



**Florence City Council
Business Meeting
Tuesday, January 12, 2021
6:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Florence, Kentucky, met in regular session on Tuesday, January 12, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. at the Florence Government Center, 8100 Ewing Boulevard, Florence, Kentucky, with Mayor Diane E. Whalen presiding as chair.

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME:

Mayor Diane E. Whalen called the regular meeting to order and declared the regular session open for the presentation of all city business.

ROLL CALL:

The roll was called, and the following six (6) members of council were present: Dr. Julie Aubuchon (Vice-Mayor), Mel Carroll, J. Kelly Huff, David Osborne, Josh Walton, and Gary Winn.

Staff members present were: City Attorney, Hugh O. Skees; Business & Community Development Director, Joshua Hunt; Fire/EMS Chief, Scott Knoll; Chief of Police, Tom Grau; City Clerk, Melissa Kramer; Videographer, Spencer Foreman; and Police Officer, Ethan Manley.

The following were also present: Fire/EMS Department new employee, Jacob M. Saunders; Family and friends of the new Florence Fire/EMS Department employee, Jacob M. Saunders; and Trisha Scheyer, The River City News.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2020, special meeting. Councilmember Huff motioned to approve the minutes with a second from Councilmember Winn. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

OATH OF OFFICE:

Scott Knoll, Fire/EMS Chief, introduced the newest member of the Florence Fire/EMS Department, Jacob M. Saunders, Firefighter/EMT.

Jacob comes to us from the City of Fairfield Fire Department and Sharonville Fire Department with two years of experience at these departments. He is currently enrolled at Butler Tech in the Paramedic Program and should be completed in July. In addition, Jacob is a six year member of the Army National Guard where he serves as a Medic. He is a welcome addition to the Florence Fire/EMS Department.

Mayor Whalen administered the oath of office and welcomed Jacob to the City of Florence Fire/EMS Department.

FIRST READING ORDINANCE O-1-21:

Mayor Whalen read Ordinance O-1-21. An Ordinance adopting and approving text amendments to Articles 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 20, 23, 31, and 40 of the Boone County Zoning Regulations to (1) Define “Household Agriculture” and “Household Pets”; (2) Not permit “Household Agriculture” in the City of Florence; and (3) Permit the keeping of “Household Pets” as an accessory use for dwelling units in Agricultural, Recreation (R), Conservation (CONS), Residential, Commercial, Professional Office One (O-1A), Public Facilities (PF), Small Community Overlay (SC), and Florence Main Street Zoning Study (FMS) Zones.

This Ordinance amends and enacts text provisions of the Boone County Zoning Regulations Text as applicable to the City of Florence, Kentucky, to provide for and regulate “Household Pets” and “Household Agriculture” in the City of Florence, Kentucky. These amendments and enactments apply to Articles 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 20, 23, 31, and 40 of those Boone County Zoning Regulations text provisions. The effect of these amendments and enactments is to establish a definition for “Household Agriculture” and “Household Pets”; to not permit “Household Agriculture” in the City of Florence; and to allow “Household Pets” as an accessory use for dwelling units in various zoning districts.

The full text of Ordinance O-1-21, including its Exhibits, is available for examination in the office of the City Clerk of the City of Florence, Kentucky, in the Florence Government Center, 8100 Ewing Boulevard, Florence, Kentucky, during regular office hours.

Councilmember Aubuchon stated the Florence Planning and Zoning Committee met in December. At that time, the committee determined there was no need for an additional public hearing. The amendment was a request which was forwarded to the Boone County Planning Commission to evaluate and enact the amendment. The proposed text amendment was recommended as a committee and discussed at the previous caucus meeting.

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance O-1-21. Councilmember Aubuchon motioned to approve, with a second from Councilmember Winn. Mayor Whalen requested a Roll Call Vote. Councilmember Carroll, yes; Councilmember Winn, yes; Councilmember Huff, yes; Councilmember Aubuchon, yes; Councilmember Walton, no; Councilmember Osborne, yes. **Roll call recognized five yes votes, and one no vote, approving the first reading of Ordinance O-1-21.**

RESOLUTION R-1-21:

Mayor Whalen read Resolution R-1-21. A Resolution accepting the re-appointment of Marcus Carey, Robert F. Greene, Darryl Cummins, Robert Sanders, Tom Quirk, and Bryce C. Rhoades and appointment of Jack Westwood as members of the Northern Kentucky Regional Ethics Authority Enforcement Committee for a two-year term, commencing February 1, 2021 and expiring on January 31, 2023.

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve Resolution R-1-21. Councilmember Carroll motioned to approve, with a second from Councilmember Huff. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- City offices will remain open on Dr. Martin Luther King Day on Monday, January 18, 2021. There will be a display in the Lobby of the Florence Government Center to honor Dr. Martin Luther King from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Students from Boone County Visual Arts Department will be participating. There will also be an art display in the lobby and the lobby monitors will have a video of the Boone County High School Chorus. Mayor Whalen was hopeful the Northern Kentucky Brotherhood would be able to perform, however, due to COVID-19, they are unable to attend.
- Mayor Whalen encouraged everyone to stay safe, pay attention to road conditions, wear masks, wash your hands, and take care of each other.

RECOGNITION:

Mayor Whalen asked if any of the following desired recognition:

Department Heads:

Fire/EMS Chief, Scott Knoll:

Chief Knoll did not desire recognition.

Chief of Police, Tom Grau:

Chief Grau did not desire recognition.

Members of City Council:

None desired recognition.

Audience:

No recognition requested from the audience.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Whalen called for a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Huff so moved, with a second from Councilmember Osborne. **Councilmembers present voted aye**, the time being 6:11 p.m.

APPROVED:

/s/ Diane E. Whalen
Diane E. Whalen, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Melissa Kramer
Melissa Kramer, City Clerk