

**CITY OF FLORENCE
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL
March 19, 2013**

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, March 19, 2013. 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.

AGENDA

CITY OF FLORENCE, ALABAMA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

March 19, 2013

5:00 P.M.

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1. Meeting called to order - President
 2. Invocation - Councilmember Betterton
 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 760-6400 for questions on Consent Agenda items prior to the Council meeting.

- (a) Approval of minutes of the March 5, 2013 Meeting.
- (b) Confirm payment of bills by the City Treasurer.
- (c) Resolution authorizing the City to enter into a contract with McCrorys Carpet and Interiors, Inc., to provide labor, equipment, materials and incidentals necessary to install new VCT flooring and wall base on the gymnasium floor at the Broadway Recreation Center, in the amount of \$16,551.00, to be paid from Fund 117 Municipal Capital Improvements 1053-44410, sponsored by Todd Nix.
- (d) Resolution authorizing the City to enter into a contract with Municipal Consultants, Inc., to provide professional services necessary to prepare an update to the Risk Management Plans as required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the Chlorination Systems at the Cypress Creek Wastewater Plant, Cypress Creek Water Plant, and the Wilson Dam Water Plant, not to exceed cost of \$30,000.00 plus \$8,000.00 contingency, to be paid from Miscellaneous Expense Account #905-05 and 905-07, sponsored by Mike Doyle.

- (e) Resolution authorizing the city to enter into a contract with Commercial & Industrial Renovators, Inc., to provide labor, equipment, materials and incidentals necessary to pressure wash, scrape, spot prime and paint all existing painted surfaces at the Kennedy Douglass Center, Wright Douglass Center and the unattached garage, in the amount of \$15,950.00, to be paid from budgeted funds 117 Municipal Capital Improvements 266-43600, sponsored by Todd Nix.
- (f) Resolution authorizing the City to approve a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the City's participation with Lauderdale County in the A-Trip Program through the Alabama Department of Transportation, sponsored by Mayor Haddock and Bill Musgrove.
- (g) Resolution authorizing the City to approve a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the City's payment of matching funds in conjunction with its participation with Lauderdale County in the A-Trip Program through the Alabama Department of Transportation, sponsored by Mayor Haddock and Bill Musgrove.
- (h) Resolution to advance and reimburse Travel Expenses to City employees, sponsored by Mayor Haddock.

12. Regular Agenda:

- (a) Ordinance approving a Real Estate Sales Agreement between the City of Florence and the Guizhou Shenqi Group for the sale of the property formerly known as the Florence Golf and Country Club, sponsored by Mayor Haddock and the Florence City Council.
- (b) Resolution authorizing Yumm Sushi Restaurant to construct an outdoor seating area on the sidewalk of North Court Street, sponsored by Council President Jordan.

13. General Business:

- (a) Resolution – Alcohol Beverage License Application for the operation of a Grocery Store with Off-Premises Beer & Wine by WALMART STORES EAST, LP, d/b/a WALMART #4188, located at 1410 FLORENCE BLVD., FLORENCE, AL 35630, 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>
Agri-Business Center	Vacant		
Civil Service Board	Vacancy	05/04/04	04/13
Housing & Construction Appeals Board	Fitzgerald Hill	09/06/05	09/30/11
	Jack Reid	09/06/05	09/30/12
	William T. Wynne	09/06/05	09/30/11
	Thomas G. Pigg	09/06/05	09/30/11
Port Authority	Vacancy		
Riverbend Center	Vacancy	05/15/01	04/01/13
Regional Library Board	Drucilla Gambrell	05/05/98	01/28/13
Zoning Adjustments	Sandy Nolan	08/21/07	05/17/13

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

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

Councilmember Betterton
Councilmember Smith
Councilmember Graham
Councilmember Morris
Councilmember Edwards
Councilmember Jordan

16. Motion to Adjourn.

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

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

Noes: None

Message from the Mayor:

Mayor Haddock announced the reappointment of Ms. Joyce M. Malone to Florence Housing Authority. Mayor Haddock noted that Ms. Malone's appointment is effective on June 12, 2013 and will expire on June 14, 2018,

Mayor Haddock presented a Proclamation designating Saturday, March 23, 2013, as "Cancer Awareness Day and Kudzu Queens 2nd Annual Kickin' Cancer Event" in the City. The Proclamation was received by Ms. Megan Lovelace, American Cancer Society. Mayor Haddock noted that the Kudzu Queens are a group of ladies who raise money for the Cancer Society through fun and innovative activities.

Mayor Haddock recognized Ms. Barbara Broach, Director of the City's Arts and Museums. Ms. Broach made comments regarding March being "Youth In Art" month and the "Artistic Renderings of Youth" on display at the Kennedy-Douglas Art Center.

Mayor Haddock recognized Mr. Daniel Giles, Westmoreland District Executive of the Boy Scouts of America. Mr. Giles congratulated President Jordan for winning the recent celebrity Pinewood Derby Race. Mr. Giles noted that President Jordan was representing the City of Florence in the race.

Report of Department Heads: None

Report of Standing Committee:

Councilmember Smith, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee, report follows, to wit:

Public Hearing: None

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

Mr. Charles Harlan, 2108 Berry Avenue, appeared and made comments in favor of Regular Agenda Item 12 (a) Ordinance approving a Real Estate Sales Agreement between the City of Florence and the Guizhou Shenqi Group for the sale of the property formerly known as the Florence Golf and Country Club. Mr. Harlan stated that this sale would create more jobs and add more taxes.

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 Graham 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 approving a Real Estate Sales Agreement between the City of Florence and the Guizhou Shenqi Group for the sale of the property formerly known as the Florence Golf and Country Club, sponsored by Mayor Haddock and the Florence City Council. 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 Betterton moved for adoption of the foregoing Ordinance.

Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Councilmember Morris made comments in support of the proposed Ordinance.

Councilmember Morris stated that this would be a very significant economic impact for our area.

Councilmember Morris further stated that the Chinese students that come here will be amazed by our standard of living.

President Jordan also made comments in support of the proposed ordinance. President Jordan stated that this sale agreement shows the commitment that this Council has for economic growth and education. President Jordan expressed his appreciation to Mayor Haddock and William Musgrove, City Attorney, for their hard work regarding the proposed sale agreement.

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 Yumm Sushi Restaurant to construct an outdoor seating area on the sidewalk of North Court Street, sponsored by Council President Jordan. Said Resolution follows, to wit:

Councilmember Smith moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Resolution.

Councilmember Betterton 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 Edwards questioned whether this outdoor seating area would allow patrons to walk down the street with open containers of alcohol.

President Jordan stated that would not be permitted. President Jordan further stated that this outdoor seating will be similar to Legends and Rosies.

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 the operation of a Grocery Store with Off-Premises Beer & Wine by WALMART STORES EAST, LP, d/b/a WALMART #4188, located at 1410 FLORENCE BLVD., FLORENCE, AL 35630, sponsored by Robert M. Leyde. 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 Graham 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

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

<u>Board</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Expires</u>
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Port Authority	Vacancy		
Riverbend Center	Vacancy	05/15/01	04/01/13
Regional Library Board	Drucilla Gambrell	05/05/98	01/28/13
Zoning Adjustments	Sandy Nolan	08/21/07	05/17/13

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

Mr. Billy Ray Simpson, 755 West Alabama Street, appeared and made comments regarding ECM Hospital. Mr. Simpson stated that he is concerned about injustice taking place at the hospital. Mr. Simpson further stated that when he sees injustice taking place in our community or statewide, he feels that he must bring it to light. Mr. Simpson stated that he was terminated unjustly at ECM Hospital.

Mr. Charles Harlan, 2108 Berry Avenue, appeared and made comments regarding ECM Hospital. Mr. Harlan stated that a new hospital does not need to be built until problems are address with the current management of ECM Hospital. Mr. Harlan further stated that ECM is understaffed.

Mr. Harlan made comments regarding our Nation's schools. Mr. Harland stated that in 1970, the U. S. Schools ranked number one in the world and in 2012, the schools ranked number fourteen in the world. Mr. Harlan further stated that children that have the ability to learn should not be held back just because that are in a substandard environment. Mr. Harlan stated that he supports charter schools.

Mr. Jim Downing, 201 West Lee Drive, appeared and made comments regarding "common core". Mr. Downing stated that he wants to know more about "common core".

President Jordan stated that he will get more information regarding this matter and will send it to Mr. Downing.

Council Reports and/or Comments:

Councilmember Betterton made comments in support of recycling. Councilmember Betterton stated that the Recycling Department received a grant for recycling carts to be distributed to our citizens and that the carts are made from recycled plastic. Councilmember Betterton encouraged everyone to recycle.

Councilmember Smith noted that the District 1 Community meeting is scheduled for March 26th at 5:30 p.m. at the Fairgrounds Recreation Center.

Councilmember Graham congratulated the Boy Scouts and the Kudzu ladies. Councilmember Graham made comments regarding his recent trip to Washington, D. C. Councilmember Graham stated that it was a very informative meeting. Councilmember Graham further stated that there is a lot of uncertainty in Washington, D. C.

Councilmember Graham made comments in support of ECM Hospital. Councilmember Graham stated that he is excited about the new hospital.

Councilmember Morris made comments regarding recycling. Councilmember Morris stated that it costs the City for citizens to recycle. Councilmember Morris further stated that the deficit for

recycling is five hundred thousand dollars. Councilmember Morris stated that the City could do a lot of things with five hundred thousand dollars.

Councilmember Edwards noted that he had recently attended a retirement party for Randy Fanning, employee of the Gas Department for thirty plus years.

Councilmember Edwards made comments regarding the proposed sale of the former Florence Golf & Country Club property. Councilmember Edwards stated that this sale will be a very positive impact for our City.

Councilmember Edwards made comments in support of the Kudzu Queens and the Boy Scouts. Councilmember Edwards applauded the great efforts of DFU and Main Street for their hard work.

President Jordan stated that the Council has done a lot of positive things tonight in just one hour. President Jordan further stated that this Council showed support for education and economic development by approving an agreement to sell the former Florence Golf Course property.

Councilmember Morris presented the closing prayer.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK