



**CITY OF FLORENCE  
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL  
MAY 21, 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, May 21, 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**

**May 21, 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: Proposed rezoning at 2326 Cloyd Blvd from R-1 (Single-Family Residential District) to R-B (Residential Business District) as requested by Michael Hames.
  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 May 9, 2019, meeting.
- (b) Confirm payment of bills by the City Treasurer.

- (c) Resolution to approve a contract with Grimes Landscaping & Turf, Inc., to provide labor, equipment, materials, and incidentals necessary to remove existing disk golf tee pads and install twenty-five new concrete pads at Veterans Park, in an amount not to exceed \$12,200.00, to be paid from budgeted funds, Account #110-939-48100, sponsored by Todd Nix.
- (d) Resolution to approve payment of an invoice from MPE Services LLC, to clear and repair a sewer line for the restrooms located at Shelter 1, McFarland Park, in the amount of \$1,152.50, to be paid from budgeted funds, Account #266-44725, sponsored by Todd Nix.
- (e) Resolution to approve a contract with GameTime/J.A. Dawson and Company, Inc., to provide labor, equipment, materials, and incidentals necessary to install new playground equipment, surfacing, and border, at the Gilbert Park playground, in an amount not to exceed \$55,044.04, to be paid from budgeted funds, Account #110-939-48100, sponsored by Todd Nix.
- (f) Resolution to approve a contract with John Johnson, d/b/a Johnny's Home Restorations, to provide labor, equipment, materials, and incidentals necessary to remove, rebuild, and replace five sets of shutters and hardware and prime and paint remaining shutters at Pope's Tavern, in the amount of \$5,800.00, to be paid from budgeted funds, Account #110-939-48100, sponsored by Todd Nix.
- (g) Resolution to approve a contract with Raney Construction Company, LLC, to provide labor, equipment, materials, and incidentals necessary to install half-round aluminum gutters at Pope's Tavern Museum, in an amount not to exceed \$3,850.00, to be paid from budgeted funds, Account #110-939-48100, sponsored by Todd Nix.
- (h) Resolution to approve a contract with Duffield Aquatics, Inc., to provide labor, equipment, materials, and incidentals necessary for the installation of three chemical control systems at the Royal Avenue Pool, in an amount not to exceed \$13,590.00, to be paid from budgeted funds, Account #44410-1147, sponsored by Todd Nix.
- (i) Resolution to approve a contract with Great Southern Recreation, LLC, to provide labor, equipment, materials, and incidentals necessary to remove existing playground equipment, surfacing, and border at Veterans Park, in an amount not to exceed \$79,988.00, to be paid from budgeted funds, Account #110-939-48100, sponsored by Todd Nix.
- (j) Resolution to approve a contract with Affordable Tree Services, LLC, to provide labor, equipment, materials, and incidentals necessary to remove two trees from the Wood Avenue right-of-way, in the amount of \$8,000.00, to be paid from budgeted funds, Account #188-931-48131, sponsored by Bill Batson.
- (k) Resolution to approve a Professional Services Agreement with White, Lynn, Collins and Associates, Inc., to provide engineering design and drafting services necessary to develop construction plans and specifications for subgrade stabilization in the areas where unsuitable material has been discovered and for the relocation of water, sewer, and gas lines that would be impacted by the required undercut at the Roundabout located at the intersection of Royal avenue and Huntsville Road, in an amount not to exceed \$12,761.88, sponsored by Bill Batson.
- (l) Resolution to approve a contract with Chris Mitchell Management Consultants, LLC, to provide professional services necessary to perform cost of service studies and financial forecast and analysis and other services as assigned for Florence Utilities Electricity Department, in an amount not to exceed \$14,350.00, to be paid from budgeted funds, Account #923.00 – Outside Services Employed, sponsored by Richard Morrissey.
- (m) Resolution to approve a contract with ChemPro Services, Inc., to provide labor, equipment, materials, and incidentals necessary for foliar spray treatments for right-of-ways for Florence Utilities Electricity Department, in the amount of \$2,755.80 for Project 1; \$4,975.20 for Project 2, \$499.40 for Project 3; \$6,177.30 for Project 4; \$2,626.30 for Project 5; \$9,876.30 for Project 6; \$12,576.60 for Project 7; \$25,412.10 for Project 8; \$8,840.60 for Project 9; \$5,345.10 for Project 10; \$19,290.30 for Project 11; \$12,132.70 for Project 12; \$906.30 for Project 13; \$1,997.50 for Project 14, and \$26,947.20 for Project 15, to be paid from budgeted funds, Account #591.3 – Maintenance Overhead, sponsored by Richard Morrissey.
- (n) Resolution to approve a contract with Mobile Container Service, Inc., to provide labor,

equipment, materials, and incidentals necessary to refurbish thirty-two dumpster containers at the Florence Sanitation Department, in an amount not to exceed \$18,300.00, to be paid from budgeted funds, Account #260-43125, sponsored by David Koonce.

- (o) Resolution to approve an Agreement with RMB Marine Services LLC, to provide tugboat services for the Fourth of July Celebration fireworks show at McFarland Park, in an amount not to exceed \$4,000.00, to be paid from budgeted funds, Account #110-2048-51700, sponsored by Mayor Holt.
- (p) Resolution to approve a Service Agreement with Texas Eastern Transmission, LP, sponsored by Mike Doyle.
- (q) Resolution to approve a Customer Service Fee Schedule for Florence Utilities, sponsored by Sandie Freedom. **(This item was moved to Regular Agenda 12 (b))**
- (r) Resolution to approve an application to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Port Security Grant Program, for a 2019 Port Security Grant Program Award, sponsored by Chief Tyler.
- (s) Resolution to approve an All-Inclusive Services Program Proposal from Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, LLC, through its Graystone Consulting business, regarding management and investment of the funds in the City of Florence employees' retirement plan, sponsored by Keith Owsley.
- (t) Resolution to advance and reimburse travel expenses to City employees, sponsored by Mayor Holt.

12. Regular Agenda:

- (a) Ordinance to rezone 2326 Cloyd Blvd from R-1 (Single-Family Residential District) to R-B (Residential Business District), sponsored by Melissa Bailey.
- (b) Resolution to approve a Customer Service Fee Schedule for Florence Utilities, sponsored by Sandie Freedom. **(This item was moved from Consent Agenda Item 11 (q))**

13. General Business:

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

<u>Board</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Expires</u>
Agri-Business	Vacancy	12/19/17	11/20/18
Tree Commission	2 - Vacancies		
Beautification Board	1 - Vacancy		

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 move Consent Agenda Item 11 (q) Resolution to approve a Customer Service Fee Schedule for Florence Utilities, sponsored by Sandie Freedom to Regular Agenda Item 12 (b)

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 Simmons 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's comments follow, to wit:

**Report of Department Heads:** None

**Report of Standing Committee:**

Councilmember Edwards, Chairperson of the Utilities Committee, comments follow, to wit:

**Public Hearings:**

President Jordan noted that this is the date and time advertised for a public hearing regarding the rezoning of property located at 2326 Cloyd Blvd from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to R-B (Residential Business District) as requested by Michael Hames.

Melissa Bailey, Planning Director, appeared and stated that the Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend the proposed rezoning to the City Council.

There being no comments from the public, President Jordan closed the public hearing.

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

Mr. Billy Ray Simpson, 755 West Alabama Street, appeared and made comments regarding Regular Agenda Item 12 (b) Resolution to approve a Customer Service Fee Schedule for Florence Utilities, sponsored by Sandie Preedom. Mr. Simpson stated that he appreciated the Council moving the proposed resolution from the Consent Agenda to the Regular Agenda. Mr. Simpson further stated that the Council needs to take a closer look at the resolution.

**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 Bradley 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 rezone 2326 Cloyd Blvd from R-1 (Single-Family Residential District) to R-B (Residential Business District), sponsored by Melissa Bailey. Said Ordinance follows, to wit:

Councilmember Eubanks moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Ordinance.

Councilmember Simmons 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 Ordinance. 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 approve a Customer Service Fee Schedule for Florence Utilities, sponsored by Sandie Freedom. Said Resolution follows, to wit:

Councilmember Edwards moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Resolution.

Councilmember Eubanks 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 Eubanks seconded the motion.

**Discussion:**

Councilmember Edwards made comments in favor of the proposed resolution. Councilmember Edwards stated that the proposed resolution will increase the deposit amount customers will pay for new utility services. Councilmember Edwards further stated that the current usage rates for utilities will remain the same.

President Jordan made comments in favor of the proposed resolution. President Jordan stated that there has not been an increase in utility deposits in fifteen years. President Jordan further stated that the Utility Department has been losing five hundred thousand dollars a year on unpaid utility bills and that this increase will help offset the loss.

Councilmember Bradley made comments in opposition to the proposed resolution. Councilmember Bradley stated that higher deposits would greatly affect low income customers. Councilmember Bradley further stated that the City should look at stricter measures of collection.

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

Ayes: William D. Jordan  
Michelle Eubanks  
Blake Edwards  
Andrew Betterton

Noes: Kaytrina Simmons  
David Bradley



General Business:

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

<u>Board</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Expires</u>
Agri-Business	Vacancy	12/19/17	11/20/18
Tree Commission	2 - Vacancies		
Beautification Board	1 - Vacancy		

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

Ms. Lora Kay Morrow, 206 Roxie Drive, appeared and made comments regarding fairness and justice. Ms. Morrow stated that the City Council has the power under the law to enforce equal treatment in regards to permits, ordinances and a variety of other laws.

Ms. Eva Knight appeared and thanked the Council for the new signage and landscaping at the Senior Center.

**Council Reports and Comments:**

Councilmember Eubanks asked everyone to add Mr. Bill Gullett and Mr. Jeff McIntyre to your prayer lists. Councilmember Eubanks stated that she recently attended the ribbon cutting for a new swing that is “wheelchair accessible” in Deibert Park. Councilmember Eubanks further stated that the Mall Road paving project is ahead of schedule and we are now waiting on a new traffic light to be installed.

Councilmember Bradley congratulated “On Point” and Ms. Ana Behel, Teacher of the Year. Councilmember Bradley thanked Mr. Simpson and Ms. Morrow for their comments. Councilmember Bradley made comments regarding the improvements to Veterans Park. Councilmember Bradley asked everyone to continue to patronize businesses in East Florence near the construction of the roundabout.

Councilmember Edwards stated that this Council is making repairs on things that we have been putting band aids on for a number of years now. Councilmember Edwards further stated that we are so proud of the new state of the art Animal Shelter and the new fire truck.

Councilmember Betterton had no comments.

Councilmember Simmons noted that Lewis Field and Gilbert Park are getting playground upgrades. Councilmember Simmons also noted that work on West Irvine Avenue to help with traffic is moving forward. Councilmember Simmons also congratulated Ms. Ana Behel for receiving Teacher of the Year.

President Jordan stated that we have a lot of projects that are moving forward. President Jordan noted that Veterans Park is having major upgrades. President Jordan further noted that a lot of work has been done but there is a lot of work left to do.

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