



**Florence City Council
Special Meeting
Tuesday, June 2, 2020
6:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Florence, Kentucky, met in special session on Tuesday, June 2, 2020, 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 special meeting to order and declared the meeting open for the presentation of items on the special meeting agenda.

ROLL CALL:

The roll was called, and the following six (6) members of council were present: Dr. Julie Aubuchon, Mel Carroll, Duane Froelicher, J. Kelly Huff, David A. Osborne, and Gary Winn.

Staff members present were: City Coordinator, Joshua R. Wice; City Attorney, Hugh O. Skees; CFO/HR, Linda Chapman; Chief of Police, Tom Grau; Fire/EMS Chief, Scott Knoll; Community Projects Administrator, Kevin Burton; City Clerk, Melissa Kramer; Assistant City Clerk, Brandi Roundtree; and Police Officer, Derek Jackson.

The following were also present: Boone County Schools Superintendent, Dr. Randy Poe; Incoming Superintendent, Matthew Turner; and The River City News Reporter, Trish Scheyer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2020, special meeting. Councilmember Winn motioned to approve the minutes with a second from Councilmember Huff. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

DISCUSSION OF BUDGET AMENDMENT #2 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020:

Linda Chapman, CFO/HR, presented proposed amendments to the fiscal year 2019-2020 budget. Ms. Chapman's proposal included a decrease in the business occupational license revenue as a result of moving the due date from April 15, 2020 to July 15, 2020. Storm water changes with re-measurement of impervious surfaces for large business/retailers and increases from code enforcement liens/citations caused an increase in revenue. The Fire/EMS Department required an increase due to unscheduled overtime and an increase in ongoing apparatus maintenance issues with vehicle maintenance. An increase in claims required a change to the health and dental plans

budget. As a result of the pandemic, water usage increases are unknown until the April-July meter readings and due to the unknown, an increase was required for water purchases.

No further discussion was necessitated; therefore, an Ordinance will be placed on the next agenda for council's approval.

DISCUSSION OF ORDINANCE O-7-20:

Discussion was held regarding Ordinance O-7-20 adopting the official budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year of the city following the annual budget retreat. CFO/HR, Linda Chapman, reiterated no changes were made since the annual budget retreat. The ordinance was in conformity with discussion and agreements at the annual budget retreat.

With regard to the budget, Mayor Whalen introduced Boone County Schools Superintendent, Dr. Randy Poe, as part of the discussion regarding the partnership with the Boone County Schools. Specifically, the tennis courts at Boone County High School currently owned by the city.

Superintendent, Dr. Randy Poe, introduced Matthew Turner. Dr. Poe retires on June 30, 2020 and Mr. Turner will replace Dr. Poe as the new superintendent on July 1, 2020. Mr. Turner introduced himself and conveyed to Mayor Whalen and city council he is anticipating to continue the working relationship with them.

Dr. Poe thanked city council for allowing him to address them one last time regarding the Florence proper schools. Currently, at Boone County High School, a new auditorium is under construction. The new auditorium will have full band and chorus opportunities including a ticket box. The old auditorium will be repurposed and transformed into four new classrooms. The current mobile units outside the school will be removed. A multipurpose waiting area for the parent pickup is under construction to help alleviate the congestion in that area of the school. Following the fall sports season, the grass infield will be replaced with a turf field. This will allow programs to be brought back to the school campus for practice. The soccer teams were practicing at the Boone County Peeewe Football League's field.

In regard to the tennis courts, Dr. Poe previously coached the boy's tennis team. The boy's tennis team was required to practice off campus to allow the girls tennis team use of the schools two tennis courts, currently owned by the city. Dr. Poe and the Boone County Board of Education would like to expand the tennis courts at Boone County High School. This would require entering into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The expansion of the tennis courts would allow the teams to practice and play their matches at the school. Eliminating the requirement of the teams to travel. As part of the proposed MOU, the city would use and maintain three courts. During the months of March, April, and May, the high school tennis teams would be allowed to conduct their matches after school and continue to practice at the tennis courts. The expansion would alleviate the required transportation for parents and bring all the sports programs back to campus.

Dr. Poe also discussed the Children's Inc. program. As a result of the pandemic, Children's Inc. has been unable to open and operate. Currently, the Boone County Board is working with Children's Inc. to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding to lease their building. The Board would like to provide either preschool services or all day kindergarten for Florence Elementary and Collins. Dr. Poe also relayed the Boone County School Board is continuing to renovate the grounds at the other Florence schools, Yealey Elementary, Florence Elementary, Erpenbeck Elementary, Ockerman Middle School, and Ockerman Elementary.

Mayor Whalen requested city council to consider to budget money for the tennis courts and investment in the east side of town. Discussion was held with regard to the parking spaces and a water main pipe in the extended area. Dr. Poe is hopeful in minimizing any additional cost factors with regard to the parking spaces and looking forward to continuing to work with the city.

PROCLAMATION:

Mayor Whalen recognized and issued a Proclamation in honor of Dr. Randy Poe and reading the following Proclamation into record:

WHEREAS, on June 30, 2020, Dr. Randy Poe will retire from a distinguished public education calling;

WHEREAS, Dr. Poe began his career in 1983 with the Boone County School District. Initially, he served as a teacher at Boone County High School until 1991. He then became an Assistant Principal with Comer Middle School from 1992 to 1994 and was promoted to Principal in 1994 and served in that capacity until 1998. In 1998, he became the Executive Director of Technology, Research, and Development Services with the district where he served until 1999. At that time, he advanced to the Assistant Superintendent of Management Support Services until 2002 and subsequently served as the Deputy Superintendent of the Boone County School District from 2002 to 2008;

WHEREAS, Dr. Poe obtained a Bachelor of Science from Northern Kentucky University in 1983, a Master's Degree in Secondary Education from Northern Kentucky University in 1985, and a Doctorate of Education from Northern Kentucky University in May 2013;

WHEREAS, Dr. Poe became Superintendent of the Boone County School District in July 2008 and will continue to serve in that capacity until June 30, 2020;

WHEREAS, Dr. Poe has served on the Board of Directors for the Kentucky Association of School Superintendents (KASS), the National Center for Education Research and Technology, and the Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce. He is a member of the Kentucky and American Association of School Administrators and serves on the Local Superintendent Advisory Council for the Kentucky Commissioner of Education. He has also been a member of the Florence Rotary Club for 15 years;

WHEREAS, Dr. Poe has been the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions during his tenure including the Sixth District Middle School Principal of the Year in 1998; Outstanding Young Leader of Boone County award by the Boone County Jaycees in 1999; inducted into the Northern Kentucky High School Soccer Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2007; One to One Literacy award in 2011 by the Northern Kentucky Education Council; Outstanding NKU Alumnus of the College of Education and Human Services in 2012; KASA Superintendent of the Year in 2013; F.L. Dupree Award and the NKYEX Lifetime Achievement Award in 2015; NKY Chamber of Commerce Community Award in 2018; and the NKYEC Spirit of the Region Award in 2019; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Poe has earned the admiration and respect of students, colleagues, and community members in Boone County and the City of Florence for his commitment, collegiality, enthusiasm, professionalism, compassion, and hard work.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED THAT, I, Diane E. Whalen, Mayor of the City of Florence, Kentucky, and on behalf of the members of Florence City Council, take great pleasure in recognizing the significant professional achievements of Dr. Randy Poe and express my sincere gratitude of the invaluable contributions he has made to the Boone County Schools District.

Dr. Poe thanked Mayor Whalen and city council for the great partnership he has had during his tenure and has enjoyed working with the great city of Florence. The students in the Florence area would be the sixth largest district in the State and Dr. Poe felt this could only be achieved with the excellence of the great relationships.

DISCUSSION OF ORDINANCE O-8-20:

Discussion was held regarding Ordinance O-8-20 amending Ordinance No. O-23-19 relating to personnel policies, job descriptions, authorized positions and the pay plan. CFO/HR, Linda Chapman, recommended a 2.3% cost of living increase previously discussed at the budget retreat. Revisions to the city personnel policies by eliminating one Administrative Secretary position and adding one Administration Clerk position; adding one Code Enforcement Officer position and adding one mechanic position. No further discussion was required and the ordinance will be placed on the next agenda.

MUNICIPAL ORDER MO-6-20:

A Municipal Order approving the appointment of Eric Hall as the City's representative and Joshua Hunt as the City's alternate representative to the Intermodal Coordinating Committee of the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments.

Councilmember Winn motioned to approve Municipal Order MO-6-20 with a second from Councilmember Huff. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

MUNICIPAL ORDER MO-7-20:

A Municipal Order approving the reappointment of Kenny Vaught to the Florence Board of Adjustment and Zoning Appeals.

Councilmember Aubuchon motioned to approve Municipal Order MO-7-20 with a second from Councilmember Froelicher. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

MUNICIPAL ORDER MO-8-20:

A Municipal Order approving the reappointment of Jim Johnson to the City of Florence Code Enforcement Board.

Councilmember Carroll motioned to approve Municipal Order MO-8-20 with a second from Councilmember Winn. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

MUNICIPAL ORDER MO-9-20:

A Municipal Order approving the reappointment of Bill Sharp to the City of Florence Code Enforcement Board.

Councilmember Osborne motioned to approve Municipal Order MO-9-20 with a second from Councilmember Carroll. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

DISCUSSION:

Mayor Whalen removed the Churchill Downs Industrial Revenue Bonds (IRB) from the agenda discussion. The City is waiting on additional information from Churchill Downs, which we did not receive in time to discuss at this meeting. Further discussion is required and will be brought forth at a future meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before Council, Mayor Whalen called for a motion to adjourn the Special Meeting. Councilmember Huff so moved, with a second from Councilmember Winn. **Council approved by unanimous vote**, the time being 6:26 p.m.

APPROVED:

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

ATTEST:

/s/ Melissa Kramer
Melissa Kramer, City Clerk