



**CITY OF FLORENCE  
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL  
AUGUST 6, 2019**

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 6, 2019. President Jordan called the meeting to order. Councilmember Edwards 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: Kaytrina Simmons, William D. Jordan, David Bradley, Michelle Eubanks, Blake Edwards and Andrew Betterton.

**AMENDED AGENDA**

**CITY OF FLORENCE, ALABAMA**

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**August 6, 2019**

**5:00 P.M.**

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1. Meeting called to order - President Jordan
  2. Invocation - Councilmember Edwards
  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 July 16, 2019, meeting.
- (b) Confirm payment of bills by the City Treasurer.
- (c) Resolution to approve payment of an invoice from Lighthorse Tactical, LLC, in the amount of \$1,575.00, for SRO Tactics 2 Training, sponsored by Ron Tyler.

- (d) Resolution to approve the Memorandum of Understanding and Disparate Jurisdiction Agreement between the City of Florence and the Lauderdale County Commission and to authorize the City to apply for the 2019 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, sponsored by Ron Tyler.
- (e) Resolution to approve a contract with Diversified Inspections/Independent Testing Laboratories, Inc., to provide inspection and non destructive testing requirements for the Florence Fire Department, in the amount of \$4,354.20, plus \$75.00 per unit for water pressure test, \$75.00 per unit for flow meter testing, \$2.00 each for heat sensor labels, and \$2.50 per pack for danger/angle/electrical placards, sponsored by Jeff Perkins.
- (f) Resolution to make application for SEDF funds in an amount up to \$600,000.00 to reimburse the City for construction of electrical facilities for the SEDA spec building and future loads at the Rogersville Industrial Park, sponsored by Richard Morrissey.
- (g) Resolution to approve the Resale Rate Schedule Agreement with TVA to discontinue retail rate schedules TRS and TGSA, sponsored by Richard Morrissey.
- (h) Resolution to approve a contract with Mike Richardson, d/b/a Mike's Cleaning Service, to provide labor, equipment, materials and incidentals necessary to provide janitorial services for the Florence Municipal Court Building, in the amount of \$685.00 per month, sponsored by Bill Musgrove.
- (i) Resolution to approve payment of an invoice from B. M. Fulmer, d/b/a Dust Busters, in the amount of \$3,640.03, for emergency clean-up of a sewer water backup at the Kennedy Douglass Center, to be paid from budgeted funds, Account #266-43600, sponsored by Todd Nix.
- (j) Resolution to approve a contract with Gann's Discount Siding, Inc., to provide labor, equipment, materials, and incidentals necessary for emergency repairs to Shelter #2 located in Veterans Park, in an amount not to exceed \$6,910.00, to be paid from budgeted funds, Account #260-44725, sponsored by Todd Nix.
- (k) Resolution to approve a contract with Sutton Fence to provide labor, equipment, materials, and incidentals necessary to install 1,996 feet of round rail fencing with dome shaped post tops in Veterans Park, in an amount not to exceed \$29,940.00, to be paid from budgeted funds, Account #110-939-48100, sponsored by Todd Nix.
- (l) Resolution to appoint Morris Cracraft as a regular member of the Board of Zoning Adjustments, sponsored by the City Council.
- (m) Resolution to reappoint MaLeah A. Chaney as a member of the Shoals SCOPE 310 Authority Board, sponsored by the City Council.
- (n) Resolution to reappoint Jackie Hendrix as a member of the Shoals Economic Development Authority, sponsored by the City Council.
- (o) Resolution to reappoint Katy Beth Carr to the Florence-Lauderdale Port Authority.
- (p) Resolution to advance and reimburse travel expenses to City employees, sponsored by Mayor Holt.

12. Regular Agenda:

- (a) Ordinance to transfer ownership of property located on Stevenson Road from the City of Florence to Wilith E. Cook and Judy L. Cook, as requested by the Lauderdale County Drug Task Force, sponsored by Ron Tyler.
- (b) Ordinance to amend The Code of Florence, Alabama, to add Sec. 4-10. Transporting animals into city for purpose of impounding, sponsored by Cheryl Jones.
- (c) Resolution to approve the Statement of Investment Policy and Objectives for the City of Florence Defined Benefit Retirement Plan, sponsored by Keith Owsley.
- (d) Resolution to approve the contract with Thomson Reuters to provide Code of Alabama

updates and replacement volumes and computer legal research services in the annual amount of \$6,144.00, to be paid from budgeted funds, sponsored by Bill Musgrove.

- (e) Resolution to amend the real estate sales contract between the City of Florence, AL and Richards Real Estate Holdings, LLC, sponsored by Bill Musgrove.

13. General Business:

- (a) Resolution to approve the operating budget of the Electricity Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, sponsored by Mayor Holt, Mark Lovejoy, and Richard Morrissey.
- (b) Board openings within the next 90 days or less:

<u>Board</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Expires</u>
Port Authority	Katy Beth Carr	04/02/13	07/21/19
Scope 310	Reginald Owens	10/03/06	07/21/19
	MaLeah Chaney	12/19/17	07/21/19
SEDA	Dana Aldridge		
Tree Commission	2 - Vacancies		

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

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

- Council member Eubanks
- Council member Bradley
- Council member Edwards
- Council member Betterton
- Council member Simmons
- Council member Jordan
- Mayor Steve Holt

16. Motion to Adjourn.

President Jordan noted that it was decided at the earlier work session to add Regular Agenda Item 12 (e) Resolution to amend the real estate sales contract between the City of Florence, AL and Richards Real Estate Holdings, LLC, sponsored by Bill Musgrove.

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

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

- Ayes: Kaytrina Simmons
- William D. Jordan
- David Bradley
- Michelle Eubanks
- Blake Edwards
- Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

**Message from the Mayor:**

Mayor Holt introduced Andy Jones, newly hired Risk Manager for the City of Florence. Mayor Holt asked Chief Tyler to come forward. Chief Tyler noted that the “National Night-Out” will be held tonight at the Florence Coliseum from 7:00 until 9:00. Chief Tyler invited everyone to bring their children for this fun event.

Mayor Holt noted that August 1 was the opening day for the Roundabout in East Florence. Mayor Holt thanked Mr. Bo Osborne, Assurance Group, for allowing people to use their parking lot for the past year while the Roundabout was under construction.

Mayor Holt noted that a citizen input meeting regarding short term leases was held on July 22 and that it was a very productive meeting. Mayor Holt further noted that the 2019-2020 General Fund Budget should be ready in the next couple of weeks.

**Report of Department Heads:** None

**Report of Standing Committee:** None

**Public Hearings:** None

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

Ms. Lora Morrow, 206 Roxie Drive, appeared and made comments regarding Consent Agenda Item 11 (d) Resolution to approve the Memorandum of Understanding and Disparate Jurisdiction Agreement between the City of Florence and the Lauderdale County Commission and to authorize the City to apply for the 2019 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, sponsored by Ron Tyler. Ms. Morrow stated that having a Florence Police Officer that also serves as a Lauderdale County Commissioner entering into a Federal agreement could raise ethical concerns.

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

Ayes: Kaytrina Simmons  
William D. Jordan  
David Bradley  
Michelle Eubanks  
Blake Edwards  
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented an Ordinance to transfer ownership of property located on Stevenson Road from the City of Florence to Wilith E. Cook and Judy L. Cook, as requested by the Lauderdale County Drug Task Force, sponsored by Ron Tyler. Said Ordinance follows, to wit:

Councilmember Edwards moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Ordinance.

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

Ayes: Kaytrina Simmons  
William D. Jordan  
David Bradley  
Michelle Eubanks  
Blake Edwards  
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

Councilmember Betterton moved for adoption of the foregoing Resolution. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion.

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

Ayes: Kaytrina Simmons  
William D. Jordan  
David Bradley  
Michelle Eubanks  
Blake Edwards  
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented an Ordinance to amend The Code of Florence, Alabama, to add Sec. 4-10. Transporting animals into city for purpose of impounding, sponsored by Cheryl Jones. Said Ordinance follows, to wit:

Councilmember Eubanks moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Ordinance.

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

Ayes: Kaytrina Simmons  
William D. Jordan  
David Bradley  
Michelle Eubanks  
Blake Edwards  
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

Councilmember Betterton moved for adoption of the foregoing Resolution. Councilmember Bradley seconded the motion.

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

Ayes: Kaytrina Simmons  
William D. Jordan  
David Bradley  
Michelle Eubanks  
Blake Edwards  
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a Resolution to approve the Statement of Investment Policy and Objectives for the City of Florence Defined Benefit Retirement Plan, sponsored by Keith Owsley. Said Resolution follows, to wit:

Councilmember Edwards moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Resolution.

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

Ayes: Kaytrina Simmons  
William D. Jordan  
David Bradley  
Michelle Eubanks  
Blake Edwards  
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

Councilmember Bradley moved for adoption of the foregoing Resolution. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion.

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

Ayes: Kaytrina Simmons  
William D. Jordan  
David Bradley  
Michelle Eubanks  
Blake Edwards  
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a Resolution to approve the contract with Thomson Reuters to provide Code of Alabama updates and replacement volumes and computer legal research services in the annual amount of \$6,144.00, to be paid from budgeted funds, sponsored by Bill Musgrove. Said Resolution follows, to wit:

Councilmember Betterton moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Resolution.

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

Ayes: Kaytrina Simmons  
William D. Jordan  
David Bradley  
Michelle Eubanks  
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: Kaytrina Simmons  
William D. Jordan  
David Bradley  
Michelle Eubanks  
Blake Edwards  
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a Resolution to amend the real estate sales contract between the City of Florence, AL and Richards Real Estate Holdings, LLC, sponsored by Bill Musgrove. Said Resolution follows, to wit:

Councilmember Betterton moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Resolution.

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

Ayes: Kaytrina Simmons  
William D. Jordan  
David Bradley  
Michelle Eubanks  
Blake Edwards  
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

Councilmember Bradley moved for adoption of the foregoing Resolution. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion.

**Discussion:**

President Jordan made comments regarding the proposed resolution. President Jordan noted that this amendment to the agreement involves environmental issues regarding several wells on the property. President Jordan further noted that there will be additional cost to close the wells.

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

Ayes: Kaytrina Simmons  
William D. Jordan  
David Bradley  
Michelle Eubanks  
Blake Edwards  
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a Resolution to approve the operating budget of the Electricity Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, sponsored by Mayor Holt, Mark Lovejoy, and Richard Morrissey. Said Resolution follows, to wit:

Councilmember Eubanks moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Resolution.

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

Ayes: Kaytrina Simmons  
William D. Jordan  
David Bradley  
Michelle Eubanks  
Blake Edwards  
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

Councilmember Eubanks moved for adoption of the foregoing Resolution. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion.

**Discussion:**

President Jordan thanked Mark Lovejoy, Utilities Controller, for his work on the budget.

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

Ayes: Kaytrina Simmons  
William D. Jordan  
David Bradley  
Michelle Eubanks  
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>
Port Authority	Katy Beth Carr	04/02/13	07/21/19
Scope 310	Reginald Owens	10/03/06	07/21/19
	MaLeah Chaney	12/19/17	07/21/19
SEDA	Dana Aldridge		
Tree Commission	2 - Vacancies		

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

Ms. Lora Morrow, 206 Roxie Drive, appeared and made comments regarding her concerns about the City not having an active shooter training plan for City employees. Ms. Morrow asked Mayor Holt to begin the process of implementing a plan so that City employees will be prepared in case there are active shooters.

Mr. John Crowder, 421 Nottingham Road, appeared and made comments regarding the City's sign ordinance. Mr. Crowder stated that the City has a very solid sign ordinance. Mr. Crowder further stated that he sees a lot of illegal signs in rights of way and on utility poles in Florence. Mr. Crowder also stated that the Florence Police Department could assist in removing illegal signage.

Mr. John Hargett, 1406 North Wood Avenue, appeared and made comments regarding the right to bear arms. Mr. Hargett stated that a police force is important but police cannot be everywhere. Mr. Hargett further stated that the main purpose of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment is to allow citizens to protect their God-Given rights. Mr. Hargett stated that we need more guns and good men not fewer guns.

**Council Reports and Comments:**

Councilmember Eubanks thanked Ms. Morrow, Mr. Crowder and Mr. Hargett for their comments tonight. Councilmember Eubanks noted that last Saturday Woodmont Baptist Church held "Give a Kid a Chance" assistance program where 450 families were given school supplies for the upcoming school year. Councilmember Eubanks stated that work on Decatur Avenue and Darby Drive is continuing. Councilmember Eubanks further stated that the new traffic signals on Mall Drive are near completion.

Councilmember Bradley thanked everyone for supporting businesses near the Roundabout. Councilmember Bradley stated that renovations to Veterans Park are coming along very well. Councilmember Bradley also thanked Ms. Morrow, Mr. Crowder and Mr. Hargett for their comments.

Councilmember Edwards had no comments.

Councilmember Betterton had no comments.

Councilmember Simmons had no comments.

President Jordan had no comments.

Mayor Holt noted that SouthWire also sponsored an event that provided children with school supplies.

Councilmember Betterton presented the closing prayer.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

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ATTEST:

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CITY CLERK