



**CITY OF FLORENCE
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 16, 2021**

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, November 16, 2021. President Jordan called the meeting to order. Councilmember Griffin 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, Bill Griffin, Michele Eubanks, Blake Edwards and Jimmy Oliver.

AGENDA

CITY OF FLORENCE, ALABAMA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

November 16, 2021

5:00 P.M.

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1. Meeting called to order - President Jordan
 2. Invocation - Councilmember Griffin
 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:
 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 November 2, 2021, meeting.
- (b) Confirm payment of bills by the City Treasurer.
- (c) Resolution to approve a contract with Shotcrete of America, LLC, to provide labor, equipment, materials, and incidentals necessary for the installation of a sewer manhole on the grounds of the Florence Electricity Department Warehouse, in an amount not to exceed \$8,650.00, to be paid from budgeted funds, Account #923.00 Outside Service Employed, sponsored by Mary McDuffa.

- (d) Resolution to approve a contract with Milsoft Utility Solutions, Inc., to provide professional consulting and training services on future system upgrades for the Florence Utilities Electricity Department, to be paid from budgeted funds according to a fee schedule, Account #923.00 Outside Service Employed, sponsored by Mary McDuffa.
- (e) Resolution to approve a contract with LaBella Associates, D.P.C., to prepare an assessment of the environmental status for the Agrium Property commonly known as 1 Commerce Street, in an amount not to exceed \$2,500.00, to be expensed to Account #260-43200, sponsored by David Koonce.
- (f) Resolution to approve payment of Invoice #110492T from Oil Equipment Company, Inc., for labor, materials and other incidentals to repair the diesel fuel pump at the Florence Landfill, in the amount of \$1,736.12, to be expensed to Account #260-43200, sponsored by David Koonce.
- (g) Resolution to approve a contract with Austin Property Management, LLC, to provide labor, equipment, materials, and incidentals necessary to repair the water damaged fascia and soffit with new materials at the Kennedy-Douglas Building, in an amount not to exceed \$2,500.00, to be paid from budgeted funds, Account #266-43600, sponsored by Libby Jordan.
- (h) Resolution to approve a contract with Stan Wilson Builders, LLC, to provide labor, equipment, materials, and incidentals necessary to repair and reseal the wooden upstairs fire escape, repair the rotten wood of the fire escape exterior door, replace the Science Room steps, and repair the Art Room entrance steps at the Children's Museum building, in an amount not to exceed \$4,100.00, to be paid from budgeted funds, Account #266-43600, sponsored by Libby Jordan.
- (i) Resolution to approve a contract with Florence Housing Authority for the Provision of Supplemental Police Services, sponsored by Ron Tyler.
- (j) Resolution to approve a renewal from Marsh & McLennan Agency, to provide network security ("cyber") liability insurance for the period December 3, 2021, through December 3, 2022, sponsored by Keith Owsley.
- (k) Resolution to approve a contract with OMI, Inc., to provide professional services for Geotechnical Engineering Study and Subsurface Exploration for the proposed public parking, new City Hall Building, and new Municipal Parking Deck, to be paid according to a fee schedule from budgeted funds, sponsored by Mayor Betterton.
- (l) Resolution to approve the Asset Allocation Recommendations from Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC, sponsored by Keith Owsley.
- (m) Resolution to approve an Agreement with Party Pros, U.S.A., to install temporary lighting on Mobile Plaza, sponsored by Bill Musgrove.
- (n) Resolution to advance and reimburse travel expenses to City employees, sponsored by Mayor Betterton.

12. Regular Agenda:

- (a) Ordinance to approve the sale of property for \$94,855.00 to the Alabama Department of Transportation to be used in the Highway 72/43/Florence Boulevard widening project, sponsored by Bill Musgrove.
- (b) Ordinance to approve the sale of property for \$3,920.00 to the Alabama Department of Transportation to be used in the Highway 72/43/Florence Boulevard widening project, sponsored by Bill Musgrove.
- (c) Resolution to authorize and effectuate premium payment to City workers for their performance of essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency, sponsored by Mayor Betterton and City Council.

13. General Business:

(a)	<u>BOARDS</u>		<u>APPOINTED</u>	<u>EXPIRES</u>
	Agri-Business Center	Ken Irby	12/19/17	11/15/20
	Beautification	Vacancy		
	Library Board (Regional)	Vacancy		
	Tree Commission	Vacancy		
	Zoning Adjustments	Vacancy		

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

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

Council member Edwards
Council member Oliver
Council member Simmons
Council member Griffin
Council member Eubanks
Council member Jordan
Mayor Andy Betterton

16. Motion to Adjourn.

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

Ayes: Kaytrina Simmons
William D. Jordan
Bill Griffin
Michele Eubanks
Blake Edwards
Jimmy Oliver

Noes: None

Message from the Mayor:

Mayor Betterton made comments regarding Veterans Day. Mayor Betterton stated that he is very grateful for all Veterans. Mayor Betterton asked everyone to practice safety during the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

Mayor Betterton made comments regarding Regular Agenda Item 12 (c) Resolution to authorize and effectuate premium payment to City workers for their performance of essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency, sponsored by Mayor Betterton and City Council. Mayor Betterton noted that through the America Rescue Plan the City of Florence received 4.25 million dollars in 2021 and another 4.25 million dollars in 2022. Mayor Betterton further noted full time employees will receive a one time payment of \$4,000.00 and part time employees will receive \$2,000.00. Mayor Betterton expressed his gratitude to all City employees who worked tirelessly during the Covid pandemic to meet the needs of our citizens.

Report of Department Heads: None

Report of Standing Committee:

Councilmember Eubanks, Chairperson of the Public Works Committee, comments follow, to wit:

Public Hearings: None

Business from the Floor Pertaining to Items on the Consent or Regular Agenda: None

Consent Agenda:

President Jordan asked for a motion for approval of the Consent Agenda items.
Councilmember Oliver moved for approval of the ordinances and resolutions as
follow, to-wit:

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

Ayes: Kaytrina Simmons
William D. Jordan
Bill Griffin
Michele Eubanks
Blake Edwards
Jimmy Oliver

Noes: None

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde presented an Ordinance to approve the sale of property for \$94,855.00 to the Alabama Department of Transportation to be used in the Highway 72/43/Florence Boulevard widening project, sponsored by Bill Musgrove. Said Ordinance follows, to wit:

Councilmember Eubanks moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Ordinance. Councilmember Oliver seconded the motion. A vote taken thereon resulted as follows:

Ayes	Kaytrina Simmons William D. Jordan Bill Griffin Michele Eubanks Blake Edwards Jimmy Oliver
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Noes:	None
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Councilmember Oliver moved for adoption of the foregoing Ordinance. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion.

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

Ayes:	Kaytrina Simmons William D. Jordan Bill Griffin Michele Eubanks Blake Edwards Jimmy Oliver
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Noes:	None
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City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde presented an Ordinance to approve the sale of property for \$3,920.00 to the Alabama Department of Transportation to be used in the Highway 72/43/Florence Boulevard widening project, sponsored by Bill Musgrove. Said Ordinance follows, to wit:

Councilmember Simmons moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Ordinance. Councilmember Eubanks seconded the motion. A vote taken thereon resulted as follows:

Ayes	Kaytrina Simmons William D. Jordan Bill Griffin Michele Eubanks Blake Edwards Jimmy Oliver
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Noes:	None
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Councilmember Griffin moved for adoption of the foregoing Ordinance. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion.

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

Ayes:	Kaytrina Simmons William D. Jordan Bill Griffin Michele Eubanks Blake Edwards Jimmy Oliver
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Noes:	None
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City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde presented a Resolution to authorize and effectuate premium payment to City workers for their performance of essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency, sponsored by Mayor Betterton and City Council. Said Resolution follows, to wit:

Councilmember Oliver moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Resolution. Councilmember Simmons seconded the motion. A vote taken thereon resulted as follows:

Ayes: Kaytrina Simmons
William D. Jordan
Bill Griffin
Michele Eubanks
Blake Edwards
Jimmy Oliver

Noes: None

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

Discussion:

Councilmember Oliver stated that it was an honor to support Mayor Betterton by approving this resolution. Councilmember Oliver congratulated and wished all City employees happy holidays.

Councilmember Eubanks noted that the City is very fortunate to receive this funding. President Jordan stated that the Mayor and Council wanted to show our appreciation to our employees for their hard work.

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

Ayes: Kaytrina Simmons
William D. Jordan
Bill Griffin
Michele Eubanks
Blake Edwards
Jimmy Oliver

Noes: None

General Business:

(a)	<u>BOARDS</u>		<u>APPOINTED</u>	<u>EXPIRES</u>
	Agri-Business Center	Ken Irby	12/19/17	11/15/20
	Beautification	Vacancy		
	Library Board (Regional)	Vacancy		
	Tree Commission	Vacancy		
	Zoning Adjustments	Vacancy		

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

Mr. Michael Wildes, 207 Cascade Drive, President of the Home Owners Association, Cedar Ridge Subdivision, appeared and thanked Mayor Betterton, Councilmember Eubanks and Councilmember Oliver for the speed limit sign that was recently installed in Cedar Ridge Subdivision. Mr. Wildes stated that if this sign saves one child's life it is well worth it.

Professional Firefighters Union Local #270 appeared and stated that they were selling t-shirts and the proceeds will benefit the William Porter Foundation for Children in Need.

Mr. Thomas Clemmons appeared and thanked Mayor Betterton and David Koonce, SWR/Street Department Director, for their assistance regarding an issue with his landlord.

Mr. Billy Ray Simpson, 755 West Alabama Street, appeared and made comments regarding people being threatened and intimidated.

Council Reports and/or Comments:

Councilmember Edwards reminded everyone that the City's sign ordinance prohibits signs on utility poles. Councilmember Edwards wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving. Councilmember Edwards expressed his appreciation to all City employees for their hard work. Councilmember Edwards also noted that he is very thankful that his daughter is now cancer free. Councilmember Edwards thanked everyone for praying for his daughter.

Councilmember Oliver thanked all City employees for what they do for our City. Councilmember Oliver noted that recently new signage was installed at the Sportsplex. Councilmember Oliver noted that the Electricity Department is replacing the street lights on Cox Creek Parkway. Councilmember Oliver also wished everyone

a happy Thanksgiving.

Councilmember Simmons thanked the City employees for their hard work during Covid. Councilmember Simmons noted that the College Street Bridge study is completed and there will be a public meeting to share the results of the study. Councilmember Simmons thanked the members of the Public Works Committee for working to solve the traffic problem on West Irvine Avenue. Councilmember Simmons also wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

Councilmember Griffin noted that today is W. C. Handy's birthday and there will be a celebration at his birth place tomorrow at noon. Councilmember Griffin encouraged everyone to purchase t-shirts from the Fire Department to support children in need. Councilmember Griffin also thanked City employees for what they do for our City.

Councilmember Eubanks thanked First Responders for their hard work. Councilmember Eubanks asked everyone during this time of giving to give back to your community. Councilmember Eubanks also thanked Mr. Wildes for bringing the speed issue to our attention.

President Jordan thanked the firefighters for their fund-raising efforts. President Jordan also thanked the Finance Committee for putting together the program to reward our employees who worked during Covid.

Councilmember Eubanks presented the closing prayer.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

Council Reports and/or Comments: