnhart called the meeting to order. Police Chief Rick Singleton 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

August 18, 2009

5:00 P. M.

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1. Meeting called to order - President Barnhart
 2. Invocation - Police Chief Rick Singleton
 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.

- (a) Approval of minutes of the Regular Meeting held on August 4, 2009.
- (b) Confirm payment of bills by the City Treasurer.
- (c) Resolution authorizing the City to enter into a contract with Shoals Electric Company, Inc., to provide labor, equipment, and incidentals necessary to install two solar powered flashing school signals on Hermitage Drive on either side of the entrance into Florence Middle School, in the amount of \$4,150.00, to be paid from budgeted funds, sponsored by Richard Morrissey.
- (d) Resolution to approve the Community Development Recovery budget contained in the Action Plan, sponsored by Phil Stevenson.
- (e) Resolution authorizing the City to enter into a contract for Engineering Services with Municipal Consultants, Inc. to evaluate the Cypress Creek WWTP lift station for modification, services costs will be based on hourly rates and/or percentage of

construction cost based on the standard ASCE scale, to be paid from SRF Loan monies, sponsored by Mike Doyle.

- (f) Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute the Policies and Procedures for Monitoring Sub-Recipient Compliance on behalf of the City thereby certifying that the City will comply with all of the requirements of the fiscal year 2009 Recovery Act JAG Grant awarded to Lauderdale County and the City of Florence, sponsored by Rick Singleton.
- (g) Resolution to approve, ratify, and confirm the Workers' Compensation and Loss Control Self-Insurance Service Agreement with Avizent Risk Services, as third party administrator for the City's self-insured Workers' Compensation coverage, sponsored by Barry Brewer.
- (h) Resolution authorizing the City to accept the investment recommendations of MetLife as detailed in the attached letter of understanding, sponsored by Benefits Committee.
- (i) Resolution to advance and reimburse Travel Expenses to City employees, sponsored by Mayor Irons.

12. Regular Agenda:

- (a) Ordinance to vacate the utility easement between Lots 21 and 22 as shown on the plat of "Resurvey of Lots 10 through 32, "Trent Village Spring Cove Baptist Assembly," sponsored by Bill Musgrove.
- (b) Ordinance to adopt the *Flood Damage Prevention Regulations*, sponsored by Gary Williamson.
- (c) Resolution to establish premium rates associated with the City's Employee Healthcare and Dental Benefit Plan, sponsored by Benefits Committee.
- (d) Resolution to accept the recommendation of Michael A. McGrath, F.S.A., of Milliman Actuarial Services to increase the amortization period for funding past service benefits from 14 years to the 30 year period regarding the City's Employee Retirement Plan, as allowable under the GASB, sponsored by the Benefits Committee.

13. General Business:

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

| <u>Board</u> | <u>Member</u> | <u>Appointed</u> | <u>Expire</u> |
|----------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| City Historian | | | |

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

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

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

16. Motion to Adjourn.

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Florence Police Chief Rick Singleton gave an up-date on the bank robbery that occurred earlier today at Compass Bank located on North Court Street. Chief Singleton stated that the suspect was taken into custody four hours after the robbery.

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

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

Mayor Irons recognized the Florence Police Department for the capture of the robbery suspect earlier today.

Mayor Irons recognized members of the Florence Fire Department and representatives of the American Red Cross. Battalion Chief Terry Willett presented a check in the amount of \$1,000.00 to the American Red Cross on behalf of the Firefighters Local 270. The check was received by Ms. Elizabeth Moore of the American Red Cross.

Mayor Irons made comments concerning the positive articles that have been written in the TimesDaily about the West Florence Re-Development Plan. Said comments follows, to wit:

Reports of Department Heads:

Melissa Bailey, Planning Director, made comments concerning the recent articles that have appeared in the TimesDaily regarding the West Florence Re-Development. Ms. Bailey thanked Trevor Stokes, TimesDaily reporter, and also the citizens of West Florence for their positive support of the re-development plan.

Florence Police Chief Rick Singleton came forward and performed the oath of office to recently hired Police Officers Steven Hatez and Evan Whiteside.

Reports of Standing Committees: None

Public Hearings: None

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

Edgar Black, Muscle Shoals, an attorney representing Michael Robertson regarding Agenda Item 12 (a) Ordinance to vacate the utility easement between Lots 21 and 22 as shown on the plat of "Resurvey of Lots 10 through 32, "Trent Village Spring Cove Baptist Assembly," sponsored by Bill Musgrove, came forward appeared and asked the City Council if they had any questions regarding this ordinance. President Barnhart stated that this item had been discussed at today's work session and that the Council had no problems vacating this utility easement. Mr. Black thanked the City Council and Mr. Bill Musgrove, City Attorney, for their help in this matter.

Consent Agenda:

President Barnhart asked for a motion for approval of the Consent Agenda items. Councilmember Jordan moved for approval of (a) Approval of minutes of the Regular Meeting on August 4, 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 Betterton 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 an ordinance to vacate the utility easement between Lots 21 and 22 as shown on the plat of "Resurvey of Lots 10 through 32, "Trent Village Spring Cove Baptist Assembly," sponsored by Bill Musgrove. Said ordinance follows, to wit:

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Councilmember Betterton moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing ordinance.

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 Jordan moved for adoption of the foregoing ordinance. 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

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented an ordinance to adopt the *Flood Damage Prevention Regulations*, sponsored by Gary Williamson. Said ordinance follows, to wit:

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Councilmember Graham moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing ordinance.

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 Graham moved for adoption of the foregoing ordinance. Councilmember Morris 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

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a resolution to establish premium rates associated with the City's Employee Healthcare and Dental Benefit Plan, sponsored by Benefits Committee. Said resolution follows, to wit:

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

Discussion:

Councilmember Jordan noted that this ordinance does not affect the cost that employees pay for insurance.

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 accept the recommendation of Michael A. McGrath, F.S.A., of Milliman Actuarial Services to increase the amortization period for funding past service benefits from 14 years to the 30 year period regarding the City's Employee Retirement Plan, as allowable under the GASB, sponsored by the Benefits Committee. Said resolution follows, to wit:

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Councilmember Betterton 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
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

Councilmember Pendleton 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
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

Board Openings:

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

| <u>Board</u> | <u>Member</u> | <u>Appointed</u> | <u>Expire</u> |
|----------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| City Historian | | | |

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

Billy Ray Simpson, 1738 Ingleside Avenue, appeared and made comments regarding crime. Mr. Simpson thanked the Florence Police Department for apprehending the robbery suspect today. Mr. Simpson stated that “crime doesn’t pay and criminals don’t get away”. Mr. Simpson also made comments regarding a lounge located in Sheffield serving alcohol to minors.

Council Reports and/or Comments:

Councilmember Morris congratulated the TimesDaily for their series of articles on West Florence. Councilmember Morris also congratulated the two new police officers who took their oath of office.

Councilmember Betterton commended the Florence Fire Fighters for their donation to the American Red Cross. Councilmember Betterton made comments concerning the new 211 program that is offering information on a number of topics.

Councilmember Betterton made comments regarding the new canoe/kayak ramp at Wildwood Park. Councilmember Betterton stated that this will be a great asset to Florence.

Councilmember Betterton made comments regarding the new resource, nixle.com. Councilmember Betterton stated that this web-site brings you up-to-date neighborhood information.

Councilmember Pendleton thanked the American Red Cross for their hard work serving the community.

Councilmember Pendleton commended Mr. Trevor Stokes, TimesDaily Reporter, for the recent articles regarding West Florence.

Councilmember Pendleton thanked Florence Police Chief Rick Singleton for the community policing in the City of Florence .

Councilmember Pendleton thanked Councilmember Betterton, former member of the Florence School Board, for the programs being offered at Burrell-Slater.

Councilmember Pendleton made comments regarding the renovation of Green Meadows Shopping Center in West Florence.

Councilmember Jordan made comments concerning an incident that took place on July 16th due to run-off into Cypress Creek. Councilmember Jordan stated that the problem has been corrected by Mr. David Koonce, Manager of Solid Waste, Street & Recycle Department.

Councilmember Jordan made comments regarding the flashing school signs on Hermitage Drive. Councilmember Jordan stated that the installation should be completed in the next few weeks.

Councilmember Graham commended the TimesDaily on the recent articles regarding the West Florence renovations.

Councilmember Graham congratulated the two new police officers that were sworn in tonight. Councilmember Graham commended the Florence Police Department for their capture of a robbery suspect today.

Councilmember Graham thanked the Firefighters Local #270 for its fund-raising efforts to help local charities.

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Councilmember Graham stated that the community meeting for District 3 has been re-scheduled for October 29th at the Broadway Recreation Center. Councilmember Graham noted that the guest speaker will be Myron Crunk, Director of our local Drug Task Force Unit.

President Barnhart had no comments.

Councilmember Morris made a motion to adjourn the meeting. 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 Morris presented the closing prayer.
There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK